

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: CEO/Office of Emerg Services/Fire Warden

BOARD AGENDA # *B-10

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE December 6, 2011

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

G. HINSHAW

SUBJECT:

Approval to Use the Remaining Fire Warden Public Facilities Fees (PFF) up to \$11,679 to Fund a Portion of the Technical Rescue Training Props Needed to Attain Rescue Systems-2 (RS2) Certification for the Regional Fire Training Center

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the use of up to \$11,679 of Fire Warden's Public Facility Fees to fund a portion of the cost to construct training props needed to attain Rescue Systems-2 (RS2) certification for the Regional Fire Training Center.
2. Direct the Auditor-Controller to increase appropriations and estimated revenue by \$11,679 in the County Fire Service Fund as detailed in the attached Budget Journal.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Regional Fire Training Center, a partnership between Stanislaus County, the Cities and Modesto Junior College, requires approximately \$35,500 in training props and equipment to attain certification as a Rescue Systems-2 (RS2) training site. The required funding will come from a combination of Homeland Security Grant funding, funding from the Modesto Regional Fire Authority, Modesto Junior College and the balance from Fire Warden's Public Facility Fees. Based on the criteria outlined in the 1990 PFF study, the project is eligible to use \$11,679 in PFF, however, the County has discontinued collecting Fire Warden PFF and the balance in the Fund currently is approximately \$6,300. (Continued - Page 2)

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2011-731

On motion of Supervisor Withdraw, Seconded by Supervisor De Martini
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withdraw, De Martini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No. M-64-I-10

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FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)

Although the County no longer collects these fees on new projects, funds could potentially continue to accrue on projects that have not yet been completed that were approved when the Fire Warden PFF program was still in effect. Therefore this request is to use all remaining funds up to the allowable limit. A budget journal increasing appropriations and estimated revenue in the amount of \$11,679 in the Fire Warden Public Facility Fee Fund is attached. There is no impact to the County General Fund.

DISCUSSION:

The Office of the Fire Warden is requesting the use of up to \$11,679 in Fire Warden's Public Facilities Fees to cover a portion of the cost to construct training props required to attain certification for a Rescue Systems-2 (RS2) training site at the Regional Fire Training Center.

Within the fire service there are two levels of certification for technical rescue; RS1 and RS2. There are specific requirements for both training props and equipment to reach each of these levels of certification. The Regional Fire Training Center is currently certified as a RS1 site. In order to reach the highest level, additional equipment and training props are necessary. There are currently twelve (12) certified training sites in the state, Elk Grove being the closest.

The training center is in need of approximately \$15,500 in materials to construct training props, and approximately \$20,000 in equipment that will complete the requirements for certification. The technical rescue workgroup has applied for Homeland Security Grant funding for the equipment, and has obtained a commitment from Modesto Regional Fire Authority and Modesto Junior College to provide materials and labor to construct the props. This request to use PFF funds is for the materials to construct the props.

The Regional Fire Training Center was included as a component of the original Public Facilities Fee report. It was determined in the report that new development should fund \$1.8 million of the total cost of the planned facility. The use of the Fire Warden PFF funds for this project would be an appropriate use of those funds since it was a project originally identified in the study.

Since 1990, when the original study was completed, the population in the County has grown approximately 32%. Although the study is based on population, it is important to note that this population growth has caused the emergency call volume for fire response to almost double in the same time period, from 23,248 to almost 50,000. This increase has affected every agency in the county and the

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types of calls they respond to. The call for mutual aid from one agency to another has caused the fire service delivery system to become a regional integrated system. Most agencies are not able to mitigate their own technical rescue incidents by themselves, so a team approach is the only feasible solution to the problem.

The Cities and County Public Works Departments, and many other public and private agencies are required to designate who their confined space rescue provider is before entry may be made into specific hazardous environments that require a permit for entry. In the event there is a confined space rescue incident, a team must be assembled to affect a rescue. The ability to assemble and deploy a team and provide this service is critical to the safety of government and private industry personnel and the public.

The training center is used by all fire agencies in the County and the project being considered in this request, under the Public Facilities Fees program, will benefit the fire service County-wide by providing an effective regional method for assembling, training and deploying a team prepared to mitigate technical rescue and confined space incidents.

The Public Facilities Fees Committee supported this recommendation during their October 21, 2011 meeting.

POLICY ISSUE:

Approval of this request supports the Board's priorities of A Safe Community and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by providing an effective regional method for mitigating technical rescue and confined space incidents.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing staff will complete the construction and implementation of the props and equipment therefore there is no staffing impact with this action.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Gary Hinshaw, Stanislaus County Fire Warden 552-3600

