



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Fire OEM
Department No.: 031
For Agenda Of: December 12, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5ths

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Mark Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden
Director(s)
Contact Info: Kelly Hubbard, Director of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Emergency Management Performance Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the County Fire Department Office of Emergency Management to accept \$213,105 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) federal grant funds (Subaward #2023-0006), as distributed through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) with a period of performance from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025; and
- b) Adopt a resolution (Attachment A) to appoint the County Executive Officer (CEO), the Director of Office of Emergency Management (OEM), County Fire Chief, and Fire Department Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to act as Authorized Agents to apply and submit grant applications, execute all required grant application documents (including assurances and certifications), and take any actions necessary for each application and subaward under the EMPG grant to provide grant funding for emergency management activities in the Santa Barbara Operational Area for the grant FY2023. The resolution directs the Authorized Agents to, if applicable, make necessary budget revisions, and to receive Auditor-Controller, Risk Management, and County Counsel concurrence prior to executing grant agreements or memorandum of understanding; and

- c) Determine that the proposed actions are related to the creation of a government funding mechanism and other fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378 (b)(4).

Summary Text:

The recommended actions authorize the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to apply for and manage the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). The EMPG funding helps ensure compliance with state and federal emergency management requirements. The grant contributes to eligible project work hours for authorized emergency planning staff, with the remaining eligible staff hours funded through general fund as grant matching funds. Most years this results in partial grant funding for three emergency managers within OEM.

The EMPG award amount has historically been consistent, except last year saw an increased allocation of \$22,364. For this grant cycle, the overall award allocation from FEMA decreased, resulting in the State allocation for Santa Barbara County decreasing by \$25,500. This decrease will result in a small increased contribution from the General Fund for current OEM staff costs.

Background:

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security provides EMPG funding annually on a population-share basis. The purpose of the EMPG Program is to provide federal grants to states to assist state, local, territorial, and tribal governments in preparing for all hazards, as authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The federal government, through the EMPG program, provides necessary direction, coordination, guidance, and assistance to support a comprehensive all hazards emergency preparedness system. The EMPG program funding helps ensure compliance with state and federal emergency management requirements.

In February 2023, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued the F2023 EMPG Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). In November 2023, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) issued the California Supplement to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which outlines the State grant program requirements. In October 2023 OEM received Notification of Subrecipient Subaward Approval from Cal OES for the EMPG with a Performance Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The EMPG is a reimbursement grant with a dollar-for-dollar cost match requirement. Therefore, no cash advances are permitted under the EMPG, and participating jurisdictions are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match. The local match requirement is fulfilled with budgeted General Fund dollars for OEM planning staff. The resolution (Attachment A) authorizes County OEM to apply for reimbursement from Cal OES for the 2023 EMPG cycle. The EMPG program provides partial funding (up to one half the salary and benefits, depending on funding from FEMA) for OEM positions. These funds may also be used to provide equipment or supplies to enhance emergency management throughout the Operational Area. By statute, the Operational Area is managed through the County and includes all political subdivisions within

the county. OEM has received a Notification of Subrecipient Award Approval letter stating that Cal OES has approved OEM's 2023 EMPG subaward in the amount of \$213,105. Once the completed applications are received and approved by Cal OES, OEM may request reimbursement of eligible expenditures. The term of this grant is July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025.

Fiscal Analysis:

Budgeted: Yes

The 23EMPG funding is included in the departments' FY2023-24 adopted budget in the amount of \$215,000. This year's allocation was \$25,500 less than anticipated, which will result in a corresponding increase from the General Fund Contribution for the Office of Emergency Management. A budget revision is not required since what was originally budgeted slightly exceeds the grant award.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a e-copy of the minute order of these actions to Kendall Johnston at kejohnston@countyofsb.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A:	Resolution
Attachment B:	Notification of Subrecipient Subaward Approval
Attachment C:	Cal OES State Supplement

Authored by:

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