

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

TO: Board of Franklin County Commissioners	REVIEWED:
FROM: Craig A. Davis, Sheriff	EXT:
DEPARTMENT: Sheriff	DATE: September 23, 2009

ITEM: Acceptance Of Grant Award under the FY 09 Recovery Act Rural Law Enforcement Assistance in the amount of \$379,998.

Background: In April, 2009 the Department of Justice offered various grants to help rural law enforcement keep current with their level of service under the stimulus program. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office applied for a grant to help with the ongoing upgrade to the Records Management System with the Ottawa Police Department and the Wellsville Police Department. The grant provides funds to not only help complete the project, but will provide for an IT person to help with the installation and maintenance of the system, as well as continuous maintenance of the county system. Under this grant, the provision that is usually required with Federal grants that would require the county to retain any personnel hired by the grant monies was waived. The monies provided for personnel can be used to keep current positions. Working with county administration and IT personnel, it is my hope that the funds provided for personnel can be used to help offset some of the current costs in IT and also provide for moving toward the addition of IT personnel that may be needed in future years with the advances in IT technology. This grant will provide for the implementation of a Mobile Data Terminal system in the patrol cars of all agencies that will allow officers to complete reports from their cars, thus providing for more preventative patrol and visibility of officers in the field; allow for officers to access local, state and federal data bases for information directly from their vehicles; and allow for sensitive information to be transmitted much more quickly and efficiently between agencies and officers. The grant will allow the addition of 28 Mobile Data Terminals, thus putting a terminal in each patrol vehicle of each agency. The ability of dispatching calls via the MDT rather than the current radio dispatch system will enhance the officers ability to respond much more efficiently to calls. The MDT system will not totally replace the radio function, however, much exchange of information that takes place between the dispatch center and the officers will be reduced. This will help relieve the work load on the dispatch center due to the number of agencies we are responsible for, hopefully, delaying the need for additional personnel in the dispatch center.

Recommended Action: The grant award be accepted by the Franklin County Commission and the Chairman of the County Commission sign the acceptance of the grant award.

Attachments: Grant Award Letter; Requirements for acceptance of grant; Grant Acceptance forms; Exclusions from grant; Project Summary Form