

# **Board of County Commissioners**

## **Agenda Request**

Date of Meeting: January 25, 2010

Date Submitted: January 87, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator  
Lindsay Stevens, Assistant County Administrator  
Scott McDermid, Director, Department of Public Safety  
Fran Councill, Director, Division of EMS

Subject: Request Board Consideration and Authorization to Apply for the State of Florida EMS Matching Grant to Purchase Lifelike EMS Training Manikins

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### **Statement of Issue:**

This agenda item requests Board consideration and authorization to apply for the State of Florida EMS Matching Grant to purchase a set of lifelike EMS training manikins.

### **Background:**

The Florida Department of Health, Bureau of EMS manages an EMS Trust Fund that is filled through fees associated with non-criminal civil violations (primarily traffic violations). Other than 15% that is used for the administration of the Bureau; the remainder of the trust fund is used to provide grant opportunities to the Counties and EMS agencies of Florida, specifically for the improvement of EMS provisions.

The EMS matching grant program is subdivided into two categories:

1. Matching Grant Program has a 75% State and 25% County match funding.
2. Rural Matching Grant Program has a 90% State and 10% County match funding.

Unlike previous years, this years grants that are eligible for the rural county category no longer require separate applications to be submitted. One application will provide access to both the standard match and rural match grants

An excerpt from this year's grant advertisement is copied below:

*All rural applications will be assessed for both 75% and 90% state funding unless the rural applicant writes on the first page of its application "Solely consider for 90% grant." Rural agencies should not send two applications for the same project or extra copies. All other applications will be evaluated for 75% funding.*

The primary Florida Statute authorizing the Grant program is copied below:

*401.113(2), Florida Statutes*

*The department shall annually dispense funds contained in the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund as follows:*

*(b)Forty percent of such moneys must be used by the department for making matching grants to local agencies, municipalities, emergency medical services organizations, and youth athletic organizations for the purpose of conducting research, increasing existing levels of emergency medical service, evaluation, community education, injury-prevention programs, and training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other lifesaving and first aid techniques*

*(1)At least 90 percent of these moneys must be made available on a cash matching basis. A grant made under this subparagraph must be contingent upon the recipient providing a cash sum equal to 25 percent of the total department-approved grant amount.*

*(2) No more than 10 percent of these moneys must be made available to rural emergency medical services, and notwithstanding the restrictions specified in subsection (1), these moneys may be used for improvement, expansion, or continuation of services provided. A grant made under this subparagraph must be contingent upon the recipient providing a cash sum equal to no more than 10 percent of the total department-approved*

**Analysis:**

The purpose of this grant is to improve patient care in the areas of airway management and pediatric treatment through consistent training and exercise. Currently EMS has an antiquated CPR manikin on which to practice inserting artificial airways. The manikin is a very stiff rubber torso with a permanently open large mouth area. Even people without training on intubation or airway placement can successfully use this manikin. The current manikin does not accurately simulate a patient and does little to enhance skill levels on critical airway placement. There are new models available that are very lifelike and can simulate laryngeal spasms, a common side effect to airway placement. It further provides a venue for a more realistic experience, in order to better maintain the performance level of these essential skills. These manikins are available in both adult and child size. In addition, there is a pediatric size which not only allows for airway management but also for EKG monitoring and IV access. Maintaining performance standards in pediatric patients is essential because of the limited number of critical pediatric patients seen.

The total request amount of the grant award is \$4,550, which will fund one complete set of manikins. The table below represents the requested grant amount and match cost.

Cost	Cost	Standard Grant 75%/25%		Rural Grant 90%/10%	
Per Unit	Total	State Portion	County Match	State Portion	County Match
\$4,550.00	\$4,550.00	\$3,412.50	\$1,137.50	\$4,095.00	\$455.00

If awarded the grant, match funding will be allocated from the Wakulla EMS Training budget. The grant application is due on or before February 12, 2010 and award is anticipated prior to the end of the Department of Health's fiscal year of June 30, 2010.

**Options:**

1. Authorize the submittal of an application for the State of Florida EMS Matching grant to purchase a full set of lifelike EMS training manikins.
2. Do not authorize the submittal of an application for the State of Florida EMS Matching grant to purchase a full set of lifelike EMS training manikins.
3. Board Direction.

**Recommendation:**

Option #1