



ARPA-29

ARP Application - Jefferson County

Status: Active

Date Created: Nov 4, 2021

Applicant

Bob Burner
bburner@jcesa.org
419 Sixteenth Ave
Ranson, West Virginia 25438
3047283287

Internal Section

Certification

Digital Signature

Robert L Burner III
10/27/2021

Contact Information

Organization Name

Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency

Address

419 16th Ave Ranson, WV 25438

Website (if applicable)

jcesa.org

Phone Number

3047283287

Email Address

bburner@jcesa.org

Project Summary

1. Brief description of the proposal

We request funding to replace the portable and mobile radios used by fire and EMS personnel employed by JCESA.

2. Purpose and key anticipated outcomes

Communication with dispatch and other responders is essential to safe and effective emergency response. Unreliable radio equipment jeopardizes the safety of our responders and outcomes of our patients are at risk.

3. Individuals or communities served

All residents and guests of Jefferson County

4. How the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated this request

Increased decontamination, exposure to chemicals and atypical use conditions, along with increased use, have taken a negative toll on our portable and mobile radios, hastening the end of their useful life.

5. Amount of funding requested

157,701.83

6. Amount of any bids or cost estimates received to date, if applicable

157,701.83

7a. Amount of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

0

7b. Source of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

N/A

8. How ARP funds, if awarded, will be used

To fund the purchase of needed radio equipment. Specifically, 26 portable units, 10 mobile units, and the necessary batteries, charging devices, and accessories.

9. How long it will take you to complete the project if awarded funding

We estimate that the upgrade will be complete approximately 3-6 months after funding.

Proposal Details

1. Please describe the problem or need which your project seeks to address

The life of our portable and mobile radios has been shortened by the conditions they have been subjected to as a result of the pandemic. We are experiencing failures and broken components. The reliability of our equipment is questionable. Radios are often the lifeline between our responders in dangerous environments and the outside resources they may need to stay alive, or prevent the loss of life of a citizen.

2. Please describe goals and expected outcomes of your proposal.

Our goal is to replace 26 portable and 10 mobile radios, along with chargers and other necessary accessories, to ensure that our responders have reliable communication equipment for their mission of saving lives and protecting property.

3. Please provide your project timeline

The order for this equipment will be placed immediately upon funding. We anticipate delivery of the equipment approximately 6-12 weeks after the order is place. Upon delivery, we will work with the ECC to

program and assist with the installation of equipment. We expect the entire project to be complete in three to six months, but this is dependent upon manufacturer delivery time and the time needed by the ECC to program the equipment once received.

4. Please provide your project's total proposed budget.

157701.83

5. Please list any partners in this proposal, and the partner's role and your relationship with them.

Richard Hahn from the ECC has helped us in identifying the appropriate equipment and communicating with the vendor to ensure the quotation is accurate and an order based on that quote will completely satisfy the needs of this project.

6. Please describe your plan for sustainability of the project or initiative after the grant award has been exhausted.

Upgrades to the entire lot of radio equipment are not a frequent occurrence. This will mark only the 2nd such upgrade during the existence of the JCESA (and JCAA previously.) There is no anticipated increase in cost to maintain the replacement equipment and, in fact, we anticipate a decrease in maintenance and repair costs for radio equipment as a result of this project. The next radio upgrade would most likely be five to ten years from now and should be identified as a capital project in the budget years of that timeframe.

Organization Information

1. Please provide your organization's mission statement.

JCESA saves lives and preserves property by partnering with the volunteer fire organizations to provide exceptional emergency medical services, fire suppression, and community engagement.

2. Describe the history of your organization, tell us about your current programs and activities

Jefferson County is fortunate to have the established volunteer fire departments who have created an infrastructure over the last 200+ years including buildings, apparatus, the equipment needed to respond to a variety of hazards and emergencies, and strong relationships within the communities they serve. As incident volume increased locally and volunteerism waned nationally, the volunteers worked to establish what would become the Jefferson County Ambulance Authority (JCAA), created by ordinance of the Commission in 1995 to provide supplemental staffing for EMS response. The volunteers also identified occasional shortages of fire suppression personnel and observed that many of the JCAA employees were qualified firefighters and some were experienced drivers of heavy apparatus, but were not legally permitted to function in those roles while on-duty as JCAA employees regardless of the circumstances. The volunteers championed for change resulting in WV Senate Bill 224 in 2008, which allowed the creation of a joint Emergency Services Board in Jefferson County. By ordinance, the Commission dissolved the Ambulance Authority (JCAA) and Created the Emergency Services Agency (JCESA) in 2009. In 2015 the Director appeared before the WV Fire Commission with a signed MOU amongst JCESA and all seven volunteer departments and received approval for JCESA as a Fire Prevention Unit. In 2016 JCESA personnel began functioning in fire suppression as well as EMS.

3. Please describe three significant accomplishments of your organization.

Mr. Bennett, Ms. Penwell, and Mr. Freeman. These are the names of three people who were dead and subsequently resuscitated (brought back to life) by our providers. There's no greater accomplishment than saving a life. There are many more in our community, in addition to the three named here, who would not have survived but for the actions of skilled first responders.

4. Please list your Owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, or other key members of your organization:

Board of Directors

Voting Members

Bob Faas, Chairman, Fire Representative

Tricia Jackson, County Commissioner

Craig Simpson, EMS Representative

Tony Troxel, Vice Chair, Citizen Representative

Joshua Stillwell, Citizen Representative

Steve Harris, Treasurer, Citizen Representative

Jacob Harris, Citizen Representative

Non-Voting Members

Dr. Marney Treese, MD, County Medical Director [_mailto:Sharris4253@gmail.com](mailto:Sharris4253@gmail.com)

Ross Morgan, Volunteer Fire Assoc. Representative

Non-Voting Support Staff

Nathan Cochran, Esq., Legal Counsel

Debbie Lancaster, Secretary (and JCESA Office Manager)

Senior Staff:

Bob Burner, Director


Sara Considine, Operations Commander

R. Craig Horn, Education & Compliance Officer


5. Please list the staff involved with this project and describe their roles and responsibilities:

Sara Considine, Operations Commander, has reviewed our current inventory and placement of radio equipment. She then worked with Richard Hahn, Dispatch Supervisor at the ECC, to determine the needs, appropriate equipment, and obtain a price quotation from the vendor based on the WV state contract. Hahn was instrumental in ensuring the accuracy of technical specifications, communicating with the vendor, and making sure an order placed based on this quote will completely satisfy the needs of this project.


Cash flow statement for applicant's most recent fiscal year

 JCESA Cash Flow.pdf
Uploaded by Bob Burner on Nov 4, 2021 at 1:17 pm

Two years of audited financial statements

 Audit report 2.pdf
Uploaded by Bob Burner on Nov 4, 2021 at 1:17 pm

Current operating budget

 Copy of JCESA Operating Budget.xlsx
Uploaded by Bob Burner on Nov 4, 2021 at 1:17 pm

If the applicant has not been audited, please include an unaudited balance sheet and income statement as prepared by the applicant



7. List any federal, state, local or private grant awards or funding received in the last three years and the current status of those funds. If your organization has previously received funds from Jefferson County, please list the amount, nature of the project(s) and current status of the funding and project(s).

JCESA is funded by the Jefferson County Commission. JCESA received a federal SAFER grant of up to \$960k for volunteer firefighter recruitment in 2016. The recruitment program ran through 2020 and is closed.

JCESA has received CARES funding through the Jefferson County Commission in 2020 and 2021 used for reimbursement of pandemic expenses. JCESA has received several donations from the TB association in Jefferson County, which are typically in the \$8k-\$12k range for various airway-related devices, primarily used for training. We have also received donations of \$1k or less from several civic and social groups.

8. If you have made an application for funding for this project from other sources (city, state, private or non-profit organizations) please list the same here.

N/A

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. Please explain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it relates to your request.

One of the many impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the acceleration in the demise of our radio equipment. These electronics have found themselves being carried and worn under various types of PPE, exposing them to heat and moisture for longer periods of time and more often than usual, and condensation buildup. None of these things is healthy for electronics.

Being actually or possibly exposed to the virus, the radios required frequent and harsh disinfection often involving alcohol and other chemicals either in liquid form, directly or applied via cloth or other device, or via disinfectant fogging systems. This likely contributed to the degradation of the materials and components we are experiencing, resulting in failure.

By limiting face to face contact in any area possible, this meant relying on electronic devices and communication equipment more to communicate than previously. Additionally, July of 2021 saw the highest call volume on record for Fire/EMS in Jefferson County and was immediately topped in August of 2021. This correlates to the rise of the Delta variant.

2. How will ARP funding, if awarded, aid in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?

Reliable radio equipment allows us to better fulfill our mission of saving lives and property while also helping maintain the safety of the first responders who depend on this equipment. The replacement of this equipment will not only offset the negative impact of the pandemic hastening the end of our radio equipment's useful life, but will also better prepare us to meet the demands of additional spikes or variants that may arise in the coming weeks, months, or years.

3. Are you requesting lost revenue due to COVID-19


No

Supplementary Information


1. Please enter contact information (name, email, and phone) for at least one third-party reference.

Kery Swope, kswope@albrightcpa.com, 301.739.5300

2. Please include any supplementary information or documentation (such as letters of support, newspaper articles, etc) which you feel will be essential to the County's review.

 Jefferson County APX Firm Fixed Quote REV A 10-29-2021- Correct Full Quote.pdf
Uploaded by Bob Burner on Nov 4, 2021 at 3:09 pm

Attachments

 Audit Report.pdf
Uploaded by Bob Burner on Nov 4, 2021 at 3:10 pm

History

Date	Activity
Oct 27, 2021 at 10:12 am	Bob Burner started a draft of Record ARPA-29
Nov 4, 2021 at 3:10 pm	Bob Burner added attachment Audit Report.pdf to Record ARPA-29
Nov 4, 2021 at 3:12 pm	Bob Burner submitted Record ARPA-29
Nov 4, 2021 at 3:12 pm	approval step Application Review was assigned to Michelle Gordon on Record ARPA-29
Nov 4, 2021 at 3:12 pm	changed the deadline to Nov 05, 2021 on approval step Application Review on Record ARPA-29