



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Bear Creek Fire Service Area

MEMORANDUM

TO: Pete Sprague, Assembly President
Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

THRU: David Carey, Borough Mayor *DCarey*
Sue Wilcox, Chief of Staff *Wilcox*
Craig Chapman, Finance Director *CChapman*
Brenda Ahlberg, Community & Fiscal Projects Manager *Bahlberg*

FROM: Mark Beals, BCFSA Fire Chief *MBeals*

DATE: July 22, 2010

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2010-19-12, An ordinance accepting and appropriating a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$100,686 and transferring local matching funds of \$5,299 to the Bear Creek Fire Service Area for training and firefighting equipment.

Bear Creek Fire Service Area (BCFSA) is committed to the health and safety of its firefighters. The service area has applied for and received award notification through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) "Assistance to Firefighters" grant program to conduct the following project: (1) Firefighter I/II certification classes, (2) medical examinations, (3) purchase thermal imaging camera, and (4) equipment training exercises.

The grant will allow the service area to offer Firefighter I/II certification classes which will include an Emergency Trauma Technician module. Classes will be held in Seward, thereby making them more accessible for volunteers and reducing the cost to participants. Additionally, eligible volunteers will have the opportunity to have a complete medical examination. Eligibility will be based upon volunteers completing training benchmarks and active attendance.

The grant will also allow the service area to purchase a thermal imaging camera and to contract an equipment instructor to conduct the "Safe-IR" exercise. The exercise will illustrate camera applications, user operations and safety protocol.

Funds are available in the service area's approved FY11 budget to meet the 5% match requirement and the 3.04% administrative fee. The service area board discussed this grant at its meeting of June 8, 2010, and recommended acceptance of this grant and approval for the matching funds and fee.

A shortened hearing is requested because the "Assistance to Firefighters" grant program is restricted to a one-year performance period; therefore, the grant shall end May 26, 2011. The service area will need adequate time to purchase the equipment, conduct the training, and file required reports before the expiration of the grant. Therefore, a hearing date of August 17, 2010, is requested. The assembly's consideration of this request is appreciated.

The BCFSA Fire Chief will be the project manager on this project and shall provide grant oversight and project completion.

Attachments: Draft Ordinance, DHS award letter

FINANCE DEPARTMENT FUNDS VERIFIED	
\$8,006.00	
Acct. No.	207.51210.00000.43014
Amount	\$ 8,006.00
By:	BA
Date:	7/22/10