



CITY OF HOMER

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEMORANDUM 19-132

DATE: September 24, 2019
TO: Katie Koester, City Manager
FROM: Mark Robl, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Dispatch Console Grant

We have received a grant award from Homeland Security for an additional dispatch console. This will increase our active consoles from two to three. We have been in need of an additional console for quite some time. We always try to staff two dispatchers 24/7 but are limited in our ability to do so by manning levels. However we are able to staff two dispatchers during our busiest times of the day. Having a third console will give us a fully functional back-up position in case one goes down. It will also allow us to have two dispatchers working when the third position is occupied by a trainee, something that happens frequently. More importantly, the third console will be of great benefit when coordinating an area wide emergency response such as a tsunami evacuation of the spit. I request we obtain council approval to accept this grant and authorize a sole source purchase for this project to ProComm Alaska and for permission to enter into a contract with them and obligate funds.

The amount of the grant is \$149,505. This will fund the cost of the electronic equipment which makes up a console position and the installation and testing of it. It will not pay for the workstation required to mount the equipment on. We tried to obtain grant funding for the workstation but we learned Homeland Security will not provide funding for workstations. The workstations for dispatch consoles are highly specialized. They provide mounting surfaces for 6 computer monitors and the various associated equipment. They are fully ergonomic allowing the dispatcher to electrically adjust the position of the work surfaces, monitors and keyboards. This is very important for dispatchers that are often seated at the station for many hours with no opportunity to get up and move around. The cost of one workstation is \$24,704. I request funding for the purchase of a workstation be approved with the money coming out of police station reserves. I also request that this purchase be approved for a sole source purchase through ProComm Alaska.

ProComm Alaska has been doing our radio maintenance work for approximately 18 years. ProComm is the only full service Motorola dealer in the state and the Motorola consoles are the only ones compatible for use with the State of Alaska's Land Mobile Radio System, commonly referred to as ALMR. The police department utilizes ALMR on a daily basis. There is no other option for us to pursue when it comes to replacing our console system. ProComm provides us 24/7 response services and is also the only radio service provider that fields public safety certified technicians with Motorola factory training. They have

provided superb service to us over the years. For these reasons, I request a sole source purchase to ProComm Alaska be approved.

To help ensure we are receiving the best possible pricing we will correspond with the Motorola factory representative for Alaska and ensure the pricing offered by ProComm is the same as the competitively bid contracts for Motorola Equipment utilized by the GSA and the Department of Defense. We will not issue any purchase orders until this confirmation is obtained.