

From: Linda Collister

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Subject: RE: AFG IS Opening June 2012

Chiefs:

I wanted to formerly request the ability to reapply for a grant for FireHouse software applications and portable mobile devices (iPads) through the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs to be administered by the FPO's. The history behind the grant is that in 2010 the FPO's were approached about the use of iPads for collecting inspection and preplan information. We were also collecting information at the time about CERS (hazmat) reporting to the State and responder access to the data. We found that 90% of the County was using FireHouse and were looking to see if they had a CERS application which they did not. However during that time we found that FireHouse did provide mobile inspection, preplan and PCR data software. The mobile inspection and PCR information had an iPad application and the Preplan software required a PC and not an iPad. However, the PrePlan data once completed could be saved in another format on the iPads for use by responding agencies. I polled all fire departments including the volunteer departments to find out what software, and hardware they would need.

During the collection of data I found that most departments had PC's, but no iPads or could not afford MDC's for emergency response. So we put together a spread sheet that included each department's needs. We also worked with County Fire because they provided computers and FireHouse web compatible software to its volunteer departments. Most departments requested the mobile inspection software, and the preplan software, while two departments requested the PCR software. The iPads would be available for the departments not using the FireHouse software for use with their own software. In the new spreadsheet we will be removing the mobile PC's and adding more iPads so the grant amount may decrease.

We also found that the iPads would greatly increase the ability for BC's responding to emergencies to have the mapping capability, preplans and possibly the CERS data. We found that the sharing of BC's for mutual aid did not provide the responding BC's any additional electronic information unless they had an MDC. This was the same for the first engine company from the stations. So not only could these iPads be used for inspection purposes it could be used for response purposes as well. CalFire BC's were also included because of their mutual aid response. In 2010 Chief John Zanzi and I formerly submitted a FPG to FEMA for approximately \$400,000 for software, training, mobile devices (iPads), and mobile computers through the Fire Chief's Association. Due to the grant application not fitting the specific requirements of the grant and a portion

being related to operations the grant was not fulfilled.

Since that time, we have had presentations by FireHouse open to all departments and the presentation from Marvin from CalEMA about Marin Fire using the iPad applications for prevention and operational uses. They received a \$500,000 grant for this through AFG. Another use that was found was the ability to track different incidents such as marijuana related incidents, arson fires, etc. that could be shared amongst agencies and CalFire. We also have attended the Fire/EMS CAD committee and they are working to get the information to other devices such as iPads besides the MDC's that may be more cost effective for more Departments. Because of the reasons listed above we did not put in a formal request to the Chief's and did not pursue the FPG. Looking at the AFG requirements, this application may be more suited toward applying for grant as well as Marin's success with a similar grant. We are formerly requesting to apply for this grant through the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association. In the past, by applying through a non-profit agency each department would not be required to meet matching funds. I will make sure this applies for this grant as well.

If we are successful with the grant and awarded the monies, the grant will be administered through the FPO's with the Treasurer, at this time Hans Henneberque retired State Fire Marshal Deputy. Multiple signatures and checks and balances would be required. The FPO's would also be collecting the data via FireHouse reports and FITF reports for the success of the grant. We would request additional monies in the grant for the Treasurer to administer and collect the data. That amount is to be determined. The grant will be available for review by persons selected by the Chiefs prior to submittal. I will be working closely with John Lantz on this project.

Thank you for your time, and please do not hesitate to call me at 527-2683..

Linda Collister Fire Marshal, Hazardous Materials Program Manager

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