



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Council Session

Item H1

Approving Lela Lowry as Emergency Management Director

Staff Contact: Brenda Sutherland

Council Agenda Memo

From: Brenda Sutherland, Human Resources Director

Meeting: July 12, 2005

Subject: Appointing Lela Lowry as the Emergency Management Director

Item #'s: H-1

Presenter(s): Brenda Sutherland

Background

The City of Grand Island has recently undergone some changes in the Emergency Management Department. The Council voted to make a change in the management of the department and that change became effective on March 29, 2005.

Discussion

Once the decision was made to move in a different direction with the management of the department, the recruiting process began. The position was advertised and a committee was chosen to select finalists to be considered by the Mayor for the position. There was a meet & greet session that was open to the public as a part of the selection process. There were 18 applicants interested in the position. Five were interviewed by the selection committee and of that five, two were sent forward in the process. The two finalists were Lela Lowry and Andrew Hills. The candidate that was chosen to be appointed by the Mayor is Lela Lowry.

Lela comes to this position with a strong background in emergency management with an emphasis in training. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Kearney State College in Education/Social Science. She carries certifications through NEMA and FEMA. She is currently the School Safety Program Specialist for the Nebraska Department of Education and before that was an Exercise Training Officer for NEMA. She has been offered the position pending Council approval and has accepted starting at step 4 in the pay grade which is \$56,086.19. With Council approval she will be able to start as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Grand Island on August 1, 2005.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the appointment of Lela Lowry as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Grand Island/Hall County.

Sample Motion

Motion to approve the appointment of Lela Lowry as Emergency Management Director for the City of Grand Island/Hall County.