

# **City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska**

**Monday, December 18, 2017**

**Regular Meeting**

## **Item Reports3**

**Directions and instructions to staff considering an application for a Public Safety Training Facility grant from the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency.**

**Staff Contact: Nathan Johnson, City Manager**

# Regional Training Facility

## Proposed Overview

The Training Facility would be obtained through an AFG Grant. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is an important component of the larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards. Since Fiscal Year (FY) 2001, the AFG Program has provided approximately \$6.7 billion in grants to first-responder organizations to obtain much needed emergency response equipment, personal protective equipment, firefighting and emergency vehicles, and training. FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award approximately \$310.5 million directly to fire departments, State Fire Training Academies and non-affiliated EMS organizations to enhance their response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public and emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards.

The specific Grant that we would apply for would be the Regional Grant. The Regional grants are projects in which multiple organizations or Fire Departments serving more than one jurisdiction would benefit directly from the activities requested with the Grant. This Grant is rumored to be opening up around Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 2017. This Grant would be our best chance of approval vs. a single department and it could benefit the entire area.

The City of Scottsbluff would be the host City and would take full responsibility for the Grant. The City would have full control and ownership of the Facility. The partnering Departments which include Bayard, Gering, Mitchell and Morrill at this time, would have access to use the facility through scheduling with the City.

In previous Grants the Facility needed to be mobile. Meaning the Facility had to be premanufactured. Several Training Facility builders have systems that can be premanufactured and delivered for set up. This makes them mobile and Grant eligible. One such Facility that prices were obtained from has a four story training tower which is 20' long x 16' wide x 34' high. A two story residential portion that is 20' long x 40' wide x 17' high, and an annex that is 20' long x 16' wide x 8'6" high. The facility would contain several rappelling points with two burn rooms (one class A and one class B ) with thermal protection and monitoring system. Some of the other training props include floor, roof and wall cut outs. A smoke distribution system, sprinkler system prop, SCBA maze and confined space prop. This system was quoted at \$656,095.00. The City would be responsible for 10% of that amount according to previous years Grant requirements.

The location of the Facility has been looked at and the recommendation being the corner lot South of the High Low Bays at the Harms Center. The College is favorable of the project and could also greatly benefit with nontraditional student credit. An additional benefit to locating the Facility close to the Harms Building is the use of class room space and other facilities. Black Hills energy has also been contacted and they have stated they will run the needed gas lines to the facility at little or no cost to the City.

This is a much needed Facility and will greatly improve Scottsbluff Fire's trainings and help maintain training hours, as well as other requirements to assist in lowering our ISO rating and better preparedness.

