

**ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

For the meeting of: September 10, 2014

To: Board of Directors

From: Mark Mills, Fire Chief

Subject: Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Award

RECOMMENDATION:

Acknowledge the grant acceptance and authorize staff to utilize funds from the Undesignated Reserve account to complete required matching funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides several grant opportunities for local fire agencies; they include the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, Fire Prevention and Safety Grant and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant. Since 2001, Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program has provided funding assistance to fire departments for firefighting and emergency response needs, including critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and other hazards.

Ross Valley Fire has been the recipient of two Assistance to Firefighters Grants in the past. In 2002, the Department received a \$300,000 grant for a mobile live fire trainer; and in 2005, the Department received a \$186,000 grant for the installation of fire suppression sprinklers and alarm systems at the Department's three fire stations.

This past year staff filed two grant applications, one for the acquisition of 34 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) and a regional grant for the purchase of cardiac monitor/defibrillators. The department has been awarded the grant for the acquisition of 34 SCBA sets and maintenance equipment.

DISCUSSION:

The grant application was prepared and submitted by Battalion Chief Jim Hanson and the Board acknowledged the application in July of 2012. The grant was for the acquisition of 34 SCBAs. The total grant request was for \$309,959 and will require a 10% applicant match. The hard match requires \$30,876.71.

AGENDA ITEM # 5
Date 9/10/14

FISCAL IMPACT:

The SCBA grant award is for \$308,767.06 and requires a 10% Ross Valley Fire Department match. The department will be able to make partial purchases of the equipment and match the 10% as the funds are advanced by FEMA. Staff recommends utilizing the undesignated reserve account which contains \$247,585 to fund the 10% match of \$30,876.71. This will leave a balance of \$216,708 in the Undesignated Reserve account.