

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Jeff Irwin, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Daniel J. Minzey
Sheriff

DATE: April 20, 2005

SUBJECT: Grant Application to Bureau of Justice Assistance;
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Sheriff's Office is requesting the ratification of 2005 electronic application submission with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), for grant funding that is being made available through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the period of May 1, 2005 through April 30, 2008. This grant in the amount of \$45,200 will cover the cost of law enforcement related equipment, which will enhance and automate records retention within the Correctional Facility and Records Division. The electronic application process was developed by the Office of Justice Programs to expedite the application process and facilitate agencies applying for funding.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of BJA is to provide leadership and assistance in support of local criminal justice strategies to achieve safe communities. The JAG program was proposed to streamline justice funding and grant administration; the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most. BJA has been authorized to administer this program. BJA has awarded funding to the Sheriff's Office for a number of years through the LLEBG Program, and is now presenting the opportunity for the County to accept grant funding through the JAG program.

Previous LLEBG awards have been allocated to various law enforcement equipment purchases within a number of the Sheriff divisions such as the marine division, dive rescue team, response unit, and motor unit. In recent years the Sheriff's Office has directed funding toward technology purchases in an effort to pursue initiatives without utilizing funds from the County Technology Fund. The new funding will permit for the acquisition of equipment and software to aid in properly maintaining correctional inmate records and other criminal records or reports.

The JAG funding formula is based on population and Part I violent crime statistics. Once the BJA determines a statewide allocation, 60% of the funding is awarded to the state and 40% is awarded to eligible units of local government. Washtenaw County's portion of the award is \$45,200.

DISCUSSION:

The funding of the BJA (LLEBG), if accepted, will be directed toward obtaining additional equipment. The goal of the project is to pursue initiatives that have cooperatively been identified by the Sheriff's Office and the County ITS Department. The funds will be utilized to purchase both hardware and software systems that will automate functions such as the access of inmate jackets or files. This will allow corrections staff to easily access inmate information from their desktop rather than going to the Records Division to physically locate the file to find the information for which they are looking. Additionally, other equipment such as the Jail photo imaging capture station is outdated and may be upgraded using this grant.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

This request will have no impact on County Personnel and procedures. No positions will be created or eliminated by this resolution.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

All direct costs of the program will be funded by the grant and would therefore have no direct impact on the General Fund Budget.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

None

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

None

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

Conforms to County Policies

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:

Resolution

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SUBMISSION OF THE ELECTRONIC GRANT APPLICATION TO THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,200 FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2005 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2008.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 4, 2005

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office and Washtenaw County have diligently maintained efforts to better serve the citizens of Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office wishes to further enhance its delivery of law enforcement information and services to the community, within the realm of customer service; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office will submit an electronic application for a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for funding in the amount of \$45,200 being made available through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant; and

WHEREAS, this funding, which requires no County matching funds, will be used to update/upgrade various equipment utilized by the entire Sheriff's Office to improve service delivery to the County and efficiency within the Office; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the County Administrator's Office, the Finance Department, Human Resources, Corporation Counsel, and the Ways and Means Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the submission of the electronic application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for grant funding in the amount of \$45,200 through the Justice Assistance Grant, as on file with the County Clerk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the grant application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amending the budget, as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the delegate contracts in conformity with the application/award upon review of Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk

