

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------|
| (1) DEPARTMENT Sheriff - Coroner | (2) MEETING DATE 1/13/2015 | (3) CONTACT/PHONE Ian Parkinson/781-4540 | |
| (4) SUBJECT Request to approve and accept a Stonegarden Federal Grant in the amount of \$75,000 for radio equipment; 2) Authorize a corresponding budget adjustment in Fund Center 136 – Sheriff-Coroner; 3) Amend the fixed asset list to include 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band hand held radios; 4) Authorize the Sheriff-Coroner to sign grant documents necessary to the purchase of these items. All Districts | | | |
| (5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve and accept the Stonegarden Federal Grant in the amount of \$75,000 to be used to purchase 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band radio equipment with encryption capability; 2. Approve a corresponding budget adjustment in Fund Center 136 – Sheriff-Coroner by 4/5 vote; 3. Amend the fixed asset list to include 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band radio equipment with encryption capability; 4. Authorize the Sheriff-Coroner to sign grant documents necessary to the purchase of these items. | | | |
| (6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal Grant | (7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$75,000.00 | (8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00 | (9) BUDGETED? No |
| (10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___) | | | |
| (11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | | | |
| (12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A | | (13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: 1415069 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | |
| (14) LOCATION MAP N/A | (15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? N/A | (16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____ | |
| (17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst | | | |
| (18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts | | | |

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sheriff - Coroner / Ian Parkinson/781-4540

DATE: 1/13/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve and accept a Stonegarden Federal Grant in the amount of \$75,000 for radio equipment; 2) Authorize a corresponding budget adjustment in Fund Center 136 – Sheriff Coroner; 3) Amend the fixed asset list to include 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band hand held radios; 4) Authorize the Sheriff-Coroner to sign grant documents necessary to the purchase of these items. All Districts

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Approve and accept the Stonegarden Federal Grant in the amount of \$75,000 to be used to purchase 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band radio equipment with encryption capability;
2. Approve a corresponding budget adjustment in Fund Center 136 – Sheriff Coroner by 4/5 vote;
3. Amend the fixed asset list to include 10 Motorola APX 7000 multi-band radio equipment with encryption capability;
4. Authorize the Sheriff-Coroner to sign grant documents necessary to the purchase of these items.

DISCUSSION

California remains one of the main smuggling routes for illegal narcotics into the United States. It is well documented that much of the illegal narcotics enters the United States from Mexico and is transported to various areas in the eastern United States. It is also known that most of these illegal narcotics are smuggled by violent Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organizations. It has become apparent that these organizations have modified their sea smuggling tactics by motoring in boats further out to sea and landing them further north along the California coast than in past years. It is believed that these organizations have modified their routes because of the increased enforcement efforts of Southern California law enforcement. In some cases these boats have traveled up to 150 miles out to sea and up the coast as far as Monterey Bay, to smuggle illegal narcotics and suspected undocumented people into the United States. These changes have allowed these organizations to penetrate existing interdiction techniques off of California's southern coast and making landfall further away from the maritime surveillance and interdiction assets of the United States Coast Guard and U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

In the last thirty-one months numerous open bow fishing vessels commonly known as "panga boats" have been detected landing drugs on the coastlines of Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. Between May 24, 2012 and November 27, 2014 there were fifteen documented maritime smuggling incidents in San Luis Obispo County. Fourteen of these incidents resulted in the recovery of "panga boats." Ten of those vessels recovered were in excess of 30 feet in length with a payload capacity of up to three tons.

Five of the maritime smuggling incidents investigated by this office resulted in a total of 70 arrests for drug smuggling and the concurrent seizure of approximately 12,861 lbs. of marijuana, with an approximate street value of \$10.8 million, by sheriff's deputies. To date, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for a total seizure of 27,493 lbs. of marijuana smuggled into our county aboard "panga boats."

The United States Border Patrol has partnered with the Sheriff's Office to stop maritime smuggling by conducting joint patrol operations along our coastline. In support of these joint operations the Border Patrol has located a series of radio repeaters along the California coast as far north as Piedras Blancas to improve communications for its agents. The Border Patrol radios and repeaters operate on a different band than the radios used by the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office and this has hampered interoperability of jointly conducted anti-maritime smuggling operations.

At the present time the Sheriff's Office does not have radio equipment that will allow for communications between Border Patrol agents and Sheriff's deputies on a single handheld radio. The purchase of dual band radios with AES/DES capability will improve communications between Border Patrol agents and Sheriff's deputies, increase the safety of personnel and improve the efficiency of joint operations directed against maritime smuggling.

Operation Stonegarden (OPSG)

Operation Stonegarden is a federal grant program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a component of the Department of Homeland Security, as part of the State Homeland Security Grant Program. Stonegarden funds are intended to enhance cooperation and coordination among local, tribal, territorial, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in a joint mission to secure the United States' borders along routes of ingress from international borders to include travel corridors in States bordering Mexico and Canada, as well as states and territories with international water borders. In California the program is administered through the San Diego Sheriff's Office.

For the past year and a half the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office has received some funding reimbursement for overtime through Operation Stonegarden. This year the Sheriff's Office has received approval for supplemental funding of \$75,000 for radio equipment. Stonegarden requires the County make the initial purchase and then the County is reimbursed for the cost.

Based on those guidelines for permissible use, the following items will be purchased with Operation Stonegarden funds:

\$75,000 for (10) Motorola APX 7000 multi-band handheld for use during joint anti-maritime smuggling operations conducted by the Sheriff's Office and the Border Patrol over the Border Patrol's communications system. The U.S. Border Patrol requires that Motorola multi-band radios with digital encryption be used for communication over their system due to the sensitive nature of narcotics and anti-smuggling operations.

This communications equipment will improve communications between Border Patrol agents and Sheriff's deputies, increase officer safety and improve the efficiency of joint operations directed against maritime smuggling activities in our county.

Even though these funds are coming from FEMA for Homeland Security, these funds are administered by the San Diego Sheriff's Office and are being used to partner with local Law Enforcement agencies to assist with protecting our borders.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

General Services Agency and Auditor-Controller's Office has been consulted for purchasing.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Sheriff's Office is requesting the \$75,000 in grant funding to be used to purchase Motorola APX 7000 multi-band hand held radios. This purchase will have no impact on the General Fund. Any future maintenance costs will be absorbed through the Sheriff's Office budget.

RESULTS

Approval of the Stonegarden federal grant in the amount of \$75,000 will improve communications between Border Patrol agents and Sheriff's deputies, increase officer safety and improve the efficiency of joint operations directed against maritime smuggling activities in our county. This grant will enhance the capabilities of the Sheriff's Office which contributes to the County's community-wide goal of a Safe Community: "The County will strive to create a community where all people-adults and children alike-have a sense of security and well-being, crime is controlled, fire and rescue response is timely, and roads are safe."