



Agenda Date: 5/17/2005
Agenda Placement: 6Q

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Patti DeWeese, Staff Services Analyst, 253-4197
SUBJECT: Budget Transfer to establish Fixed Asset purchase

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services requests approval of Budget Transfer No. 85 in the amount of \$9,750 transferring funds within the Emergency Services budget to establish a fixed asset for the purchase of a tactical communications package. (4/5 vote required)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa Operational Area Terrorism Working Group has recommended the use of grant funds received from the FY04 Homeland Security Grant Program to purchase a tactical communications package (TAC-PAK) for the County Office of Emergency Services. This communications package is a lightweight, fully portable Emergency Operations Center in a briefcase-style format, allowing users to perform all traditional emergency incident communications functions from a field location.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Emergency Services
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This communications package will allow for greater mobility and more efficient response in emergency situations, natural disasters as well as during training exercises where personnel need to operate off-site.
Is the general fund affected?	No

Future fiscal impact: There is no future fiscal impact.

Consequences if not approved: Emergency personnel operating off-site will have inefficient and less functional communications when communicating with the home operations center, agency or office during critical emergency situations.

Additional Information: None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The TAC-PAK is an "Office/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in a Briefcase." The lightweight, battery powered, man-portable communication platform with full wireless communications functionality is integrated into a small suitcase. While in a remote Incident Command Post, a TAC-PAK user could connect to the Internet at the same time he/she was receiving a fax while simultaneously connected to the Dispatch Center LAN.

The TAC•PAK represents a paradigm shift in remote communications by enabling users to perform all traditional emergency incident communications functions out in the field. What we were seeing out in the field was a hodgepodge of communication technologies which were either impossible, expensive, or inconvenient for the typical user to integrate and operate in the field. TAC- PAK will allow for the integration of the traditional incident communication capabilities into a lightweight and fully function communication system capable of being carried by a single person to a remote location such as a hazmat spill, a school violence situation, wildland fire, or other natural disaster scenario.

The Napa Operational Terrorism Working Group, the approval authority for FY04 Homeland Security Grant purchases, has recommended the purchase of this piece of equipment which will benefit the Operational Area during training exercises, a variety of emergency situations and natural disasters.

This piece of equipment exceeds the \$5,000 level for fixed asses, thus requiring Board action to establish the fixed asset.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Britt Ferguson