



COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry K. Pritchett, Treasurer
Debbie Williams, Commissioner of Revenue
Mary Sorrell, Finance Director
David Ross, Board Member
Paul D. Trampe, Board Member
Mark Cole, Deputy County Administrator

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

LaShahn Gaines, Chief Financial Officer, Spotsylvania Schools
Peter Zicari, Director of Technology, Spotsylvania Schools
Tracy Edwards, Program Assistant Sheriff's Office
Captain James Bibens, Sheriff's Office
Matthew Embrey, Division Chief Emergency Services Coordinator
Annette D'Alessandro, Grants Manager
Susan Hahn, Bridges Project Manager
Debbie Aylor, Tourism/Special Events Manager

Budget Adjustment and Appropriation of Additional E-Rate Technology Revenues and Expenditures

LaShahn Gaines, Chief Financial Officer, Spotsylvania Schools, explained that the Federal E-rate Program ensures that schools and libraries can obtain high-speed Internet access and increased Wi-Fi support at affordable rates. With this program eligible items purchased can receive a partial reimbursement of the purchase costs which the school division then uses to purchase additional technology items.

Ms. Gaines explained that she anticipates receipt of \$248,045 in E-rate funding in FY 2017, an increase of \$157,950 over their FY 2017 estimate of \$90,455. The School Board approved the budget amendment to reflect the additional \$157,950 at their meeting on May 15, 2017.

There was a discussion about programs in place to address the lack of internet access for some Spotsylvania students. Mr. Zicari, Director of Technology, Spotsylvania Schools, explained that there are limited options to address the issue. He explained that there is currently a pilot program in place for students at Spotsylvania High School and Post Oak Middle and that school staff was continually researching other options.

There was a question about why the additional funding was not anticipated in the FY 2017 budget and Mr. Zicari explained that the increased funding was due to recent changes to the program qualifications.

On a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Pritchett and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the FY 2017 Budget amendment and appropriation to recognize the additional E-rate funding.

Budget Adjustment and Appropriation for FY 2018 Congestion and Mitigation of Air Quality Incentive Program (CMAQ) Funding for the Conversion of Sheriff's Vehicles to Propane

Tracy Edwards, Program Assistant Sheriff's Office, explained that the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Transportation is offering an Alternative Fuels Program Government Fleet Vehicle Incentive to allow state agencies and local governments in specific air quality non-attainment, ozone attainment and/or maintenance areas to be reimbursed for incremental costs to transition to alternative fuels such as propane.

Allowable vehicles for this program must be "Buy America" compliant and garaged in program areas of air quality as recognized by the federal CMAQ program. The program is intended to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases associated with government fleet vehicles.

Reimbursements are up to an average of \$10,000 per vehicle and there is no local cash match requirement for the award and no on-going requirement to fund this project after the award expires. The Sheriff's Office would like to convert five Ford Explorers PPV-SUVs to propane. The estimated cost for the conversion kit is \$5,000 plus an estimated \$1,340 for the installation per vehicle for a total project cost of \$31,700.

There was a discussion about the performance and maintenance of current vehicles that have been converted to propane and staff explained that they were pleased with the performance of the vehicles that have been converted to propane and that those conversions have resulted in vehicles that are more efficient to operate. There was a question about whether the kits could be transferred when vehicles are aged out of the fleet and staff responded that the kits could be transferred from one vehicle to another.

On a motion by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Ms. Ross, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the proposed budget amendment and appropriation.

Update on State Homeland Security Program Grant Application Request for an Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)

Tracy Edwards, Program Assistant Sheriff's Office, explained that staff had made a presentation at the April 20th Finance Committee meeting about an opportunity to request a grant through the State Homeland Security Grant Program for the purchase of an unmanned aircraft system (UAS). At that time staff anticipated a grant request of approximately \$25,000 to fund the purchase of two UASs, a single forward looking infrared (FLIR) camera, associated accessories, shipping, travel and training costs. At that meeting staff anticipated that their request to seek the grant would go to the Board's May 9th meeting for approval.

Staff was not able to complete the paperwork necessary to submit the request to the Board at their May 9th meeting and the grant deadline has since been extended. After review of the original grant proposal it was determined that the grant request would be for a total of \$45,150. \$41,150 of that would cover the cost of two UASs, two FLIR cameras, associated accessories and shipping. The \$4,000 balance would be used for travel and training costs associated with either having additional personnel certified as a pilot and/or to send the current pilots to specialized training.

Staff explained the regulations concerning the use of the UAS and the storage of the data that is obtained from the cameras that are mounted on the UAS's. There was a discussion about how both Sheriff and FREM would utilize the units within the regulations addressed in the Code of Virginia (19.2-60.1 – Use of unmanned aircraft systems by public bodies; search warrant required).

On a motion by Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Williams, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the State Homeland Security grant request.

Acceptance of Bridges Grant Program Award for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Susan Hahn, Bridges Project Manager explained that Spotsylvania Department of Social Services (DSS) has been the grant recipient of the (Bridge to the Future Grant) Employment Advancement for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Program Grant since FY02 and lead agency for the regional grant since FY03.

The “Bridge to the Future Project,” is an inter-agency project between the Spotsylvania Department of Social Services and Spotsylvania County Schools. The project provides intensive services to TANF recipients with multiple barriers to employment, and provides intensive direct services to include the following: identifying and addressing learning and other disabilities; diagnostic services; intensive work readiness and GED preparation. The goal of the project is to assist TANF recipients in gaining and maintaining employment, and to ultimately achieve self-sufficiency, ending dependence on government assistance.

She explained that the project's lead fiscal agent is Spotsylvania DSS, but the employees who support his program are employed by Spotsylvania County Schools.

DSS has been approved for funding, in the amount of \$177,100 for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. There is no local match requirement and no requirement for the locality to continue to participate in the project beyond the grant award period and staff is requesting the Board's approval to accept the grant and to approve the associated FY 2018 budget adjustment and appropriation.

On a motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Pritchett, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the budget amendment and associated appropriation for the acceptance of the Bridges Grant award.

Authorize A. Smith Bowman to Act as the Authorized Agent for a Partnership Grant under the FY18 Virginia Tourism Commission Marketing Leverage Grant Program

Debbie Aylor, Tourism/Special Events Manager, explained the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) Marketing Leverage Program, a matching grant program designed to stimulate new tourism marketing programs through the creation of tourism partnerships with the objective to leverage limited marketing dollars resulting in increased visitor spending, overnight stays, revenue, and jobs.

Ms. Aylor explained that the Tourism Department, along with Grapes and Grains, would like to partner with A. Smith Bowman in submitting a grant application under VTC's Marketing Leverage Program. With this proposal A. Smith Bowman would act as the lead applicant for the grant application and fiscal agent if the grant is approved. The grant application would request \$25,000 in VTC marketing leverage funds. If awarded, A. Smith Bowman would provide \$49,500, and both Grapes and Grains and Tourism would each provide a local match of \$250.

If awarded these funds would be used for a digital marketing program, and target marketing for overnight visitors from Pennsylvania, Georgia and South Carolina to come visit the region and distillery. A. Smith Bowman would also highlight their recent award achievements for their bourbon ("World's Best Bourbon" by Whisky Magazine) and vodka (Double Gold Medal at the 2017 San Francisco World's Spirit Competition).

Ms. Aylor explained that the County would derive a benefit from the tourism dollars spent within the County and that if the grant is awarded, there would be no ongoing costs associated with the project once it has been completed.

The application deadline is June 27, 2017, so staff would like to present the request to the Board at their June 15th meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Mr. Ross, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended the Board of Supervisors authorize A. Smith Bowman to act as the authorized agent and to submit a grant application under the Virginia Tourism Commission's Marketing Leverage Grant Program that would require a \$250 contribution from Spotsylvania County if approved.

Other Business:

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Sorrell adjourned the meeting.