

## ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

<b>DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING:</b> May 27, 2014		<b>DATE SUBMITTED:</b> May 6, 2014	
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN:</b> Info Technology		<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b> Mike Hare	
<b>MEETING TYPE:</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	<b>ORDINANCE:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING	<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST READING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SAFETY
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND READING	<input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY		<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMIC DEVELOP.
<input type="checkbox"/> WORKSHOP	<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFRASTRUCTURE
			<input type="checkbox"/> QUALITY OF LIFE
<b>AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:</b> Consideration and possible action to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund (CERF) Budget, for the period from October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015, with an Operating Budget of \$657,688 for revenues and \$657,688 expenditures; a CERF Budget of \$194,261 for revenue and expenditures only to replace aging infrastructure or other equipment as needed; and, the City of Bryan participation amount being \$102,271 for the Operating budget and \$30,208 for the CERF Budget.			
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT:</b> The Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) is an interlocal agency created through an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the City of Bryan, Brazos County, the City of College Station, Texas A&M University (TAMU), Washington County, and the City of Brenham to provide area-wide interoperable communications. The Brazos Valley Council of Governments (BVCOG) is the managing entity as set forth in the interlocal agreement approved by the Bryan City Council on July 15, 2008. The additional components of the communication system were initially funded through a \$2.8 million Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant to help maintain a wide area public safety radio system that is expandable to the entire seven county regional area. This grant was given to BVCOG, as a sub-recipient from Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC), through one of the federal government's Homeland Security programs.			
By using this grant in the proposed manner and acting through BVWACS, the City of Bryan ensures that our area public safety and emergency management personnel can maintain communications while traveling through the region. The system allows local first responders (police, fire, EMS) to immediately and easily communicate with other entities that may be called into an area to assist during major incidents. The system also will support the City of Bryan's Public Works Department's day-to-day operations. The interlocal partnership decreases technology gaps that have occurred as Bryan, College Station and Texas A&M University developed their separate radio systems over the past fifteen (15) years. BVWACS provides financial savings through shared costs of infrastructure, operations, and maintenance.			
BVWACS has cooperated with the Harris County consortium, which includes 14 counties, to establish a regional interoperable radio system. During events such as hurricane evacuations, operators in Galveston can talk via radio with users in the Brazos Valley and many other counties. This wide area radio system shares the Harris County consortium's central controller in Tomball, Texas, which has saved all entities \$2.5 million in initial investment costs. The City of Bryan's portion of the initial savings was approximately \$500,000.			
BVWACS is comprised of two boards, the Governing Board and the Operating Board, which oversee the management and operations of the partnership and the system. The Governing Board sets forth the policies for the BVWACS. The Governing Board consists of one member of each of the BVWACS parties (City of Bryan, Brazos County, the City of College Station, Texas A&M University, Washington County and the City of Brenham).			

Members are public officials or senior executive level employees. The City of Bryan's member is Councilmember Greg Owens, who is presently the Board Chair. The Operating Board manages the technical operation of the BVWACS. Operating Board members are appointed by each of the BVWACS partner entities.

The City's 2015 Fiscal Year proposed payment to BVWACS is based on the City's projected share of (15.55%) of the total BVWACS costs (salary, benefits, support services, maintenance etc.) for a dedicated Radio System Manager, the maintenance, and the continued operation of the Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS). This expense, to be shared on a proportionate basis by all the participating entities, is part of the BVWACS Interlocal Agreement that is currently being utilized between the participating entities.

The proportions are directly related to the amount of radios each entity will operate on the BVWACS. The City of Bryan's portion was 15.64% for FY14 and is projected to decrease to 15.55% for FY15 due to the new radio inventory numbers reported in January 2014. The proportionate share total will be addressed and recalculated each year as laid out in the BVWACS ILA. This total was updated in January of 2014. The changes that affect this total are an increase or decrease of the total number of radios of any entity that utilizes the system.

The City of Bryan's proposed portion of the BVWACS Budget for FY15 is \$102,271. This is a decrease of \$1,962 from FY14. The decrease is due to the City Bryan's proportionate share going down due to the updated inventory count. A detailed BVWACS Budget was provided to the City by the BVWACS Governing Board. The total Budget for BVWACS for FY15 is \$657,688, which is a decrease of the FY14 Budget of \$8,763. This decrease is due mainly to BVCOG staff cost expenses decreasing for the year.

The following is the City of Bryan's historical cost for its portion of the BVWACS Budget:

- FY11: \$87,090
- FY12: \$144,598
- FY13: \$137,816
- FY14: \$104,233
- FY15: \$102,271 (proposed)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the Budget as of FY11:

- Bryan: 21.74%
- College Station: 29.60%
- Brenham: 9.90%
- Washington County: 15.90%
- Brazos County: 11.50%
- TAMU: 11.36%

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the Budget as of January 2012:

- Bryan: 20.35% (- 1.39% from FY12)
- College Station: 31.29% (+ 1.69% from FY12)
- Brenham: 9.69% (- .21% from FY12)
- Washington County: 15.57% (- .33% from FY12)
- Brazos County: 13.38% (+ 1.88% from FY12)
- TAMU: 9.72% (- 1.64% from FY12)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the Budget as of January 2013:

- Bryan: 15.64% (- 4.71% from FY13)
- College Station: 31.62% (+ .33% from FY13)
- Brenham: 10.43% (+ .74% from FY13)
- Washington County: 17.18% (+ 1.61% from FY13)
- Brazos County: 14.66% (+ 1.28% from FY13)
- TAMU: 10.47% (+ .75% from FY13)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the Budget as of January 2014:

- Bryan: 15.55% (- .09% from FY14)
- College Station: 32.60% (+ .98% from FY14)
- Brenham: 10.11% (- .32% from FY14)
- Washington County: 17.40% (+ .22% from FY14)
- Brazos County: 14.41% (- .25% from FY14)
- TAMU: 9.93% (- .54% from FY14)

The BVWACS costs have flattened with future increases or decreases being mostly attributed to slightly higher BVWACS's Motorola Maintenance Agreement costs and/or BVCOG cost decreasing. With the BVWACS, the City of Bryan's Motorola Maintenance Agreement costs have declined from approximately \$200,000 per year to approximately \$65,000 per year as those costs are shifted to the BVWACS agreement where costs are shared by all partner entities.

Prior to FY15, the BVWACS Budget contained a Capital line item. FY15's planned budget does **not** include a request for a Capital Budget line item. The historical Capital budget information is below. There is no previous history of Capital Budget planning:

FY13

- Brazos County (13.38%): \$30,971.53
- Brenham (9.69%): \$29,235.46
- Bryan(20.35%): \$47,105.43
- College Station(31.29%): \$72,428.93
- Texas A&M(9.72%): \$22,499.50
- Washington County(15.57%): \$29,235.46

FY14

- Brazos County (14.66%): \$34,058.55
- Brenham (10.43%): \$24,231.29
- Bryan(15.64%): \$36,335.32
- College Station(31.62%): \$73,460.53
- Texas A&M(10.47%): \$24,324.22
- Washington County(17.18%): \$39,913.09

New to FY15 is the CERF Budget. This fund was created at the request of the BVWACS Governing Board to replace aging infrastructure or other equipment as needed. The CERF is calculated on a 10 year life cycle of the infrastructure purchased by the BVWACS entities through both grant funds and capital funds contributed, and may

be used for other equipment replacements as needed. The CERF includes dispatch consoles, recording equipment, and radio infrastructure located at the various towers that serve the public safety subscriber's coverage area. The budget calculations are listed below and are included as an attachment. During the May 5, 2014, BVWACS Governing Board Special Meeting, the Board voted to fund 50% of the annual CERF budget in FY15. The basis for this decision was to allow time for the BVWACS Operating Board to determine the best way to calculate the proportionate share of costs for each BVWACS entity. This fiscal year, the BVWACS Governing and Operating Board agreed to use the same percentages for the CERF as was used for the FY15 Operating Budget. Using this methodology the City of Bryan's portion of the CERF budget will be \$30,208.

**Proposed BVWACS Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget, FY15:**

(10 Year Straight-Line Method)

- Total equipment investment as of 2014 : \$3,885,214
- Life cycle of equipment: 10 Years
- Proposed Annual amount: \$388,521
- Recommended amount for FY15 (50%): \$194,261

**Allocations:**

- Bryan (15.55%): \$30,208
- College Station (32.60%): \$63,329
- Brenham (10.11%): \$19,640
- Washington County (17.40%): \$33,801
- Brazos County (14.41%): \$27,993
- TAMU (9.93%): \$19,290

At the January 15, 2014, Governing Board meeting, the Board approved to transfer the excess of the Operating Budget (\$39,998.42) into the CERF. The Capital Equipment Replacement Fund total as of March 31, 2014 was \$39,998.42.

The BVWACS Governing Board voted to approve the Proposed FY2015 BVWACS Operating and CERF Budget at the last BVWACS Governing Board meeting on May 5, 2014, pending any rejections or changes from the partners' governing bodies.

**STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of the Proposed FY15 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget better ensures radio communication interoperability between the BVWACS ILA parties. The regional-wide concept includes a State-wide system at some undetermined time in the future.

The Information Technology Department respectfully requests that the Bryan City Council authorize the approval of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund(CERF) Budget, for the period from October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015, with an Operating Budget of \$657,688 for revenues and \$657,688 expenditures; A CERF Budget of \$194,261 for revenue, and expenditures only to replace aging infrastructure or other equipment as needed; and, the City of Bryan participation amount being \$102,271for the Operating budget and \$30,208 for the CERF Budget.

To staff's knowledge, all participating entities are taking similar action items to their respective governing bodies. Staff is unaware of a partner entity that is not considering continued participation in BVWACS.

**OPTIONS (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

1. Approve the Proposed FY15 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget.
2. Do not approve the Proposed FY15 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget, and provide direction to staff and the City Council's BVWACS representative.

3. Take other action.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

All items attached as a single pdf document:

1. APPROVED FY15 BVWACS 4 year Budget Comparison\_04-16-14
2. APPROVED BVWACS FY15 Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget\_04-16-14

**FUNDING SOURCE:** The City of Bryan's portion for participation in the Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) is \$102,271, plus the new "Capital Equipment Replacement Fund" in the amount of \$30,208 totals \$132,479 and will be funded from the General Fund. This funding amount will be included in the City of Bryan FY15 Budget.

**APPROVALS:** sj 5/15/14

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:** Kean Register, 12May2014

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:** Janis K. Hampton, 05/19/2014

Revised 04/2013