

ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING: May 14, 2013		DATE SUBMITTED: April 30, 2013	
DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Info Technology		SUBMITTED BY: Mike Hare	
MEETING TYPE:	CLASSIFICATION:	ORDINANCE:	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:
<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
<p>AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: Consideration and possible action to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) Operating and Capital Budget, for the period from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014, with an Operating Budget of \$666,451 for revenues and \$666,451 for expenditures; a Capital Budget of \$232,323 for revenue and \$261,153 for expenses (balance being covered by reserves); and, the City of Bryan participation amount being \$104,233 for the Operating Budget and \$36,335.32 for the Capital Budget.</p>			
<p>SUMMARY STATEMENT: 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, 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's programs.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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, 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 Councilman Greg Owens</p>			

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 2014 Fiscal Year proposed payment to BVWACS is based on the City's projected share of (15.64%) 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 20.35% for FY2013 and now is 15.64% for FY2014 due to the new radio inventory numbers reported in January 2013. 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 2013. 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 proportionate share was decreased from 20.53% to 15.64% as the Public Works radios were removed from the BVWACS radio count; only City of Bryan public safety radios are on the BVWACS system.

The City of Bryan's proposed portion of the BVWACS Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 is \$104,233. This is a decrease of \$33,583 below Fiscal Year 2013. The decrease is due to The City Bryan's proportionate share going down due to a decrease in radios in our radio inventory count. A detailed BVWACS Budget was provided to the City by the BVWACS Governing Board. The total Budget for BVWACS for FY2014 is \$666,451, which is a decrease of the FY2013 Budget of \$10,775. 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:

- FY2009: \$39,021.72
- FY2010: \$81,012.89
- FY2011: \$87,090
- FY2012: \$144,598
- FY2013: \$137,816
- FY2014: \$104,233 (proposed)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the Budget as of FY2011:

- 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)

From a historical perspective, four (4) years ago the City of Bryan's proportionate share for FY2014 was projected to be \$150,620.86, which is about \$45,000 higher than the actual requested amount of \$104,233 in this CAF. The projection from four years ago also has future costs flattening with future increases being mostly attributed to slightly higher BVWACS's Motorola Maintenance agreement costs. With the BVWACS system, the City of Bryan's Motorola Maintenance agreement costs have declined from approximately \$200,000/year to around \$65,000 per year as those costs are shifted to the BVWACS agreement where costs are shared by all partner entities.

The Capital Budget is a onetime expenditure to upgrade the dispatch consoles for the BVWACS partner entities. This capital expense is to upgrade the dispatch consoles, which total \$261,153. This Capital Budget was presented to the BVWACS Governing Board for approval at the last meeting April 17, 2013. This expenditure was initially presented in FY2012 as a known expenditure needed for FY2014. The original expected City of Bryan cost share for FY2014 was \$47,619. The total has been reduced to \$36,355.32 with cost savings resulting from the change in the City of Bryan's radio inventory numbers updated January 2013. There will be a balance carried forward to FY2015 of \$30,822 to aid in other unforeseen capital expenses. The City of Bryan's portion of the Capital Budget will be \$36,335.32, based off of the percentage of proportionate share.

FY2014 Capital Budget:

- Revenue:
 - Beginning Balance: \$59,652
 - Partners' Contributions: \$232,323
 - Total Available Funding: \$291,975
- Expenses:
 - Console upgrade project: \$261,153
 - Total Expenses: \$261,153
 - Carry forward to FY2015: \$30,822
- Contributions:
 - 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

The BVWACS Governing Board voted to approve the Proposed FY2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital Budget at the last BVWACS Governing Board meeting April 17, 2013, pending any rejections or changes from the partners' governing bodies.

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION:

A. PROS: Approval of the Proposed FY2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital 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.

B. CONS: Approval of the proposed FY2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital Budget results in the expenditure of City funds, which will be included in the City of Bryan's FY2014 Budget.

The Information Technology Department respectfully requests that the Bryan City Council authorize the approval of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital Budget, for the period from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014, with an Operating Budget of \$666,451 for revenues and \$666,451 for expenditures; a

Capital Budget of \$232,323 for revenue and \$261,153 for expenses (balance being covered by reserves); and, the City of Bryan participation amount being \$104,233 for the Operating Budget and \$36,335.32 for the Capital Budget. Approving the Proposed FY2014 BVWACS Budget better ensures radio communication interoperability between the BVWACS ILA parties.

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 FY2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital Budget.
2. Do not approve the Proposed FY2014 BVWACS Operating and Capital Budget, and provide direction to staff and the City Council's BVWACS representative.
3. Take other action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. BVWACS approved FY2014 Operating Budget (dated April 17, 2013)
2. BVWACS approved FY2014 Capital Budget (dated April 17, 2013)

FUNDING SOURCE: The City of Bryan's portion for the City's participation in the Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) Operating Budget in the amount of \$104,233 and Capital Budget in the amount of \$36,335.32 will be funded within the General Fund. This funding amount will be included in the proposed City of Bryan FY2014 Budget.

APPROVALS: Hugh R. Walker, 05/03/2013

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: Janis K. Hampton, 05-06-2013

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

Revised 04/2013