

ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING: May 12, 2015		DATE SUBMITTED: April 27, 2015	
DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN: Information 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 type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND READING	<input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input checked="" 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 2016 Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund (CERF) Budgets.</p> <p>For the period from October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016, with an Operating Budget of \$653,075 for revenues and \$653,075 expenditures; a CERF Budget of \$310,131.13 for revenue and expenditures only to replace aging infrastructure or other equipment as needed; and the City of Bryan participation amount being \$97,671 for the Operating Budget and \$46,395.62 for the CERF 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, 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.</p> <p>By using this grant in the proposed manner and acting through BVWACS, the City of Bryan ensures that the 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 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</p>			

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 Mike Southerland. 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 Fiscal Year 2016 proposed payment to BVWACS is based on the City's projected share of (14.96%) of the total BVWACS costs (salary, benefits, support services, maintenance etc.) for a dedicated Radio System Manager, system 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 operates on the BVWACS. The City of Bryan's portion was 15.55% for FY15 and is projected to decrease to 14.96% for FY16 due to the new radio inventory numbers reported in January 2015. 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 2015. 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 FY16 is \$97,671. This is a decrease of \$4,600 from FY15. The decrease is due to the City Bryan's proportionate share going down based on the updated inventory count. A detailed BVWACS Budget was provided to the City by the BVWACS Governing Board. The total FY16 BVWACS Budget is \$653,075, which is a decrease of the FY15 Budget of \$4,613. This decrease is due mainly to data connectivity cost expenses decreasing for the year.

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

- FY16: \$97,671 (proposed)
- FY15: \$102,271
- FY14: \$104,233
- FY13: \$137,816
- FY12: \$144,598

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the FY16 Proposed Budget:

- Bryan: 14.96% (- .59% from FY15)
- College Station: 30.97% (- 1.63% from FY15)
- Brenham: 9.72% (- .39% from FY15)
- Washington County: 17.25% (- .15% from FY15)
- Brazos County: 16.39% (+ 1.98% from FY15)
- TAMU: 10.71% (+ .78% from FY15)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the FY15 Budget:

- 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)

Percentages for each of the six entities portion of the FY14 Budget:

- 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 FY13 Budget:

- 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 FY12 Budget:

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

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. FY16's planned budget does **not** include a request for a Capital Budget line item. There is no previous history of Capital Budget planning. The Capital Fund total as of October 1, 2014 was \$42,107.02. The historical Capital budget information is below:

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

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

The CERF Budget was created in the FY15 budget process. 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 Operating Board devised several options to calculate the proportionate share of costs for each BVWACS entity for the FY16 budget year. Two options were presented to the BVWACS Governing Board during the April 22, 2015, Governing Board meeting for action to approve the final means of calculating the CERF Budget. The Board voted to fund 75% of total equipment investment based on FY16 subscriber count. This option was determined the least subjective and most equitable way to calculate allocations. It also uses the same calculation method as the Operating Budget. BVWACS presents this budget allocation with the understanding that using this methodology does not provide for a full capital replacement of all assets. A complete system replacement is not the goal of this fund, but rather to selectively upgrade individual components as needed to keep the system operational and up to date. The City of Bryan's portion of the proposed CERF Budget will be \$46,395.62. This is an increase of \$16,187.62 over the approved FY15 CERF Budget. The increase is due to changes in the calculation to fund 75% instead of 50% of total equipment investment.

Proposed FY16 BVWACS Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget:

75% of total equipment investment based on FY16 subscriber count

- Total equipment investment as of 2015 : \$4,135,081.70
- Life cycle of equipment: 10 Years
- Proposed Annual amount: \$413,508.17
- Recommended amount for FY16 (75%): \$310,131.13

Allocations:

- Bryan (14.96%): \$46,395.62
- College Station (30.97%): \$96,047.61
- Brenham (9.72%): \$30,144.75
- Washington County (17.25%): \$53,497.62
- Brazos County (16.39%): \$50,830.49
- TAMU (10.71%): \$33,215.04

Historical:

Approved FY15 BVWACS Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budget:

(50% - 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

The Capital Equipment Replacement Fund total as of October 1, 2014 is \$234,259.42.

The BVWACS Governing Board voted to approve the Proposed FY16 BVWACS Operating and CERF Budget at the April 22, 2014, BVWACS Governing Board meeting, pending any rejections or changes from the partners' governing bodies.

STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the Proposed FY16 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budgets 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 City of Bryan Information Technology Department respectfully requests the Bryan City Council authorize the approval of the Proposed FY16 BVWACS Operating and CERF Budgets, for the period from October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016, with an Operating Budget of \$653,075 for revenues and \$653,075 expenditures; a CERF Budget of \$310,131.13 for revenue and expenditures only to replace aging infrastructure or other equipment as needed; and, the City of Bryan participation amount being \$97,671 for the Operating budget and \$46,395.62 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 FY16 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budgets.
2. Do not approve the Proposed FY16 BVWACS Operating and Capital Equipment Replacement Fund Budgets, and provide direction to staff and the City Council's BVWACS representative.
3. Take other action.

ATTACHMENTS: (both attachments are pdf files)

1. BVWACS FY16-3 year Budget Comparison
2. BVWACS FY16 CERF Budget

FUNDING SOURCE: The City of Bryan's portion for participation in the Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) is \$97,671, plus the new "Capital Equipment Replacement Fund" in the amount of \$46,395.62 totals \$144,066.62 and will be funded from the General Fund. If this agenda items is approved, the funding amount will be included in the City of Bryan FY16 Budget.

APPROVALS: Hugh R. Walker, 04/28/2015

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY MANAGER Kean Register, 27Apr2015

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL: CITY ATTORNEY Janis K. Hampton, 05-03-2015