

# Board of County Commissioners

## Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: February 16, 2010

Date Submitted: January 29, 2010

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator  
Lindsay Stevens, Assistant County Administrator  
Scott McDermid, Director, Department of Public Safety  
Louis Lamarche, Chief, Division of Fire Rescue  
Fran Councill, Director, Division of EMS

Subject: Request Board Consideration and Approval to Accept the Donation of a 1989 Skyline 66 Foot Single-wide Trailer for Public Safety Training and Authorize the Bill of Sale

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### **Statement of Issue:**

This agenda item requests Board consideration and approval to accept the donation of a 1989 Skyline 66 foot single-wide trailer for Public Safety training and authorize the Bill of Sale (Attachment #1).

### **Background:**

One of the greatest dangers in firefighting is entering a smoke and fire filled house for both the purpose of searching for unconscious victims and interior fire suppression. Vision is distorted and it is easy to become disoriented and lose a sense of direction. To maximize safety, routine training on this issue can be done in a structure filled with artificially produced smoke. Manikins are occasionally placed in the structure to simulate a life saving rescue in these “real life” scenarios.

The Wakulla County Department of Public Safety’s Fire Rescue Division manages and maintains the Fire Training Grounds located behind the Sheriff’s Office Complex on Oak Street. This training facility provides a safe controlled area where the Fire Rescue Division, the EMS Division, the Sheriff’s Office, and other neighboring Public Safety Agencies are able to provide a safe environment where training for Emergency Responders can be offered. One of the assets of the Training Grounds is a single-wide trailer that has been used as a training tool since 2000.

### **Analysis:**

The trailer that is currently housed at our Training Grounds (Attachment #3) is in disrepair, with holes existing in the roof causing leaks. There are multiple windows that have been broken and not replaced. There are also holes forming in the floor, in addition to multiple soft spots forming. These hazards have been evaluated and the trailer has been removed from further use.

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A Wakulla County family is offering to donate a 66 foot Skyline single-wide trailer to the County (Attachment #2). The Skyline trailer being offered is ideal for replacing the training trailer that is in disrepair.

On January 4, 2010 staff inspected the single-wide trailer being offered; noting that all work is done in coordination with County Facilities Management. The trailer has been recently vacated by tenants of the benefactor. The trailer is in a condition appropriate for residency; however, in its intended use by the County for training it will continue to remain unoccupied. The trailer being considered requires no substantive work or structural repairs in order to prepare it for training use. By replacing the current training trailer, with the trailer being considered, the County's capability of training firefighters, EMTs, Paramedics, and Law Enforcement increases significantly. This increased capability, by providing a newer, stronger, and sturdier trailer for training, will provide Wakulla County with a training tool that will serve for many years to come.

Staff Members from County Facilities Management and Public Safety have researched the costs associated with the exchange of the trailers. Three preliminary quotes were gathered pursuant to the County Purchasing Policy; staff only considered quotes from companies that are capable of moving the current training trailer to Marpan Industries for appropriate disposal and subsequently moving the donated trailer into the same location where the previous trailer was located. The three preliminary quotes received is listed as follows: \$2,250, \$2,500, and \$4,500; with the \$2,250 quote being the best option -- taking into consideration that a trailer used for training will not be connected to water, electricity, or gas; this expenditure represents the operational cost to receive this donation. The approximate cost of \$2,250 needed to move the trailers will be expended from funds already budgeted for the training facility and designated for facility maintenance and equipment in the MSBU Fire Fund 180. This expense can be absorbed into already budgeted funds without eliminating any planned programs or other planned improvements. Once the trailer is situated on the training grounds property, further improvements will be provided in part by explorer scouts, students, volunteers, and staff.

Staff recommends approval to accept the donation of the single-wide trailer and approve to issue the benefactor, Robert Kerns, a Bill of Sale as developed by the County Attorney.

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**Options:**

1. Approve the acceptance of a donated 1989 Skyline 66 Foot Singlewide Trailer for Public Safety Training and authorize the Bill of Sale.
2. Do not approve the acceptance of a donated 1989 Skyline 66 Foot Singlewide Trailer for Public Safety Training and do not authorize the Bill of Sale.
3. Board Direction.

**Recommendation:**

Option #1

**Attachment(s):**

1. Bill of Sale
2. Picture of Donated Trailer
3. Picture of Current Trailer