

# **Board of County Commissioners**

## **Agenda Request**

Date of Meeting: February 17, 2009

Date Submitted: February 2, 2009

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator  
Lindsey Stevens, Assistant County Administrator  
Scott McDermid, Public Safety Director  
Fran Councill, EMS Director,  
Louis Lamarche, Fire Chief

Subject: Request Board Consideration and Approval for Wakulla County EMS and Wakulla County Fire to Jointly Apply for a Matching Grant for First Responder Jump Bags

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### **Statement of Issues**

This agenda item requests Board consideration and approval for Wakulla County EMS and Wakulla County Fire to jointly apply for a matching grant through the State of Florida EMS Office for First Responder Jump Bags.

### **Background**

The First Responder Program in Wakulla County is unique in that it trains people throughout the County on the basics of patient care. Trained First Responders are then responded simultaneously with County EMS and County Fire. This dual response facilitates rapid arrival of preliminary medical care, since the First Responder Program is a program where neighbors are responding to assist neighbors throughout the County. Many times trained First Responders arrive on the scene in advance of County EMS or Fire and are able to begin assisting citizens in need quickly.

### **Analysis:**

The First Responder jump bags contain the necessary medical equipment to provide emergency care of the patient until the arrival of County EMS and Fire. Currently, there is no uniformity in the type, style, contents and condition of the First Responder jump bags. Many First Responders have not been equipped with jump bags, and many are in need of replacement. These bags cost \$65.00 each. It is proposed that the County purchase one hundred jump bags for a total cost of \$6,500. The State EMS Office regularly funds grant requests of this type. The State EMS Grant is awarded at two levels of required match which are 75/25% and 90/10%. It is suggested that staff applies for both. The 75/25% grant would require a match of \$1,625 and the 90/10% grant would require a match of \$650. The Wakulla County Fire Department can pay the match from account 001-8900-522-521.

Wakulla EMS is requesting to submit this grant in order to meet grant extended deadline of February 18, 2009.

**Options**

1. Approve Wakulla County EMS and Wakulla County Fire to apply for grant funding for First Responder Jump Bags
2. Do not approve Wakulla County EMS and Wakulla County Fire to apply for grant funding for First Responder Jump Bags
3. Board Direction.

**Recommendation**

Option #1