

Board of County Commissioners

Agenda Request

Date of Meeting: January 6, 2009

Date Submitted: December 18, 2008

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Benjamin H. Pingree, County Administrator
Tim Barden, Assistant County Administrator
Douglas Jones, Library Director

Subject: Request Board Approval to Allow Submission of ICMA Public Library
Innovation Grant

Statement of Issue:

This agenda item requests Board approval of the County Administrator's submission of the International City/County Managers Association Public Library Innovation Grant Application. This grant will be submitted on the behalf of Wilderness Coast Public Libraries of which Wakulla County Public Library is a member of. The grant application must be submitted by County Administration per grant guidelines.

Background:

The ICMA Public Library Innovation Grant's intent is to strengthen the partnership between communities and public libraries and will be met by achieving 3 goals: enabling public librarians to join with their local county manager in developing and implementing solutions to specific community challenges, build the capacity of local government and library leaders to launch and support change in their public library systems, and increase ICMA members' understanding and support of the modern library and their role in promoting the public library system. Communities will not be required to provide matching funds. The potential funding level for this grant is \$60,000.

Analysis:

This grant application's intent is to enhance the capabilities of SmartBoard technology already in existence at the Public Library by expanding training accessibility to the public and to city/county employees by use of Web conferencing, filling the gap of training needed by city/county employees, enhancing literacy, and educational efforts of the three libraries by making presentations more engaging to the public.

Options:

1. Approve submission of ICMA Public Library Innovation Grant application by County Administration.
2. Do not approve submission of ICMA Public Library Innovation Grant by County Administration.
3. Board Direction.

Recommendation:

Option #1

Attachment(s):

1. ICMA Public Library Innovation Grants Application (with attachments).
2. Letters of support from: City of Carrabelle, Carrabelle Waterfront Partnership, Franklin Board of County Commissioners.
3. Sample letter of support (to be signed on county letterhead) by Wakulla County Administration.
4. ICMA Public Library Innovation Grant Guidelines.
5. ICMA Public Library Innovation Grant Frequently Asked Questions.