



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: August 26, 2025

DATE: August 4, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Francisco Ceballos, Emergency Management Program Coordinator
(775) 224-4109, FCeballos@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Dave Solaro, Assistant County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a 2026 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) grant for [\$32,000.00, no County match required] including funds to be used for food purchases. The OPTE grant aims to further capabilities to prevent, mitigate or respond to hazardous material incidents. Grant term is retroactive to July 1, 2025, through May 30, 2026. If approved, authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or their designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements [\$28,000 total] between Washoe County and the Reno Fire Department (RFD), on behalf of the TRIAD Hazmat Team, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$9,370.00] for one (1) 1-Ton Chlorine training device; and REMSA Health, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$18,630.00] for four (4) SCBA and 6 (six) AV masks; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. Manager. (All Commission Districts.)
FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Washoe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is requested to accept a 2026 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission, OPTE grant for [\$32,000.00, no County match required] from the State of Nevada SERC. The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will utilize and subgrant these funds to member entities to provide equipment to local first responders and first receivers. Equipment will allow local first responders to be better prepared, as well as efficiently respond to hazardous material related incidents within the region.

Staff is requesting a retroactive approval to July 1, 2026, due to timing of new fiscal year and timing of BCC meeting opportunities.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Economic Impacts
Support a thriving community.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

PREVIOUS ACTION

August 20, 2024 – The BCC accepted a 2025 SERC OPTE grant for \$34,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

July 11, 2023 – The BCC accepted a 2024 SERC OPTE grant for \$34,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

July 12, 2022 – The BCC accepted a 2023 SERC OPTE grant for \$28,850.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

August 17, 2021 – The BCC accepted a 2022 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

August 8, 2020 – The BCC accepted a 2021 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

December 10, 2019 – The BCC accepted a 2020 SERC OPTE grant for \$28,789.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

September 11, 2018 – The BCC accepted a 2019 SERC OPTE grant for \$29,000.00 and authorized the Chairperson to execute a Resolution to subgrant funds to other governments and nonprofits which make up the LEPC.

BACKGROUND

The source of funding is derived from fees collected from the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III facilities within the State that store and/or produce hazardous materials. The grant provides funding to the Washoe County LEPC for planning/training initiatives, equipment purchases, and operational costs. This grant allocation intent is to improve state and local governments planning and response capabilities to react to Hazardous Material emergencies and to provide access to information about Hazardous Materials to the public.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: 2026 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission

Scope of the Project: *Prevention, mitigation and/or response to hazardous materials incidents.*

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: *The grant will benefit our regional first responders and first receivers with the training necessary to conduct an effective response to Hazardous Materials incidents protecting the lives and properties of County residents.*

On-Going Program Support: *This annual grant opportunity is for specific deliverables. We will continue to apply for funding annually.*

Award Amount: \$32,000.00

Grant Period: July 1, 2025, through May 30, 2026

Funding Source: *Funding is derived from fees collected from SARA Title III Facilities within the State that store and/or produce hazardous materials in specific amounts.*

Pass Through Entity: State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

CFDA Number: Not applicable (State Grant)

Grant ID Number: 26-SERC-16-01

Match Amount and Type: No County match required

Sub-Awards and Contracts:

Washoe County will sub-grant \$28,000.00 of these funds to the Reno Fire Department (RFD), on behalf of the TRIAD Hazmat Team, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$9,370.00] for one (1) 1-Ton Chlorine training device; and REMSA Health, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$18,630.00] for four (4) SCBA and 6 (six) AV masks and will contract for transcription services with Erin Etcheverria in the amount of \$2,000.00.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the IO 19176 FY 26 OPTE in Emergency Management adopted budget will be increased by [\$32,000.00] in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Description	Cost Object - G/L Account	Amount
Revenue:		
Emergency Management: FY26 OPTE – State Grant	IO 19176- 432100	\$32,000.00
Expenditures:		
Emergency Management: FY26 OPTE – Professional Services	IO 19176 - 710100	\$2,000.00
Emergency Management: FY26 OPTE – Operating Supplies	IO 19176 - 710300	\$1,500.00
Emergency Management: FY26 OPTE – Food	IO 19176 - 710872	\$500.00
Emergency Management: FY26 OPTE – Subrecipient Payments	IO 19176 - 710119	\$28,000.00

All expenditures will be on a reimbursement basis. Initial funding will be provided by general fund. Indirect costs are not allowable on this grant as no salary or wages are included in the grant budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a 2026 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) grant for [\$32,000.00, no County match required] including funds to be used for food purchases. The OPTE grant aims to further capabilities to prevent, mitigate or respond to hazardous material incidents. Grant term is retroactive to July 1, 2025, through May 30, 2026. If approved, authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or their designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements [\$28,000 total] between Washoe County and the Reno Fire Department (RFD), on behalf of the TRIAD Hazmat Team, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$9,370.00] for one (1) 1-Ton Chlorine training device; and REMSA Health, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$18,630.00] for four (4) SCBA and 6 (six) AV masks; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to accept a 2026 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment (OPTE) grant for [\$32,000.00, no County match required] including funds to be used for food purchases. The OPTE grant aims to further capabilities to prevent, mitigate or respond to hazardous material incidents. Grant term is retroactive to July 1, 2025, through May 30, 2026. If approved, authorize the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair to execute grant documents and authorize the County Manager or their designee, to sign the Washoe County Sub-Grant Agreements [\$28,000 total] between Washoe County and the Reno Fire Department (RFD), on behalf of the TRIAD Hazmat Team, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$9,370.00] for one (1) 1-Ton Chlorine training device; and REMSA Health, per NRS 244.1505 in the amount of [\$18,630.00] for four (4) SCBA and 6 (six) AV masks; approve Resolution necessary for same; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.”