



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 11, 2022

DATE: Thursday, January 06, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Wayne Yarbrough, Undersheriff, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, (775) 328-3005 – wyarbrough@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Sheriff Darin Balaam

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the Axon bundled contract under sole source purchasing exemption for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and enter into a new contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a sixty-month term at a cost not to exceed [\$1,350,000.00] annually, or [\$6,750,000.00] for the full sixty months; to support Body Worn Cameras, fleet car cameras, less lethal (Tasers), and other support services offered by Axon Enterprise, Inc. (All Commission Districts).

SUMMARY

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is requesting the Board to approve the Axon bundled contract under sole source purchasing exemption for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and enter into a new contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a sixty-month term at a cost not to exceed [\$1,350,000.00] annually, or [\$6,750,000.00] for the full sixty months; to support Body Worn Cameras, fleet car cameras, less lethal (Tasers), and other support services offered by Axon Enterprise, Inc., at a cost savings to tax payers of approximately \$459,118.00 per year.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability

PREVIOUS ACTION

On February 23, 2021, the Board approved item #10, the reimbursement of costs incurred by the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, departments of Washoe County, and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for expenses related to and in support of the Enhanced 911 Emergency Response System and portable event recording devices, as recommended by the 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee on January 21, 2021, in an amount not to exceed [\$1,010,891.90].

On January 21, 2021, the Emergency Response Advisory Committee recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the reimbursement of [\$60,900] annually for five years for the Carbyne c-Live Universe Solution at the Sheriff's Office Communications Center.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office is requesting to bundle its' current contracts with Axon Enterprise, Inc., which would modify and extend the current contracts into one bundled contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc; and as a result, would enhance the services to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and save approximately \$459,118.00 a year to the citizens of Washoe County, if the contract services remained A-la-carte.

Currently the Washoe County Sheriff's Office has several individual contracts with Axon Enterprise, Inc. to supply Body Worn Cameras for patrol and detention personnel, patrol fleet cameras (car cameras), video redaction software, detective interview room cameras, and video storage. The individual contracts add up to \$726,166.00 annually. In addition, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office purchases less lethal Tasers for all sworn personnel on an as need basis from Axon Enterprise, Inc. Less lethal Taser expenditures fluctuates year to year depending on training, supplies, and replacement needs but can range from \$35,000.00 to \$65,000.00 per budget year.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office recently started discussions with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a new contract, which would replace our existing Taser technology (less lethal) with the newest Taser 7 technology Axon Enterprise, Inc. offers. This contract would provide a new Taser 7 for all commissioned personnel, training material, supplies, batteries, virtual training equipment, software and warranty for the life of the contract. There would be no need to purchase individual products such as batteries, cartridges (both training and live) and less lethal Tasers, as we currently have been doing for years at a cost of \$35,000.00 to \$65,000.00 a year. In addition, the package would include Virtual Reality (VR) training, which we currently do not have. Virtual Reality training would allow the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to train personnel in real life scenarios, which each scenario can be modified and changed in real time by the instructor during training depending on how the deputy is responding to the scenario. If Washoe County were to enter into this contract individually (A-la-carte) the Taser 7 package would cost approximately \$361,200.00 annually or roughly \$1,083,838.00, if you include our current individual contracts.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office was looking at other products offered by Axon Enterprise, Inc. such as "Performance," which is a software system that tracks individual usage of the Body Worn Camera. It statistically monitors, tracks, and produces reports for Body Worn Camera usage. It assists supervisors in knowing when and how long a Body Worn Camera is being used for and if the deputy is using the BWC in accordance with our policies. Basically, it is an accountability software system.

After initial discussions with Axon Enterprise, Inc., it became clear to Washoe County Sheriff's Office staff that bundling our current Axon contracts would be both operationally and financially beneficial to the Sheriff's Office, Washoe County, and the community.

If approved, the bundled contract would enhance the services provided with new technology, software, and equipment for all sworn Washoe County Sheriff's Office personnel, not just detention and patrol personnel under the current contracts.

The cost of the new bundled contract is \$1,350,000.00 per year, which includes the following services offered by Axon Enterprise Inc.:

	A-la-carte Cost
• Taser 7's (less lethal) for all sworn personnel	\$361,200.00
• Performance	\$53,136.00
• Respond+ (Location, Alerts, Live Streaming)	\$112,176.00
• 4 Viewer licenses	\$720.00
• 3 Channel Services	\$6,000.00
• Signal Sidearm	\$23,616.00
• Standards	\$53,136.00
• Records	\$118,080.00
• Citizen for Communities	\$53,136.00
• Unlimited Auto Transcription	\$118,080.00
• 300GB of a la carte storage per OSP license (about 57,000GB)	\$14,760.00
• Fleet 3 with Installation, ALPR, and Respond	\$168,912.00
Total annual cost if purchased A-la-carte:	\$1,082,952.00
Total including current contract agreements:	\$1,809,118.00
Proposed bundled contract:	\$1,350,000.00
Total savings if approved:	\$459,118.00

Additionally, Washoe County Equipment Services estimates an initial cost savings of \$22,750.00 for the first year and each year after a savings of \$2,400.00 for fleet camera installation, as the Axon Enterprise Inc. bundled contract includes fleet camera installation.

The 79th Nevada Legislature passed Senate Bill 176 (SB 176), which requires uniformed peace officers employed by a law enforcement agency and who were in routine contact with the public to wear a body worn camera (Hereinafter BWC) device effective July 1, 2018. In compliance with the "Washoe County Board of County Commissioners' Policy" adopted January 16, 2018, the City of Reno, City of Sparks and Washoe County have mutually agreed upon equipment from Axon Enterprise, Inc., to provide BWC's for the region. The initial term of the Joinder Contract shall be from April 2, 2018, through April 1, 2023.

On January 16, 2018, the BCC adopted the policy of the Use of 911 Surcharge Funds for the Body Camera Mandate set forth in Nevada Senate Bill 176.

As a result, E911 Surcharge Funds reimburses the county for \$712,086.00 to support the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Body Worn Camera and Vehicle Fleet Axon contracts.

On June 8, 2021, the BCC approved the purchase of the Axon Interview system for a sixty-month contract at a cost not to exceed \$114,866.00.

Washoe County Sheriff's Office is using existing budget authority within Fund Center 150-0 to fund the Axon Interview System for Detectives.

On June 22, 2021, BCC approved the transfer of \$890,000.00 in FY21 cost savings from Washoe County Sheriff's Office Fund Center 150-0 to Fund 402.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board accept this agreement, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office will continue to seek reimbursement in the amount of \$712,086.00 (annually) through E911 Surcharge Funds to pay for its' Body Worn Camera and vehicle fleet camera systems.

The remaining annual balance of \$637,914.00 for the first contract year will be paid by reallocating available salary savings from budget to cover the FY 2022 cost.

Contract years, 2, 3, 4, and 5 (\$637,914.00 annually) will be covered and managed within the existing Sheriff's Office Fund Center 150-0 through cost savings and staff vacancies.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Washoe County Board of Commissioners approve the Axon bundled contract under sole source purchasing exemption for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and enter into a new contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a sixty-month term at a cost not to exceed [\$1,350,000.00] annually, or [\$6,750,000.00] for the full sixty months; to support Body Worn Cameras, fleet car cameras, less lethal (Tasers), and other support services offered by Axon Enterprise, Inc.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "approve the Axon bundled contract under sole source purchasing exemption for the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and enter into a new contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a sixty-month term at a cost not to exceed [\$1,350,000.00] annually, or [\$6,750,000.00] for the full sixty months; to support Body Worn Cameras, fleet car cameras, less lethal (Tasers), and other support services offered by Axon Enterprise, Inc."