



TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting Date: September 3, 2024

DATE: August 19, 2024

TO: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Shane Akerson, Battalion Chief
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THROUGH: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the purchase of seventy-five (75) P25-compliant Tri-Band handheld radios to include miscellaneous accessories at an estimated cost of \$182,159.93 from L3Harris Technologies, Inc. 221 Jefferson Ridge Parkway Lynchburg, Virginia 24501 in accordance with Washoe County/Harris Corporation (Now L3Harris Technologies) Agreement MBP#19829. (All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve the purchase of seventy-five (75) P25-compliant Tri-Band handheld radios to include miscellaneous accessories at an estimated cost of \$182,159.93 from L3Harris Technologies, Inc. 221 Jefferson Ridge Parkway Lynchburg, Virginia 24501 in accordance with Washoe County/Harris Corporation (Now L3Harris Technologies) Agreement MBP#19829.

PREVIOUS ACTION

September 25, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners approved a System Purchase Agreement between Washoe County and Harris Corporation, Communications System Segment, in the amount not to exceed \$26,537,510.68 and authorized the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute the Agreement.

May 21, 2024, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. This budget included funding for the purchase of radio equipment and maintenance.

BACKGROUND

Over the last few years, staff has been consistently upgrading our radio inventory to replace outdated 800 MHz handheld radios as they reach their life expectancy and/or not able to be repaired due to parts being discontinued. The District's current inventory of radios are P25 compliant however, will not be supported on the new Washoe County P25 radio system due to

feature limitations. The District has evaluated the option of purchasing feature upgrades for the existing radios and found that the cost is comparable to the purchase of new equipment. This purchase of new equipment will extend the expected service life of the District's radio inventory and ensure that the equipment is supported for a longer duration. The purchase of these P25 compliant Tri-Band handheld radios will continue bringing the District's radio inventory up to date. These radios will be issued to and replace the District's operations radios.

In Fiscal Year 2021-2022, the District was able to upgrade all of its station radios to the latest in available technology. The District still has 800 MHz Handheld Radios and Mobile Radios that will need upgrading and anticipates continuing this process in upcoming fiscal years. Once the portable, mobile, and station base radios are upgraded, the District will meet P25 Compliance and have maximum interoperability with cooperators throughout the region.

As in the previous purchases, these radios will meet the federal interoperability requirements of our region enhancing first responder's ability to communicate with all neighboring jurisdictions operating safer and more effectively throughout the District as these radios are able to fully integrate and inter-operate with the existing Washoe County Regional Communications System 800 MHz EDACS Infrastructure.

Washoe County has a proprietary regional 800 MHz public safety radio communication system and as such, system operability is crucial. All radios need to be fully compatible with the existing system. These radios will also be capable of operating on the upgraded P25 radio system that is currently being installed. Additionally, these radios will be capable of integrating with the District's federal fire partners and the Nevada State Emergency Medical Services Radio System. In addition, Washoe entered into an agreement with L3 Harris Corporation in 2018 for the purchase of these types of radios at a significant discount over other vendors (as much as 72.2%). This purchase is in accordance with that agreement and is saving the district thousands of dollars.

FISCAL IMPACT

This purchase in the amount of \$182,159.93 was anticipated and included in the District's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the purchase of seventy-five (75) P25 compliant Tri-Band handheld radios to include miscellaneous accessories at an estimated cost of \$182,159.93 from L3Harris Technologies, Inc. 221 Jefferson Ridge Parkway Lynchburg, Virginia 24501 in accordance with Washoe County/Harris Corporation (Now L3Harris Technologies) Agreement MBP#19829.

POSSIBLE MOTION

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

"I move to approve the purchase of seventy-five (75) P25-compliant Tri-Band handheld radios to include miscellaneous accessories at an estimated cost of \$182,159.93 from L3Harris Technologies, Inc. 221 Jefferson Ridge Parkway Lynchburg, Virginia 24501 in accordance with Washoe County/Harris Corporation (Now L3Harris Technologies) Agreement MBP#19829."