



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 19, 2021

DATE: Tuesday, September 14, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Captain Phil Jones, Special Operations Division
(775) 321-4912; pjones@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Darin Balaam, Sheriff

SUBJECT: Recommendation to retroactively approve acceptance of a donation of a K-9 dog, equipment, handler training, and travel costs valued at [\$16,317.00] from the Washoe County K9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) accept a donation, valued at \$16,317.00 from Washoe County K9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit. Washoe County K9 Partners will donate a K-9 dog, equipment, and training for a new WCSO K-9 handler. Equipment donated will include a fully trained K-9 from the prestigious Vohne Liche Kennels, travel and per diem for a WCSO K-9 Master Trainer and a new K-9 handler along with miscellaneous gear to outfit the K-9 and K-9 Unit.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

On February 16, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved item 7.C.2. a donation of a K-9 dog [valued at \$9,000] from Washoe County K9 Partners.

On March 19, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 7.B.1. a donation of seven ballistic carrier plate vests and tactical training Handler uniforms [valued at \$6,032.99] from Washoe County K9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

On April 17, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 10.C., a donation of a K-9 dog, equipment, handler training, and travel costs [valued at \$19,810.00] from Washoe County K9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

On July 18, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners accepted item 5.B.3., a donation of various K9 equipment [total value of \$16,471.92] from Washoe County K9 Partners to

AGENDA ITEM # _____

the Washoe County Sheriff's Office to be used by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County Sheriff's Office K-9's are utilized to detect and locate illegal narcotics and to be proficient in locating evidence and contraband such as firearms or other weapons. The narcotics training fosters the ability of the canine to detect the odors of drugs including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine. They have been extremely successful as a unit, seizing approximately \$3 million dollars in drug related currency and excess of 4000 lbs. pounds of illegal substances that include marijuana, methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine. The Patrol training will allow tracking of lost individuals along with assisting the entire Sheriff's Office with a patrol asset. Reason for retroactive submittal item was submitted to first available Washoe County Board of County Commissioners donation meeting following receipt of paperwork from Washoe County K9 Partners.

FISCAL IMPACT

New K-9 Handler will, per WCSDA contract, receive an additional 10% special pay. However, it is anticipated that the K-9s currently in the unit will be retired during this fiscal period. To plan for that pending retirement, we are seeking approval for this donated K-9 to be approved so we can maintain the same team size once that retirement occurs. Ongoing costs would be covered by existing Sheriff's Office budget authority in cost center 150830.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners retroactively approve acceptance of a donation of a K-9 dog, equipment, handler training, and travel costs valued at [\$16,317.00] from the Washoe County K-9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to retroactively approve acceptance of a donation of a K-9 dog, equipment, handler training, and travel costs valued at [\$16,317.00] from the Washoe County K-9 Partners to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office K9 Unit