

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: MARCH 23, 2015

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 6

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A NORTH CAROLINA 911 BOARD PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (PSAP) GRANT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A CONSOLIDATED 911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER (FORSYTH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND SHERIFF'S OFFICE)

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS: Recommend Approval

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

The North Carolina 911 Board has made funds available through a grant program to assist counties with consolidation of primary Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) with other PSAP's, individual PSAP enhancement or replacement, or regional initiative enhancement or replacement of PSAP's. The Forsyth County Emergency Services Department and Sheriff's Office request authorization to apply for grant funding in the approximate amount of \$4,500,000, on behalf of Forsyth County to construct a consolidated 911 Communications Center.

A consolidation project involves combining one or more PSAPs with a primary PSAP with an integrated management structure that serves the same populations and jurisdictions previously served. Forsyth County's 911 Communications Center is a primary PSAP while the Sheriff's Telecommunications Center is a PSAP. This grant allows for costs not normally allowed through 911 funds to be covered, such as construction costs.

The County's Public Safety Center has 2,700 square feet of space set aside for possible future consolidation. This space, along with the State mandate to have a fully functional back-up PSAP facility in place by July 1, 2016, makes this grant an excellent opportunity to enhance the County's 911 Communications capabilities.

These grant funds can be used to up-fit the 2,700 square foot space next to the Sheriff's Telecommunications Center; upgrade the current PSAP facility located at the airport to serve as a backup facility; upgrade and reconfigure the telephone system; purchase consoles, servers, and other audiovisual supplies; and convert the County's Computer Aided Dispatch System into one system, all after first complying with applicable bidding laws.

The County will use \$500,000 of its Emergency Telephone System Special Revenue fund balance that is maintained by the North Carolina 911 Board for projects and expenditures like the one proposed by this grant application. Approximately \$300,000 will remain in this reserve at the completion of this project for future, unspecified projects.

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

SIGNATURE: *J. Dudley Watts, Jr.* DATE: March 17, 2015
COUNTY MANAGER

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A NORTH CAROLINA 911
BOARD PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (PSAP) GRANT FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF A CONSOLIDATED 911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
IN THE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER
(FORSYTH COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND
SHERIFF'S OFFICE)**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina 911 Board has made funds available through a grant program to assist counties with consolidation of primary Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) with other PSAP's, individual PSAP enhancement or replacement, or regional initiative enhancement or replacement of PSAP's. The Forsyth County Emergency Services Department and Sheriff's Office request authorization to apply for grant funding in the approximate amount of \$4,500,000, on behalf of Forsyth County to construct a consolidated 911 Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, a consolidation project involves combining one or more PSAPs with a primary PSAP with an integrated management structure that serves the same populations and jurisdictions previously served; Forsyth County's 911 Communications Center is a primary PSAP while the Sheriff's Telecommunications Center is a PSAP; this grant allows for costs not normally allowed through 911 funds to be covered, such as construction costs; and

WHEREAS, the County's Public Safety Center has 2,700 square feet of space set aside for possible future consolidation, which space, along with the State mandate to have a fully functional back-up PSAP facility in place by July 1, 2016, makes this grant an excellent opportunity to enhance the County's 911 Communications capabilities; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds can be used to up-fit the 2,700 square foot space next to the Sheriff's Telecommunications Center; upgrade the current PSAP facility located at the airport to serve as a backup facility; upgrade and reconfigure the telephone system; purchase consoles, servers, and other audiovisual supplies; and convert the County's Computer Aided Dispatch System into one system, all after first complying with applicable bidding laws; and

WHEREAS, the County will use \$500,000 of its Emergency Telephone System Special Revenue fund balance that is maintained by the North Carolina 911 Board for projects and expenditures like the one proposed by this grant application. Approximately \$300,000 will remain in this reserve at the completion of this project for future, unspecified projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, hereby authorizes the County Manager or his designee and the Clerk to the Board to execute, on behalf of Forsyth County, the necessary documents to apply for a North Carolina 911 Board Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) grant in the approximate amount of \$4,500,000 to complete construction of a consolidated 911 Communications Center in the Public Safety Center, upgrade the current PSAP facility on Fairlawn Drive to serve as the backup facility; upgrade and reconfigure the telephone system; purchase consoles, servers, and other audiovisual supplies; and convert the County's Computer Aided Dispatch System into one system, all after first complying with applicable bidding laws.

Adopted this 23rd day of March 2015.