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COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department/Division: Information Systems/ Library

Department Head: Russell Prince

Presenter, if needed: Russell Prince

Preferred Meeting Date: Thursday, October 9, 2008

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of staff's request to utilize reserve Library funds to purchase new hardware, software and networking equipment for the purpose of upgrading the Library's Computer Infrastructure at an aggregate cost of $49,200.

Background/History/Details:

Over the past several months, the Fayette County Library has been experiencing recurring problems with its computer system that causes the system to completely shut down. This problem has been more prevalent within the past three weeks. Information System's staff has determined that the problem has been caused by the Library's server which has been used to capacity and cannot store additional information. Initially, Information Systems planned to replace and upgrade the Library's server equipment in the 2010 budget since its warranty is due to expire at the end of this year. Due to the problems and workload being placed on the Library server, Information Systems staff and Library staff recommend the hardware should be replaced immediately. With the Board's approval, staff will purchase three servers, software, and a new network switch. The Library will also upgrade their older Rosetta Stone Language Learning software since it currently has two separate versions that are not compatible with each other and by making the upgrade some of the problems will be resolved.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval to utilize reserve Library funds to purchase new hardware, software and networking equipment for the purpose of upgrading the Library's Computer Infrastructure at an aggregate cost of $49,200.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Quotes have been provided in backup documentation for this request. Funding will be provided from reserve Library Funds.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past? Yes

If so, when? Thursday, September 25, 2008

Do you need audio-visual for the presentation? No

Back-up Material Submitted? Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance? Yes

Reviewed by Legal? Yes

Approved by Purchasing? Yes

Approved by Administrative Staff? Yes

Staff Notes

Administrator's Approval Yes

Confirmed Meeting Date Thursday, October 9, 2008

- ○ Recognition/ Presentation
- ○ Public Hearing
- ○ Old Business
- ○ New Business
- ◉ Consent
- ○ Report
- ○ Other

Fayette County
GEORGIA

Where Quality Is A Lifestyle

To: Jack Krakeel, County Administrator

From: Russell Prince, Chief Information Officer

Date: September 25, 2008

Subject: Request for Funds to Upgrade Library Computer Infrastructure

The Library is currently experiencing problems with the Library Server. Due to the fact that almost all of the Library's computer programs run on this one server, the issues with the server are causing major disruptions of their computer systems. This in turn is causing growing frustration with the patrons of the Library.

The initial plan was to replace and upgrade their server equipment in the 2010 budget due to the warranty expiring at the end of this fiscal year. Because of the ongoing issues and the workload being placed on this server, however, the Library and the Information Systems Department feel that the hardware should be replaced immediately. The plan is to purchase three servers to even out the workload. VMware "Virtual Machine" software would also be purchased which would allow us to create "virtual servers" and balance out the workload across the servers while providing high availability and fault tolerant functionality. A new network switch is also necessary to connect the additional computers that the Library will be adding to the Computer Lab after the expansion. The Library's older Rosetta Stone Language Learning software will also be upgraded to the newer version. Currently, the Library has two separate versions of the Rosetta Stone Language Learning software which are not compatible with each other. This upgrade will allow us to consolidate all the languages into the new version and resolve some of the issues we are having with the software.

This request is to be allowed to use reserve Library funds to purchase the following new hardware, software, and networking equipment to upgrade the Library's Computer Infrastructure.

Three IBM Servers and SAN Storage	$29,500
VMware Licenses	$12,500
Microsoft Windows Server Licenses	$1,900
Cisco Express 500 Network Switch	$1,800
Rosetta Stone Language-Learning Software Licenses	$3,500
Total	$49,200.00

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please let me know.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Recurring Problem with the Library's Computers: Interim County Administrator Jack Krakeel reported that over the course of last several months Fayette County has had a recurring problem with the Library's computer system that causes the system to completely shut down. He said this problem has become more prevalent in the last two weeks, and that staff has determined that the problem with the system is that the hard drive is completely full and cannot absorb any additional data. He said staff is in the process of developing an interim solution to the problem which would involve shutting the system down for one day in the next several weeks. He informed the Board that the ultimate step, which should take place within the next 30 days, would require a decision on a permanent solution. He said staff has prepared some preliminary estimates and believes that the cost of correcting the problems and upgrading the system will be approximately $45,000. He said staff will be preparing a formal request for the Board within the next three to four weeks for the Board's consideration and that funding is available.