COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Fire & Emergency Services	Presenter(s):	M. Allen McCullough/Pete Nelms
Meeting Date:	Thursday, April 23, 2009	Type of Request:	Consent

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of staff's request for permission to apply for a grant from the Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, in the amount of $18,675.41.

Background/History/Details:

This grant program targets projects that benefit firefighters and their operation. Recipients must commit to a 30% local match. If Fayette County's application is approved, the local share will be $5,602.62.These grant funds would allow the Department to purchase the following: Physical Fitness Equipment: Physical fitness is required for firefighters, in an effort to reduce injuries which result in loss of work and long and short term disabilities. The equipment below will enhance existing physical fitness opportunities:

2 Landice L770 LTD Pro Trainer Treadmills	$2,895 X 2 =	$ 5,790
2 Hoist PTS Ensemble 3 Smith Rack (Multi-exercise Machine)	$3,399 X 2 =	$ 6,798
Shipping/Handling		$ 500
Total		$13,088

Fire Safety Community Fire Extinguisher Training System: The Department is in the process of developing a community education program that includes fire extinguisher training. This simulator will allow an instructor to provide realistic yet safe fire extinguisher training.

Intelligent Training System Base Package	$ 5,587.41
Total Grant Request	$18,675.41
Federal Share	$14,006.55
Local Share	$ 5,602.62

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of request to allow staff of Fire and Emergency Services to apply for a grant in the amount of $18,675.41 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Local match to come from Fire Services Account # 53117.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	No	If so, when?	
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

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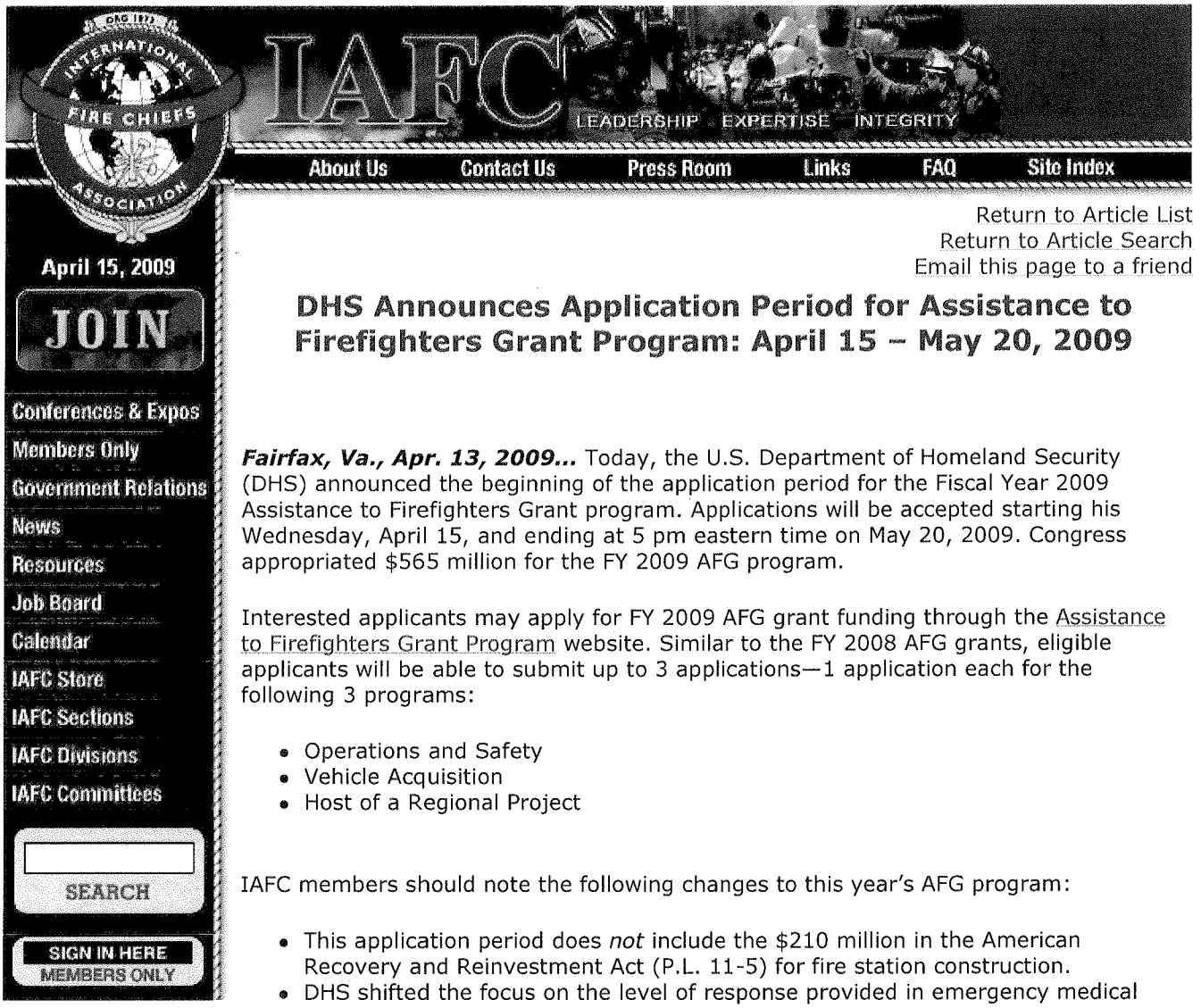
Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Yes	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:



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DHS Announces Application Period for Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program: April 15 – May 20, 2009

Fairfax, Va., Apr. 13, 2009... Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the beginning of the application period for the Fiscal Year 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program. Applications will be accepted starting his Wednesday, April 15, and ending at 5 pm eastern time on May 20, 2009. Congress appropriated $565 million for the FY 2009 AFG program.

Interested applicants may apply for FY 2009 AFG grant funding through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program website. Similar to the FY 2008 AFG grants, eligible applicants will be able to submit up to 3 applications—1 application each for the following 3 programs:

- Operations and Safety
- Vehicle Acquisition
- Host of a Regional Project

IAFC members should note the following changes to this year's AFG program:

- This application period does *not* include the $210 million in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 11-5) for fire station construction.
- DHS shifted the focus on the level of response provided in emergency medical services from Basic Life Support to Advanced Life Support.
- DHS added "candidate physical agility assessments" as a high priority under the "Wellness and Fitness" activity.
- DHS will use the AFG program to only fund projects that do not alter the footprint or the profile of an existing structure. DHS also will put a higher priority on exhaust extraction systems.
- To receive a vehicle award, grantees must adopt and enforce standard operating procedures (SOPs) that comply with Chapter 6 of the NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program,* especially the SOPs that require all passengers to wear seatbelts and require drivers to obey all traffic signals, signs, and laws.
- DHS is putting a greater emphasis on the oversight of grantees' procurement actions. Specifically, the applicant must:
  - Conduct all procurement transactions in a manner that provides open and free competition.
  - Maintain backup documentation such as bids, quotes, and cost/price analyses on file for review by federal officials.
  - Develop specifications for solicitations that clearly set forth all requirements that the bidder has to fulfill.

DHS has posted the grant guidance and Frequently Asked Questions on the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program website. In addition, the applicants with questions can contact the AFG Help Desk at 1-866-274-0960 between 8 am and 8 pm EDT or email