

T.C.I.

AGENDA COVER MEMO

Memorandum Date: February 2, 2010
Order Date: February 16, 2010

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Sheriff's Office

PRESENTED BY: Russ Burger, Sheriff

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER/ _____ IN THE MATTER OF APPLYING FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ARREST GRANT FOR \$400,000 AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE GRANT DOCUMENTS. (SHERIFF'S OFFICE, PAROLE & PROBATION)

I. MOTION

_____ Move to Approve Applying For An U.S. Department Of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women Arrest Grant for \$400,000 and Delegating Authority to the County Administrator to Execute Grant Documents.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) has issued a request for applications for Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Order Programs (Arrest Grant) to protect victims of domestic violence. The Sheriff's Office is seeking approval of the Board of Commissioners for Lane County to apply for these funds.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

In 2003, Lane County was awarded a \$500,000 two-year OVW Arrest Grant to increase safety for victims of domestic violence through enforcement of Release Agreements, monitoring of domestic violence defendants and intensive supervision of offenders.

In 2006, Lane County submitted another grant application that was funded and continued the project's Pretrial Monitoring Program in a modified form. The Pretrial Monitoring Program is designed to improve the project by working more closely with the Defendant/Offender Management Center (DOMC) at the Jail.

In 2008, Lane County submitted another grant application in the amount of \$400,000 to continue to existing program. That grant request was also successful. The funding opportunity currently available is to extend the program for another two years.

The project has five components:

- A State of Oregon DOMC Release Officer interviews all domestic violence defendants for possible release from jail. The goal is to ensure defendants who are released have specific conditions and a signed agreement to appear in court and other conditions that may be necessary to protect the victim.
- Defendants released pre-trial with monitoring as a condition of their release are monitored by Lane County Parole and Probation Officers (PO's). PO's conduct unannounced home visits, phone calls, and surveillance to ensure terms of the release agreement, including protection orders, are being followed.
- Victims are referred to Womenspace for safety planning, advocacy, and other services
- When defendants or victims request waivers of "no contact" agreements, the PO and Womenspace advocates provide information to the victim, defendant, and judge, if requested.
- Staff from the District Attorney's office will continue to train staff of public agencies and other first responders to recognize and intervene appropriately in domestic violence.

The project is expected to fund:

- Probation officer
- State DOMC Release Officer
- State Court Operations Specialist
- Safety Planning for Victims by Womenspace
- Grant Administration, Reporting, and Evaluation
- Travel for training required by the funding agency

At the time of this writing, the grant application had not been completed. A completed copy of the application will be available for review prior to submission.

B. Policy Issues

This grant application is in line with the County's policies and procedures as well as the purpose and objectives of the Lane County Sheriff's Office.

C. Board Goals

This request addresses the Board goal to provide outstanding customer/constituent service.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

The information required by the Board of County Commissioners prior to approval of grant applications and receipt of grant funds is provided below:

1. What is the Match Requirement, if any.

There is no match requirement.

2. Will the grant require expenditures for Materials and Services or capital not fully paid for by the grant?

All expenditures needed for the implementation of the grant are included in the application budget.

3. Will the grant funds be fully expended before county funds need to be spent?

No county funds are included in the budget for this project.

4. How will the administrative work of the grant be covered?

Grant funds cover all administrative work connected with this project.

5. Have grant stakeholders been informed of the grant sun setting policy so there is no misunderstanding when the funding ends?

Stakeholders have been informed of the grant funding duration. Each stakeholder is a signatory to a required Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU describe roles and responsibilities for each agency involved.

6. What accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations are imposed by the

grant conditions?

This grant requires quarterly financial and semi-annual progress reports to be submitted. Costs of data collection and reporting are covered by the grant.

7. How will the department cover the accounting, auditing, and evaluation obligations? How are the costs for these obligations covered regardless of whether they are in the department submitting the grant or a support service department? Does the department acknowledge that the county will need to cover these costs and is it an appropriate cost?

Funds will be budgeted in the grant application to provide all these obligations. The county will not need to spend any funds on this project.

8. Are there any restrictions against applying the county full cost indirect?

No, and indirect amount has been including in the application. The grant requires us to submit a copy of our Federally-approved Indirect Rate Agreement.

9. Are there unique or unusual conditions that trigger additional county work, effort, or liability such as maintenance of effort requirements or supplanting prohibitions or indemnity obligations?

The grant requires a letter signed by the County Administrator certifying to conditions related to domestic violence arrest policies. The District Attorney's Office has reviewed this requirement and determined that Lane County meets the required conditions.

10. Grants involving technology issues require Information Services department sign-off....

This item does not apply to this grant application.

11. Information Services sign off is required for all agenda items requesting funding for new or enhanced computer applications....

This item does not apply to this application.

12. If this is a grant funded computer/software applications project....

This item does not apply to this application.

E. Alternatives/Options

1. To accept the motion, adopt the Order and approve the grant application.

2. Not to accept the motion and not apply for the funds.

IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

The application is due February 17, 2010. Award notifications will be made by October 2010.

V. RECOMMENDATION

Approve the request to submit applications to these funding opportunities.

VI. Attachment

1. Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER:) ORDER/_____ IN THE MATTER OF APPLYING FOR
) AND ACCEPTANCE OF A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
) OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ARREST GRANT
) FOR \$400,000 AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE
) COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE GRANT
) DOCUMENTS. (SHERIFF'S OFFICE)

WHEREAS, Lane County regards services to victims of domestic violence as a high priority; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, has issued a request for applications for funding from the Office on Violence Against Women to encourage arrest policies and enforcement of protection orders for victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the grant, if awarded, will provide funding for five components: the Sherman Defendant/Offender Management Center; Lane County Parole and Probation; Womenspace; the Oregon Circuit Court; and Lane Council of Governments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners supports efforts to assess risk prior to the release of defendants pretrial and provide appropriate conditions of release including supervision to increase defendant accountability and victim safety; and

WHEREAS, Lane Manual 21.137 sets forth policy regarding grant applications and requires Board approval of the preliminary application and acceptance of any grant award greater than \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the total funding to be awarded through this grant is \$400,000;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the Board of County Commissioners authorizes submission of the arrest grant application to the Office of Violence Against Women in the amount of \$400,000 and authorizes the County Administrator to execute grant documents and accept any resulting grant award.

DATED this 16th day of February 2010.

Bill Fleenor, Chair
Lane County Board of County Commissioners