

**Broward Regional EMS Council
FY 2020 Grant Ranking Meeting
October 17, 2019
12:30 p.m.
MINUTES**

Call to Order

Zeff Ross, Chair, called meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Self-Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves and the agencies/interests they represented.

Public Comments

No comments.

Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts.

Announcements

Alison Zerbe reported on the unexpended funds. Because Accounting did not move the funds over in time, they could not use them in 2018 and 2019. As long as they move the funds over to the account by December 15, 2019 she can pay for the already designated unexpended funds.

Approval of Minutes from

MOTION TO ACCEPT the minutes made by Dr. Frederick Keroff and **SECONDED** by Chief Bruce Caruso.

MOTION Passed Unanimously.

New Business

Grant# 20-02 – 24th Annual First There First Care Conference (Fire Chief's Association of Broward County) – Requested \$60,000.00

Chief Bruce Caruso started by saying it was a truly countywide grant. The emphasis has always been to get the best usage for the grant money in a countywide grant. He stressed EMS grant is used 100 percent for education. The First There First Care Conference (FTFC) next year will be the 24th annual. It grows every year with paramedics, nurses, hospital workers, and physicians; this conference is now known both locally and nationwide. Last year's grant cycle the ranking committee gave \$50,000.00 to FTFC.

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Zeff Ross asked how well the conference did this year. Chief Rodney Turpel, Fire Chiefs' Association's Treasurer, said that this past year FTFC was in the green \$28,000.00. The \$28,000.00 will rollover to next year's conference. Chief R. Turpel said they get more than 1200 people in the three days of training.

In response to a question, from Dr. F. Keroff, about any changes to the conference Chief R. Turpel said that they were working towards an agreement to have the *Gathering of Eagles* join the conference on the last two days of conference (Thursday and Friday). Chief R. Turpel said that the 100 doctors involved come in early for a meeting before their conference. The benefits of having the Eagles join gives FTFC a pool of potential speakers, get better room rates, brings sponsors in for both events and a chance for better sponsors. More importantly it's going to add people to FTFC events. Sharing those expenses will make it easier to enhance the conference and become a partnership.

Because the grant is 100 percent used for education, it enables paramedics, nurses and other medical practitioners to participate without a charge. This is a Broward EMS Grant and they have specifically kept this for Broward practitioners.

Chief R. Turpel mentioned that they would like statewide participation. They now have a convention center that can facilitate the increase. Chief R. Turpel said that the cost last year was approximately \$159,000.00; they looked at total cost of the different events. This year they are estimating \$200,000.00 total cost with increased revenues. He believes FTFC is the only one in the country doing the nursing competition.

[Grant 20-07 – Broward Pre-hospital Training and Education \(Hollywood Fire Rescue\) – Requested \\$80,000.00](#)

Dr. Antonio Gandia said that the project funds will enable Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) and they intend to establish three training centers throughout the county. He said that right now there are five training centers in Broward County. He asked if the applicants reached out to the National Association of EMT and if NAEMT was willing to give another two or three training centers in Broward. Although, there are nine training centers in Miami-Dade.

Dr. A. Gandia questioned if they could do it. If they know there are five training centers in that caliber in the county? He questioned faculty affiliations within the training centers they were proposing. Are they willing to get training center status?

Candace Pineda spoke with the National Association of EMTs (NAEMT). They said that if they met all the requirements and able to provide the training, the NAEMT would send

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someone down to do the site. It would not be an issue to grant additional centers. C. Pineda also spoke with two of the current centers approved in Broward County to get their processes. If you can have the process at a hospital or take it to an agency you are eliminating some of the costs; making it more efficient and economical. Dr. A. Gandia said that they are currently sharing the resources with different agencies. He mentioned it may be a duplication of services.

C. Pineda said that Memorial Regional Trauma Center has associate faculty that can support PHTLS. There are some in Coral Springs. C. Pineda brought the project to the Broward County EMS Chiefs and asked them what they needed in the county and conveyed what she can support. (One thing they mentioned was not enough airway component.) C. Pineda said they used to have PHTLS but presently they don't have enough instructors and resources to continue.

The Broward County Coalition already had one PHTLS course that the Coalition paid for and hosted. With the grant, they intend to host an additional training already scheduled. C. Pineda said they invited all the agencies to send a person to become an instructor. Once they have available instructors they will offer instructors to do the training (1-day hybrid course-written and hands-on/or 2-day in person course) and offer online modules to instruct. When they have an available course, they will offer instructors a spot; this helps maintain their certifications and they can take the courses on the road. When training is completed they get a certification that is good for four years.

Chief B. Caruso said that there were some things missing:

1. No budget attached,
2. Marked multiple agency not countywide,
3. Indicates 19 agencies listed, but, not 19 letters.

Grant 20-06 – iSTOP Improving Survival with Targeted Community Outreach and Pre-hospital Care (North Broward Hospital District d/b/a Broward Health for Broward Health Medical Center) – Requested \$25,000.00

Dr. A. Gandia questioned if they know the areas they will target. Dr. Jose Lozada had maps showing the areas getting Stop the Bleed training and kits. It indicated that areas patients had the most penetrating injuries was not where they were teaching. They are going to target areas that have most penetrating injuries and make Stop the Bleed kits available.

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Dr. F. Keroff asked what will happen to the program if they only get a portion or no money requested? Dr. J. Lozada said they will keep targeting because they know that there's a need. They continue to look at every funding alternative. If they only got a portion then it would be scaled accordingly. This is a Stop the Bleed program for areas that need it most.

Chief B. Caruso said that he likes the use of GIS mapping to target these areas. Schools have been the target for the Stop the Bleed program. Chief B. Caruso wanted to know where they would be placing the kits in these areas? Dr. Lozada wanted to know from communities where they wanted to place the kits (i.e. 7/11 that's open all night).

Grant 20-05 – AMR Cardiac Arrest Patient Outcome Improvement (American Medical Response) – Requested \$27,666.00

JoAnn Richter asked who would fund for future supplies/maintain equipment? AMR is incurring the costs and will in the future. Presently, they do not have any devices such as the Lucas device. They now do manual chest compressions. They are asking for funding for two units; one for each vehicle. It is not standard equipment. They don't normally discuss this in contract negotiations with a municipality. They have been there since 2008.

Chief B. Caruso mentioned the aggressive implementation of three months to purchase, receive and train staff on Lucas device. The vendor had indicated it could be done in three months.

Grant 20-03 – EMS Documentation Support (Oakland Park Fire Rescue) – Requested \$13,593.40

Chief B. Caruso questioned purchasing vs. leasing the three laptop computers and four modems; technology changes quickly. Seemed to be some confusion as to what they were achieving with the equipment. Questioned whether they were trying to electronically transfer data between machines.

Grant 20-04 – Pre-hospital Ventilator – Improving Survivability (Tamarac Fire Rescue) – Requested \$17,963.55

Chief B. Caruso commented that it seemed to him, with the wording, that they were putting equipment out before they completed all their training. Zeff Ross questioned evaluating data after only four months may not be sufficient time to get adequate data.

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It was mentioned that they have a number of cardiac arrests: 127 in 2016, 130 in 2017, 140 in 2018. Dr. F. Keroff said that it would be interesting in an urban setting, with short transport times, whether this would make any difference. Dr. A. Gandia said that it may be that they need more training rather than changing equipment.

Grant 20-01 – EMS Training Body Armor (Broward College EMS Training) – Requested \$3,900.00

Dr. F. Keroff commented that it's Broward College EMS training, but they list themselves as a single agency. Dr. A. Gandia said that it's part of paramedic program to train on body armor usage.

Mark Apicella, Broward College, said that in more drills they are working with local agencies, some mass casualties, and more articles about rescue task forces. The real providers come out wearing this equipment even with active shooter drills.

He said at the last First There First Care Conferences they had a vendor selling real body armor for EMS providers. The vendor said he could get them vests that looked real but wouldn't have ballistic plates but would have foam to simulate the bulkiness of a real vest. That is why they are getting it at a low price of \$3,900.00.

Dr. A. Gandia mentioned to reach out to BSO, and they may have something in warehouse for students. Chief B. Caruso suggested reaching out to Broward College's Criminal Justice Institute to see what they use.

Discussion

Z. Ross said there is \$116,412.00 this year for the grant. Cannot look at the unexpended funds from last year.

Dr. A. Gandia recommended 24th First There First Care be funded totally with the \$60,000 request. The conference has a long history.

Dr. F. Keroff said rather than voting on one at a time he wanted to decide how to break out all of them. He wanted to see if it was reasonable, based on the funding, how would partial funding affect the scalability of the project.

Chief B. Caruso is looking at the way they are ranked. Although, you can't fully fund the top three. Z. Ross asked if they should only look at the top three?

MOTION to fund the top three projects.

Made by: J. Richter

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Seconded: Chief B. Caruso

Discussion

Dr. F. Keroff wondered that if they fully fund First There First Care, how it would affect partially funding the other two applications. C. Pineda said that if their project was partially funded they could still utilize the funding. Dr. J. Lozada said the areas/locations they were targeting for Stop the Bleed kits do not currently have Stop the Bleed kits.

MOTION Passed: Unanimously

MOTION to fully fund the First There First Care conference at \$60,000.

Motion made by: Chief B. Caruso

Seconded: Dr. A. Gandia

Discussion

Z. Ross suggested that they do \$40,000.00 this year for First There First Care. They did \$50,000 last year. He proposed weaning off the grant funds to get the same outcomes. Chief R. Turpel said the venue is going to be more this year. He stressed the venue and the extra are paid for by the sponsors. The grant money goes specifically towards the education aspect of the event.

Dr. F. Keroff made the recommendation to give the Stop the Bleed-\$20,000.00; Pre-Hospital \$40,000.00; and First There First Care-\$56,412.00.

Withdraw his MOTION to fully fund the First There First Care conference at \$60,000.00.

Made by: Chief B. Caruso

MOTION to fund the top three applications:

- 1.) #20-02 - 24th Annual First There First Care at \$56,412.00;
- 2.) #20-07 – Broward Pre-Hospital Training and Education at \$40,000.00;
- 3.) #20-06 - iSTOP: Improving Survival with Targeted Community Outreach and Pre-Hospital Care at \$20,000.00.

Motion made by: Dr. Frederick Keroff

Seconded: Chief Bruce Caruso

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Discussion

Both applicant #2 and #3 said that not getting the full amount for their grant will scale down the project but it will still be operational; they will be looking for other funding.

Final Recommendations

MOTION to fund the top three applications:

- 1.) #20-02 - 24th Annual First There First Care at \$56,412.00;
- 2.) #20-07 – Broward Pre-Hospital Training and Education at \$40,000.00;
- 3.) #20-06 - iSTOP: Improving Survival with Targeted Community Outreach and Pre-Hospital Care at \$20,000.00.

Motion made by: Dr. Frederick Keroff

Seconded: Chief Bruce Caruso

MOTION Passed: Unanimously

Next Meeting Dates

2020 for FY2021 Grant Process - TBD

Adjourned

01:50 PM