



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Emergency Management and Fire Services

Board Action

File #: 25-119

Commissioner Hovis - Emergency Management and Fire Services - To Approve a Certificate of Need (CON) for Union Road Fire Department in the Amount of \$310,200.00 for the Purchase of Scott Airpacks **(State Grant Funded)**

STAFF CONTACT

Scott Hunter - Emergency Management and Fire Services - 704-866-3350

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact. No County match required.

BACKGROUND

At the February 20, 2025 Fire Commission Meeting, Fire Chief Ronnie Capps presented CON 20252182-24 (via ZOOM) on behalf of Union Road Fire Department requesting approval to purchase Airpacks. They made the purchase using state grant funding for 25 Scott X3 air packs, 50 masks, 3 RIT packs, 50 air bottles, flow testing for all packs for five years and first hydro on bottles at the five-year mark. The cost was \$310,200.00. Eric Withers made a motion to approve the CON. The motion was seconded by Justin Westbrook. The motion was approved unanimously.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Certificate of Need 20252182-24, DRAFT 2/20/25 Fire Commission Meeting Minutes, Rhinehart Airpack Quotes

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCloninger	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-078	03/25/2025	BH	AF	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

DISTRIBUTION:

Laserfiche Users

A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS



Gaston County Fire Commission



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION

Fire Department

Name

Union Road Volunteer Fire Department

Address

4060 Union Rd, Gastonia, North Carolina 28056

Chief

Ronnie Capps

Contact Phone #

(704) 675-1139

Board President

Ken Caldwell

Contact Phone #

(704) 914-7188

Fire Department Board Approval / Notification

Yes

General Description of Purchase

Airpacks for Chiefs and Apparatus

Time Line of Purchase

We have already made the purchase from state grant funding. Alston Watts failed to submit a CON due to simple oversight.

List Specifics of Purchase

25 SCOTT X3 airpacks

50- masks

3- RIT packks

50- Air bottles

Flow testing for all packs for 5 years

At the five year mark our first Hydro on the bottles is also included in the price

Estimated Cost

\$310,200.00

Financing Information

Lender

N/A

Amount Financed

Rate

\$0.00

0

Estimated Amount

\$0.00

Number of Payments

0

Down Payment Amount

\$0.00

Debt Ratio-Current / Post Purchase

0

**Any Re-Financing or
Bundling**

No

If Yes, then Describe

How Will Purchase Benefit the Department (Safety/ISO/Cost Savings, etc)

This purchase will replace aging safety equipment for our firefighters

How Will Purchase be Funded (Long Term - NOT Just Current Year)

The purchase is funded from a North Carolina State grant that the department applied for and received specifically for this purchase along with the tanker.

If Purchase is NOT Approved for Funding, Describe Department Alternatives

The purchase has already been made from a state source for this purchase

Is This a Replacement?

Yes

If Yes, List Details (Make, Model, Years of Service, Remaining Balance, etc.)

We are replacing packs that are over ten years old and beginning to show signs of wear as well as increasing repair cost and frequency. The current packs are paid for in full.

What Will Become of Old Apparatus / Equipment?

This is to be determined. Some the packs will probably be retained for training purposes

5-year Plan

5-year Plan #2 (optional)

5-year Plan #3 (optional)

Account Balances:

Checking

\$361,349.73

CD

\$20,641.50

Savings

\$158,256.00

Relief Fund

\$4,764.24

Other1

\$417,543.79

Other2

\$1,469.99

UPLOAD FILE(S)

Item 1

Upload Files

UNION ROAD REGIONAL GRANT FINAL
rev1.doc

STAFF ONLY

Received By (OEMFS Director):

Date:

Fire Commission Meeting Date:

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Gaston County BOC Meeting Date:

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Certificate Number

20252182-24

Gaston County Fire Commission Meeting

February 20th, 2025

The meeting was held Thursday February 20th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Emergency Operations Center located at 615 N Highland Street, Gastonia.

I. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Rob Smith called the meeting to order. Brian Weyeneth motioned to approve the agenda as presented, with the exception of removing Ag Center's Certificate of Need at Chief Towery's request. The motion was seconded by Scott Zander. The motion was passed unanimously.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Business Agenda

- A. Scott Zander made a motion to approve the January 15th, 2025, meeting minutes. Brian Weyeneth seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- B. Chris Eason presented information on health insurance for full-time employees on behalf of the Crowders Mountain Fire Department. He also provided details regarding the sale of Crowders Mountain Station 2 to the City of Bessemer. Chris reviewed the history of previously approved Certificates of Need for parking lot and roof repairs at the station. However, a commercial realtor has advised against completing these repairs prior to the sale. Crowders Mountain has identified a potential location for their new station near the 74 corridors.
- C. Fire Chief Woody Thomas presented CON 2052182-25 on behalf of Crowders Mountain Fire Department for (2) Ford F-350 Brush Units and 1 Skid Unit in the amount of \$160,000.00 bank financed. Their existing brush units, which are 17 and 20 years old, have increasing maintenance costs and reliability concerns. To address these issues, they plan to replace them with new trucks. Both current units are fully paid off and will be listed for sale on GovDeals. The Closest Department subcommittee will meet with Crowders Mountain for further discussion. Richard Albaugh made a motion to approve the CON. The motion was seconded by Scott Zander. The motion was passed unanimously.
- D. Captain Chad Belcher presented CON 20252182-23 on behalf of Lucia Riverbend Fire Department requesting approval to purchase a Deep Trekker Pivot ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) in the amount of \$74,585.72 with \$25,000.00 of station funds, requesting \$49,585.72 out of the Capital Fund. The ROV will serve as the primary tool for recovery in water-related incidents. Scott Zander made a motion to approve the CON. The motion was seconded by Richard Albaugh. The motion was approved unanimously.
- E. Fire Chief Ronnie Capps presented CON 20252182-24 (via ZOOM) on behalf of Union Road Fire Department requesting approval to purchase Airpacks. They made the purchase using state grant funding for 25 Scott X3 air packs, 50 masks, 3 RIT packs, 50 air bottles, flow testing for all packs for five years and first hydro

on bottles at the five-year mark. The cost was \$310,200.00. Eric Withers made a motion to approve the CON. The motion was seconded by Justin Westbrook. The motion was approved unanimously.

- F. Fire Chief Corey Jonas presented CON 20252182-26 on behalf of the East Gaston Fire Department, requesting approval to purchase the retired Engine 34 from the City of Mount Holly Fire Department. The department cited increased downtime due to maintenance issues with their current Engine 30 as the primary reason for needing this apparatus. The total request is \$100,000.00, with \$50,000.00 allocated for the purchase of the apparatus and the remaining \$50,000.00 designated for wrapping, upfitting, and equipping the unit as needed. Of the \$100,000 request, \$50,000 is being requested from the Capital Fund. After a lengthy discussion, much of which focused on the department's limited funds, Richard Albaugh motioned to table the Certificate of Need. Brian Weyeneth seconded the motion, which was approved. Justin Westbrook abstained from voting.
- G. Fire Chief Mark Wright presented CON 20252182-27 on behalf of the Tryonota Fire Department, requesting approval to purchase a new Smeal Metro Star Engine for \$950,000. The department is requesting that the County fund the request in their annual budget until the terms of the financing are complete. After extensive discussion regarding the Fire Commission's inability to approve a fire truck purchase in the new budget before the budget review process has begun, Scott Zander motioned to table the request until budget discussions. Justin Westbrook seconded the motion, which was approved. Rob Smith and Richard Albaugh abstained from voting.
- H. Sub-Committee Updates
 - Rescue: Scott Zander advised on their subcommittee's efforts to reorganize their existing information and seek clarification from departments regarding any missing details.
 - Capital: Richard Albaugh led the discussion requesting an update on the capital fund balance and asked for a quarterly statement outlining the current balance and expenditure report for FY 25.
 - Closest Department: Justin Westbrook advised no update; the sub-committee is meeting March 4th.
- I. Fire Service Agreement Update: Scott Hunter advised that the draft contract has been sent out to the Fire Chiefs and must be returned to Scott by March 1st. The contract will then be uploaded to the shared drive for the Fire Commission to review. Any changes made will be disseminated back to the Fire Chiefs no later than April 1st for their final review. The finalized contract is due back to Scott by May 1st. The budget and contract will be presented to the Board of Commissioners around May 13th.
- J. Emergency Management & Fire Services Update: Scott Hunter proposed an amendment to the Certificate of Need (CON) requirements and set a Business Agenda Deadline, suggesting that fire departments must submit a CON or FD Business at least 14 days prior to a meeting. This change would allow sufficient time for thorough review, as late submissions often result in missed details or

mistakes. Brian Weyeneth made a motion, which was seconded by Eric Withers. Richard Albaugh and Justin Westbrook were opposed. The motion was approved.

IV. **New/Old Business**

- A. The Fire Commission reviewed a Certificate of Need previously submitted by Fire Chief Brad Presswood of Alexis Fire Department, requesting approval for the removal and replacement of failed concrete in the driveway of their main station on Highway 27, totaling \$59,505.00. This was tabled at the November 19th, 2024, meeting until CON Requirements were approved. The request was for funding from the Capital Fund. Scott Zander made a motion to approve the CON, with \$50,000.00 from the Capital Fund, and Brian Weyeneth seconded. The motion was approved. Will Keller abstained from voting.

- V. The next meeting date is **March 13th, 2025**.

VI. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Scott Zander, seconded by Richard Albaugh. The motion was approved unanimously.

QUOTE

RHINEHART FIRE SERVICES

22 Piney Park Rd., Asheville NC 28806
Office 828-273-1789
Cell Phone 704-604-2492
jody@rhinehartfire.com

DATE 06/04/2024

EXPIRATION DATE 8/07/2024

TO UNION ROAD FIRE DEPARTMENT

SAME

SALESPERSON	JOB	PAYMENT TERMS	DUE DATE
JODY BROWN		NET 10	

QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	LINE TOTAL
25	SCOTT#X8815026305A04 Air-Pak X3 Pro SCBA (2018 Edition) with CGA Cylinder Connection, 5500 psig, Standard Harness with Parachute Buckles, Standard Belt, E-Z Flo C5 Regulator with Quick Disconnect Hose (Rectus-type fittings), Universal EBSS Accessory Hose, PASS DEVICE, Packaged 2 SCBA Per Box LIST PRICE\$11543.96	6827.06	170676.50
25	ADD ON SEMS ELECTRONIC PASS DEVICE OPTION (NOT REQUIRED BUT ALMOST 2500.00 TO ADD AFTER FACT) LIST PRICE \$118.78	98.67	2466.75
50	SCOTT#200930-01 CYLINDER & VALVE, CARBON, 5.5, 30-MIN, CGA LIST PRICE \$1774.88	1210.14	60507.00
50	SCOTT#FP1MK0000000000 VISION C5, MEDIUM WITH KEVLAR HEADNET LIST PRICE \$517.49	348.87	17443.50
3	SCOTT#201564-32 RIT-PAK FAST ATTACK, 5.5, MEDIUM, VISION C5 (Rectus-type Fittings) LIST PRICE \$3930.50	2644.15	7932.45
3	SCOTT#201568-01 CYLINDER & 90° VALVE, CARBON, 5.5, 45-MIN, CGA LIST PRICE \$2105.71	1419.58	4258.74
25	SCOTT 2024 NFPA UPGRADE KITS INSTALLED AT YOUR LOCATION ONCE NEW NFPA UPGRADE KITS ARE AVAILABLE	750.00	18750.00
1	ON SITE FLOW TESTING OF YOUR SCOTT BREATHING APPARATUS (28 FLOW TEST PER YEAR X 5)	6277.60	6277.60
1	FIRST DOT HYDRO TESTING OF YOUR SCOTT CYLINDERS AT THE FIVE YEAR MARK (ALL CYLINDERS AT FIVE YEAR MARK)	1594.24	1594.24
	ALL PRICING BASED ON NCSA CONTRACT#24-01-0524R		

UNLESS NOTED ABOVE PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE ANY APPLICABLE TAX
OR SHIPPING CHARGES, CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FEE OF 3% WILL BE APPLIED

SUBTOTAL	289906.78
SALES TAX	20293.47

TOTAL 310200.25

Quotation prepared by: JODY BROWN REGIONAL SALE PERSON RHINEHART FIRE SERVICES, INC. _____

This is a quotation on the goods named, subject to the conditions noted below: (Describe any conditions pertaining to these prices and any additional terms of the agreement. You may want to include contingencies that will affect the quotation.)

To accept this quotation, sign here and return: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!
