



Gaston County Fire Commission



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION

Certificate Number
2026604-57

Fire Department

Name

Ranlo Fire & Rescue

Address

1710 Spencer Mountain Rd

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Gastonia

City

North Carolina

State

28054

Zip Code

Chief

Todd Lewis

Contact Phone

(704) 691-4251

Board President

Derek Alexander

Contact Phone

(704) 634-2063

Fire Department Board Approval / Notification

Yes No

General Description of Purchase

Emergency replacement of our brush truck is needed.

We are pulling the money from our savings account that has \$310,795.72. The Board approved to earmark \$ 170,000.00 to purchase the new trucks and the needed equipment to get them in-service.

We will still have a \$140,795.72 in our savings

The current Ford F-350 has a leaking head gasket and a damaged rear shock bracket, with repair costs estimated between \$3,000 and \$5,800.

We plan to add a vehicle to serve as a command unit for general response and to transport personnel to and from calls.

Time Line of Purchase

As soon as possible

List Specifics of Purchase

Purchase a Ford F-350 DRW 4X4 with a service body, remove the skid unit from the old truck, and install it on the new one.

Also purchase a Ford 4X4 4-door crew cab to serve as a command vehicle for general response and to transport manpower to and from calls.

Estimated Cost

\$170,000.00

Financing Information

Lender

NA

Amount Financed

\$0.00

Rate

0

Estimated Amount

\$0.00

Number of Payments

0

Down Payment Amount

\$0.00

Debt Ratio-Current / Post Purchase

\$154,185.00

Any Re-Financing or Bundling

Yes No

If Yes, then Describe

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

By purchasing these two vehicles, we'll reduce our maintenance costs by replacing our aging fleet, and enjoy the benefits of safer, more dependable transportation.

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

We will purchase both vehicles out of our savings account that we have worked so hard over the years to build up in order to replace big ticket items as they are needed or for unforeseen emergency repairs or replacements of equipment or vehicles.

If Purchase is NOT Approved for Funding, Describe Department Alternatives

We will continue requesting a replacement for this unit as this is a need. We also understand this is not costing the county anything as it is being funded directly from the savings, we worked so hard to build.

Is This a Replacement?

Yes No

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

We are replacing a 2006 Ford F-350 4X4 DWR with a service body that we have had in-service since 2010. We do not owe anything on the vehicle.

What Will Become of Old Apparatus / Equipment?

We will try and sell the vehicle and use the money to purchase equipment to outfit the new vehicles.

Submit your last three 5-Year Capital Improvement Plans:

5-year Plan

Five Year Plan for Ranlo Fire and Rescue 25 26.pdf

5-year Plan #2 (optional)

5-year Plan #3 (optional)

Account Balances:

Checking	CD	Savings	Relief Fund	Other	Other
\$54,420.99	\$169,249.84	\$310,795.72	\$45,555.96	\$170,000.00	\$0.00
				Name of Fund	Name of Fund
				Other	Other

STAFF ONLY

Received By (OEMFS Director):

Date:

Fire Commission Meeting Date:

APPROVED NOT
APPROVED

Gaston County BOC Meeting Date:

APPROVED NOT
APPROVED

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Five Year Plan for Ranlo Fire and Rescue

FY 25-26

- Move Chief's salary to above federal exempt rate
- Add an additional 24-hour firefighter part-time position, which improves operational capabilities and crew safety.
- Begin incremental rope rescue equipment replacement over next three (3) years
- Begin incremental LDH replacement over next three (3) years
- Begin 5-year apparatus replacement process
 - Year 1-3 encumber savings account funds to be locked for fire apparatus replacement by placing them in recurring CDs to gain interest.
 - Year 3 Select truck build crew and begin process
 - Year 3 put 1998 Sutphen Rescue Pumper out for sale
 - All money to be added to existing funds for down payment
 - Year 4 select build company and begin build process, locking in sale amount
 - Late Year 5, hopefully receive new apparatus

FY 26-27

- Add an additional person to work daily 12-hour shifts in the role of Engineer to be used with pay-per-call personnel and volunteers to staff secondary unit during a demographically established time frame.
- Continue incremental LDH replacement
- Continue incremental rope rescue equipment replacement
- Increase staffing pay to meet industry standards to remain competitive with areas around Gaston County for position specific pay
- Hire a part-time training officer (20 hrs) to ensure the department continues to meet all the required standards issued by NC, Gaston County, and OSHA as the Fire Service continues to evolve. This person would oversee not only training but safety and testing to meet industry safety standards
- Require annual physicals for all firefighting staff
- Require annual performance agility testing
- Purchase and improve firefighter fitness with additional training tools designed to improve cardio conditioning, muscle function, and etc.
- Offer supplemental insurance to all paid staff
- Offer 401 K 5% matching to paid staff

FY 27-28

- Move Chief to a full-time position; salary meeting industry standards along with insurance and retirement benefits.

- Finalize LDH Replacement
- Finalize Rope Rescue Replacement
- Find a buyer for 1998 Sutphen
- Replace SCBA Compressor

FY 28-29

- Add 4th firefighter position increasing crew efficiency, safety, and support of Fire Department mission
- Begin two (2) year attack hose replacement
- Begin process of selling off the old SCBA and purchasing new ones to occur in 5th year.

FY 29-30

- Take delivery of new apparatus
- Finish attack hose replacement
- Complete sell of old SCBA and purchase new ones
- Revisit salary for staff; position specific