

SUBJECT: ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$18,910.75 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DIVISION OF FORESTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING \$1,891.08 IN MATCHING FUNDS, AND APPROVING THE SCOPES OF WORK AND BUDGETS FOR FIREFIGHTER AND FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND CLOTHING.

AGENDA OF: May 17, 2022

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

Adopted without objection 6-7-22
[Signature]

MANAGER RECOMMENDATION: Introduce and set for public hearing.

APPROVED BY MICHAEL BROWN, BOROUGH MANAGER: *MB*

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator / DES	<i>U</i>	
	Emergency Services Director	<i>KB</i>	
	Finance Director	<i>[Signature]</i>	
	Borough Attorney	<i>[Signature]</i>	
	Borough Clerk	<i>[Signature]</i>	

ATTACHEMENT(S) : Fiscal Note: YES X NO
Ordinance Serial No. 22-064 (2 pp)
Resolution Serial No. 22-053 (2 pp)
VFA Press Release (2 pp)
VFA Award Chart (1 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The borough fire services areas have been awarded grant funds from the Alaska State Division of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistant grant program in the amounts of \$3,910.70 for West Lakes, \$4,999.99 for Caswell, \$5,000 for Talkeetna, and \$4999.99 for Willow, for a combined total grant award of \$18,910.75.

The fire service areas must provide 10 % matching funds in order to comply with the conditions of the grant and to receive the grant.

The acceptance and appropriation of the grant funds serves a public interest.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The administration recommends approval of the attached legislation, which will accept and appropriate \$18,910.75 from the Alaska State Division of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program, appropriate \$1,891.08 in matching funds, and approve the scopes of work and budgets for project nos. 20151, 20150, 20145, and 20146, all fund 405, for firefighter and firefighting equipment, supplies, and clothing.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
FISCAL NOTE

Agenda Date: May 17, 2022

SUBJECT: Accepting and appropriating \$18,910.75 from the Alaska State Division of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program, appropriating \$1,891.08 in matching funds, and approving the scopes of work and budgets for firefighter and firefighting equipment, supplies, and clothing.

ORIGINATOR: Ken Barkley

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT <u>(YES)</u> NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED <u>\$20,801 F3</u>	FUNDING SOURCE <u>FSA + SVA D.V. of Forestry</u>
FROM ACCOUNT # <u>248/249/254/258.00.004xx.xx</u>	PROJECT
TO ACCOUNT: <u>405.00.00 3xx.yyy</u>	PROJECT # <u>20145/20146/20150/20151</u>
VERIFIED BY: <u>Kim Hurland</u>	CERTIFIED BY:
DATE: <u>5/4/22</u>	DATE:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL	<u>20.8</u>					
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING:

(Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund						
State/Federal Funds	<u>18.9</u>					
Other	<u>1.9</u>					
TOTAL	<u>20.8</u>					

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

PREPARED BY: _____ PHONE: _____
 DEPARTMENT: Chagienne Hurland DATE: _____
 APPROVED BY: _____ DATE: 5/4/2022

IM No. 22-121
Ordinance Serial No. 22-064
Resolution Serial No. 22-053

Corri A. Feige
Commissioner

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Department of
Natural Resources

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 20, 2022

State forestry awards grants to 40 rural Alaska fire departments

More than \$186,000 distributed to help bolster fire preparedness

(Anchorage, AK) – Forty rural fire departments in Alaska will be better equipped to fight both structure and wildland fires after receiving Volunteer Fire Assistance grants from the Alaska Division of Forestry (DOF).

DOF recently awarded more than \$186,000 to rural fire departments around the state to improve firefighting capabilities and enhance wildfire protection in the wildland-urban interface. Funding for the program was made available through the U.S. Forest Service as part of the federal Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program to help improve fire protection in inadequately protected areas.

Fire departments use the money to purchase items such as personal protective equipment, hoses, pumps, portable water tanks, tools and other resources used to help fight both structure and wildland fires. Local fire departments are critical in helping the Division of Forestry accomplish its mission of protecting Alaskans from wildfire, said DOF Wildland Fire & Aviation Chief Norm McDonald.

"This funding helps local fire departments better prepare and respond to both structure fires and wildfires in their communities," McDonald said. "We rely heavily on our local cooperators and these grants help those departments obtain resources they otherwise can't afford."

To qualify for the grants, fire departments must serve a population of 10,000 or less, be a registered fire department with the Alaska Division of Fire & Life Safety and provide a minimum of 10% non-federal matching funds. Nearly all of the fire departments receiving grants have cooperating agreements with DOF to help suppress wildfires in their service areas.

Fire departments could apply for up to \$5,000 in grant funds. The money received cannot be used for repair, construction or purchase of buildings, land acquisition, emergency medical equipment, computers or computer software and other specified items.

OR 22-064
RS 22-053
JM 22-121

DOF annually provides VFA grant funds to fire departments around Alaska. In 2021, state forestry awarded more than \$159,000 to 34 fire departments around the state.

The Tri-Valley Volunteer Fire Department in Healy received \$4,976 and will use some of that money to purchase a 5,000-gallon portable water tank which will be used in concert with a 4,500-gallon water tender to provide a continuous supply of water for both wildland and structure fires.

Girdwood Volunteer Fire & Rescue also plans to purchase a portable water tank and metal nozzles with some of the \$4,755.98 it received. Half of the department's service area does not have fire hydrants and the department does not currently have a portable water tank.

"Having a portable water tank and additional nozzles will expand our capacity to be prepared for an interface fire and strengthen our capacity to deploy as a Division of Forestry cooperator," the department wrote in its application.

Kachemak Emergency Service in Homer will use some of the \$4,981.50 grant it received to purchase three six-horsepower floating firefighting pumps.

"The portable floating pumps will allow us to use water supply sources in hard-to-get places where water resources are not easily accessible," the department stated in its application.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough's West Lakes Fire Service Area will purchase 21 100-foot sections of 1 ½ inch hose and 10 100-foot sections of 1-inch hose with a portion of the \$3,910.77 grant it received.

"Having more hose available ensures we can quickly respond to wildland emergencies," the department wrote in its application. "When we have multiple or big-scale wildland fires having more hose ensures our apparatus stay in service throughout the emergency."

CONTACT: Sarah Saarloos, Division of Forestry fire staff officer, (907) 301-0971, sarah.saarloos@alaska.gov

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OR 22-064
RS 22-053
IM 22-121

2022 VFA Awards

Fire Department	City	Amount
Delta Junction VFD	Delta Junction	\$4,454.59
Rural Deltana VFD	Delta Junction	\$5,000
McKinley VFD	Denali Park	\$4,599
Tri-Valley VFD	Healy	\$4,976
Chena Goldstream Fire & Rescue	Fairbanks	\$5,000
City of Anderson VFD	Anderson	\$5,000
Steese Area VFD	Fairbanks	\$5,000
North Pole FD	North Pole	\$5,000
Salcha Fire & Rescue	Salcha	\$4,297.50
North Star VFD	North Pole	\$4,431.60
Women's Bay VFD	Kodiak	\$4,170.95
Central Emergency Services	Soldotna	\$4,209.57
Cooper Landing VFD	Cooper Landing	\$4,968
Kachemak Emergency Services	Homer	\$4,981.50
Western Emergency Services Area	Anchor Point	\$5,000
Nikiski FD	Nikiski	\$4,406.40
Homer VFD	Homer	\$4,717.80
Kenai FD	Kenai	\$4,864.50
Seward FD	Seward	\$4,765.80
Lowell Point VFD	Seward	\$5,000
Houston FD	Houston	\$4,815
Caswell Lakes Fire Station #135	Wasilla	\$4,999.99
Girdwood Volunteer Fire & Rescue	Girdwood	\$4,755.98
West Lakes Fire Station Area	Wasilla	\$3,910.77
Willow VFD	Willow	\$4,999.99
Chickaloon Fire Service	Chickaloon	\$4,995
Palmer Fire & Rescue	Palmer	\$5,000
Talkeetna VFD	Talkeetna	\$5,000
Thorne Bay VFD	Thorne Bay	\$4,547.25
Sitka FD	Sitka	\$3,384
Gustavus VFD	Gustavus	\$3,946.14
Ketchikan International Airport FD	Ketchikan	\$5,000
Yakutat VFD	Yakutat	\$4,905.65
Tok VFD	Tok	\$2,496.59
Kennecott/McCarthy VFD	McCarthy	\$4,973
Gakona VFD	Gakona	\$4,905
Valdez FD	Valdez	\$4,499.99
GlennRich Fire & Rescue	Glennallen	\$5,000
Kenny Lake VFD	Copper Center	\$4,743
Total		\$186,091.32

OR 22-064
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IM 22-121