

The County of Yuba

Sheriff-Coroner



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Wendell Anderson, Sheriff-Coroner
Nicholas Morawcznski, Undersheriff

SUBJECT: Sheriff-Coroner: Approve purchase of Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Equipment Vehicle, and approve budget adjustment to complete the purchase (Five Minute Estimate)

DATE: January 9, 2024

NUMBER: 638/2023

Recommendation:

Approve the purchase of a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Equipment Vehicle, and approve budget adjustment to complete the purchase and set up of the vehicle.

Background:

The Yuba County Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Teams provide an emergency response to high-risk incidents that often require unique equipment for a variety of situations. These situations may include hostage rescues, barricaded suspects, and handling armed and dangerous individuals. To perform the necessary tasks a variety of tools and equipment are necessary to have on scene and prepared to deploy. To keep this equipment in an emergency deployment ready state, a dedicated vehicle is required that can not only transport the gear, but keep it secured when necessary and remain out of the elements during inclement weather.

SWAT teams require a wide range of specialized equipment, including firearms, body armor, tactical gear, breaching tools, and medical supplies. An equipment truck offers secure and organized storage for these items, ensuring that the team has immediate access to what they need.

The truck can serve as a mobile command center, providing a tactical advantage by serving as a centralized point for communication, coordination, and decision-making during high-stakes operations. The truck can act as a base for logistical support during prolonged operations. This includes provisions for team members, medical support, and the ability to rotate personnel as needed.

Having a well-equipped SWAT team, including a dedicated equipment truck, contributes to community safety by ensuring that law enforcement agencies are adequately prepared to handle extreme situations. This can act as a deterrent and provide reassurance to the public.

Discussion:

When collecting estimates for a vehicle that would accommodate the needs of the SWAT team it was found that the initial purchase price for a Ford F250 was more than \$80,000. The vehicle would then have to be equipped with a utility box that would secure the team’s equipment, and a box to do that was estimated to cost in excess of \$40,000 plus installation costs.

While shopping for the above-mentioned vehicle, a used 2010 Ford F550 was located that has extremely low miles (15,000) and has already been equipped for a technical rescue dive team attached to a fire department. The vehicle as equipped can transport all necessary gear in a safe and deployment-ready fashion. This vehicle, with the attached equipment box, far surpasses the quality of the quotes that were already obtained. If this vehicle were acquired it would serve as an immediate resolution to the need for a utility vehicle for the SWAT team, at a fraction of the cost for a new vehicle.

The original purchase price for this particular vehicle was over \$180,000. The estimated cost to the Yuba County Sheriff’s Office for the purchase and minor set-up of the used vehicle is \$75,000, representing a significant savings to the County.

Through the budget process, your Board approved \$40,000 in Measure K funding for the buildout of an Animal Care Services Ford F250 purchased last year. For a variety of reasons, said buildout will not be completed this fiscal year. The Sheriff’s Office would like to reallocate these funds to the purchase of the SWAT Equipment vehicle, and allocate an additional \$35,000 to come from Federal Asset Forfeiture funds in Trust Fund 205.

Committee Action:

None. This item is brought directly to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

Budget

Board Approved FY 2023-24 Budget Appropriation of \$40,000

Request for new appropriation in the total amount of \$35,000

Total Projected Cost

\$75,000

Source of Funds

\$40,000 Measure K

\$35,000 Operating Transfer In from Fund 205 Federal Asset Forfeiture

Attachments:

638/2023 Budget Adjustment