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Meeting Date: 09/09/25

Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – ARFF KovaCorp Crash Phones / Emergency Alert Notification System (KEANS)

Department: Augusta Regional Airport (AGS)

Presenter: Herbert L. Judon, Jr., Airport Executive Director

Caption: Augusta Regional Airport (AGS) – Motion to approve the sole-source contract for the purchase and installation of the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) KOVA Emergency Alert Notification System (KEANS) - Crash Phone

Background: Prompt and reliable emergency communication is critical for airport safety and regulatory compliance. FAA regulations require Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) crews to respond to airfield emergencies within three minutes. The Augusta Regional Airport's current emergency alerting system (crash phone) is aging and lacks the capabilities needed for upgrades and new emerging technology to meet the growing airport demands. Our current system still relies on underground copper phone lines that are unreliable, difficult to repair, and no longer supported by AT&T. Considering these factors, we have conducted market research and identified KOVA Corporation's Emergency Alert Notification System (KEANS) as the only solution that fully meets our operational requirements and future growth and expansion as the airport continues to grow. KEANS is a specialized, proprietary system tailored for airport use, FAA-approved, and already deployed in major U.S. airports, such as Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport. It offers capabilities not available in any off-the-shelf or competitive product.

Analysis: The KOVA Emergency Alert Notification System (KEANS) represents a mission-critical enhancement to Augusta Regional Airport's emergency communications capability. Unlike traditional call tree methods, KEANS provides immediate, simultaneous notification to multiple agencies and

departments, including Airport Marshals, ARFF, and Operations. This design enables responders to initiate action promptly, thereby enhancing overall response effectiveness. The system is fully customizable to align with the airport's established procedures. It offers advanced features, including automated repeat announcements, two-way mobile communication, SMS and email integration, recording and playback of all communications, and automated system health monitoring. Its modular architecture ensures long-term scalability to meet evolving operational needs.

KEANS is engineered for 24/7 reliability, operating on secure, dedicated hardware and private IP networks independent of the public telephone system. This structure guarantees continued operation during outages, network failures, or adverse weather conditions, ensuring that emergency alerts are transmitted without interruption. With the successful deployment in several major U.S. airports, KEANS has established itself as the industry standard, offering the only product with this level of integrated functionality and resilience. Given its proven performance, unique capabilities, and the absence of an equivalent alternative, sole-source procurement from KOVA Corp. is justified to ensure the safety and operational requirements of Augusta Regional Airport are met.

Financial Impact: N/A

Alternatives: N/A

Recommendation: Approve the sole-source contract for the purchase and installation of the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) KOVA Emergency Alert Notification System (KEANS) - Crash Phone

Funds are available in the following accounts: 551081221-5412110

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY: N/A