

STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 3, 2022

TO: City of Colusa Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Logan Conley, Fire Chief and Fernanda Vanetta, Grant Writer

AGENDA ITEM:

Subject: Rural Fire Capacity (RFC) Grant for 2022-23 Fiscal Year

Recommendation: Council to approve submission of grant on behalf of the City of Colusa Fire Department for approximately \$20,000 in funds to be used for the purchase of communication equipment and Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment.

BACKGROUND ANALYSIS: CAL FIRE is accepting application from fire departments in rural areas and communities with a population of 10,000 or less for awards under the Rural Fire Capacity Program of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.

The RFC Grant Program provides funding to organize, train, and equip fire departments in rural areas and rural communities to prevent and suppress fires. The award is also meant to help bring departments into compliance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1977 Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting.

Cost-share funds will be awarded to local governments to provide assistance to rural areas in upgrading their capability to organize, train, and equip local forces for fire protection. Awards will be limited to a minimum of \$500 and a projected maximum of \$20,000. Communications, for alarm systems and dispatch capabilities, should be considered an integral part of the rural fire department. Funds are available for the development and purchase of radio equipment for dispatching centers, vehicles and alert monitors, and pagers.

BUDGET IMPACT: Matching funds will be used from strike funds and so will have no impact on the General Fund budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Council to approve submission of grant application.