

Staff Report

Subject: Norfolk Southern Grant Acceptance
Author: Clint Hodges, Fire Chief & EMA Director
Department: 55-FIRE
Meeting Date: 01/16/2023
Item Description: Consideration to approve the acceptance of a grant from Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the acceptance of grant funding from Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Executive Summary/Background:

Norfolk Southern Railroad has a Safety First Grant program, with applications limited to \$15,000. Effingham County Fire Rescue applied for this grant to fund a UAS (Drone), and was selected. ECFR/EEMA has FAA Part 107 licensed pilots, so this UAS will open up additional response capabilities, while also enabling emergency personnel to survey large, hazardous scenes from a distance, before committing staffing and additional equipment.

No funding match is required.

Options/Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

Recommended: Approval to accept a grant from Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Other Alternative(s): Deny

Department Review: Fire-Rescue

Funding Source: N/A

Attachments: NS Grant Application