

**Staff Report****Subject: FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)****Author: Kathy Candler, Grants Coordinator****Department: County Manager****Meeting Date: 06/04/2024****Item Description:** This is a consideration for ECBOC to ratify and affirm the submission of a grant application to FEMA for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant.**Summary Recommendation:**

Staff requests approval for ECBOC to ratify and affirm the submission of a grant application to FEMA for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant.

**Executive Summary:**

Effingham County Fire Rescue submitted a grant application for the FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant funding to secure twelve additional firefighting positions. These essential positions aim to enhance our operational capacity to permanently staff an engine at Fire Station 3, transitioning from its current on-call status. Currently, the county boasts a network of 17 strategically situated fire stations, ensuring comprehensive coverage. However, only nine of these provide continuous 24-hour service.

**Background:**

1. The grant award amount is \$2,446,412.22.
2. There is no cost share or match for the FY 2023 SAFER Program.
3. The deadline date was April 12, 2024.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Annual Salary</b>	<b>Annual Benefits</b>	<b>Total per firefighter</b>
1	\$56,356.51	\$34,251.35	\$90,607.86
2	\$56,356.51	\$34,251.35	\$90,607.86
3	\$56,356.51	\$34,251.35	\$90,607.86
<b>3 YEAR TOTAL \$2,446,412.22</b>			

**Alternatives for the Commission to Consider:**

1. Approve ECBOC's ratification and affirmation of submitting a grant application to FEMA for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant.
2. Do not approve ECBOC ratifying and affirming the submission of a grant application to FEMA for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant.

### 3. Provide Staff with Direction

**Recommended Alternative:**

Staff recommends Alternative number 1

**Other Alternatives:**

N/A

**Department Review:** *(list departments)*

Effingham County Fire Rescue

**Funding Source:**

No cost share requirement