



## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

**FROM:** Blake Hayward – Fire Chief

**DATE OF MEETING:** October 02, 2023

**ITEM TITLE:** Transfer of Drone ownership

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### **DISCUSSION:**

Buchanan County Emergency Management is seeking ownership of our DJI Matrice 300 Drone Equipment. In talking with Rick Wulfekuhle & Chris Hare, they would take over ownership of the DJI Matrice 300 Drone and equipment and house it at the Buchanan County Annex Building once their addition is complete. They will add it to the County insurance policy and take over the maintenance. Independence Fire along with all public safety agencies in the County will still have access to it and it will still be able to be deployed if requested, it will just be deployed from BCEMA instead.

History on the drone program; back when we started our drone program it was a joint effort between Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, and EMA. When we wrote the grants, we had to have 1 sponsor agency to submit the grants under and Independence Fire chose to do that at that time. We received grants from Buchanan County Community Foundation, Black Hawk Gaming Association, Banklowa, and Alliance Pipeline. All funds were used to purchase our original drone. The current drone needs replacement batteries and with budget constraints we are currently unable to purchase the batteries at this time. BCEMA has a couple different funding options that they can use to purchase the needed batteries as well as have the staff to help maintain the equipment more efficiently.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends discussion of this topic. No action is needed at this meeting, as any decision items needed would be brought forward to a City Council meeting for approval.