

LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ITEM 18, FILE # 040371

JULY 15, 2004

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File # 040371 is a resolution relative to application, acceptance and funding of the Bioterrorism Grant – Focus B and E - Wisconsin's Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism.

Background

1. This resolution authorizes the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) to apply for, accept and fund the Bioterrorism Grant - Focus B and E - project from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control through the State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Human Services.
2. This continuing funding is part of a projected five-year grant. Based upon legislation in the U.S. Congress regarding homeland security, new financial resources have been created to fund existing, as well as new, efforts assigned to local agencies for defense against bioterrorism.

Discussion

1. The purpose of this grant project is to enhance local public health agencies' capacity to prepare and respond to bioterrorism. No funding of this nature is being made available to the private sector.
2. The grant funding primarily supports improvements to MHD's epidemiology and disease surveillance as well as improvements to laboratory capacity and analysis,
3. Interagency communication will be improved for the purpose of prompt identification of microbiologic agents and subsequent coordination in the event of a biological attack.
4. This grant will also assist in the development of laboratory standard operating procedures and enhance communication, systems and training between MHD, the Milwaukee Police and Fire Departments and the community emergency management network.
5. This grant provides for MHD laboratory improvements as well as the purchase of new analytical equipment, including electronic reporting.
6. This grant encompasses the period of January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

Fiscal Impact

1. The total amount of this grant is \$202,709, entirely from the grantor.
2. This grant will fund the following existing full-time MHD positions with salary and fringe:
 - 1 Epidemiologist, SG 009
 - 1 Telecommunications Analyst – Associate, SG 006 (partial)
4. Salary expenses represent 55% of the grant total.
5. 45% of the grant total, \$89,494, will be used for program supplies, travel, training and auto allowance, computers and software for the laboratory and communications' equipment including Blackberries with supporting phone service.

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LRB-Fiscal Review Section
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