



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. F
5/23/2023

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Resolution authorizing the sole source purchase of advanced helicopter training and equipment from Air Rescue Systems (SS24-C245003), estimated cost \$65,000, May 23, 2023 through May 22, 2024.

Purpose:

To authorize the sole source purchase of advanced helicopter training and equipment from Air Rescue Systems.

Background:

The Fire and Police Departments are working together to implement a helicopter rescue team. The team will consist of Police Department pilots and Fire Department rescue personnel. The Fire Department will be purchasing specific rescue equipment to enhance our ability to rescue residents during emergencies. There are many instances where rescues can be made safer, quicker, and more efficiently utilizing a helicopter. The Police Department's aircraft are equipped with provisions to allow us to use them for rescue operations.

Part of this project includes training pilots, crew chiefs and ground crew. Staff has researched and found that Air Rescue Systems (ARS) is the only Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certified Part 141 training school for long line and rescue training. Schools are specifically approved by the FAA to teach certain courses in a structured and organized way to ensure the highest level of student training possible. These courses are taught on a rigid schedule and at a fast pace. The FAA visits the school to inspect its facilities, personnel, course program, equipment, and overall safety. After the inspection is complete, the FAA will give final approval that the school has met its requirements and issue the school with a certificate allowing it to carry out high-quality flight training. ARS is also the only trainer to provide certified manufacturers training on the equipment that will be used during external loads and is the only vendor that will supply the needed equipment for the training. Therefore, staff requests approval to purchase this vital training from ARS.

ARS will train three pilots, three crew chiefs, and eight rescue specialists. ARS offers detailed, safety-oriented training in support of Initial Helicopter Short Haul for Insertion and Extraction for Rescue Missions. The training will take place in Oklahoma City in September 2023 using the Police helicopters and ARS will provide two instructors. The training includes one day didactic and one-half day static skills training and four and one-half days flight training for a total flight time of twenty-eight flight hours. The cost of \$38,500 for this specific training will be split between

Fire and Police Department FY24 funding. Equipment will be purchased with Fire Department FY23 funding to ensure delivery of equipment prior to training.

Staff requests Council approve the sole source purchase of advanced helicopter training and equipment from Air Rescue Systems (SS24-C245003), estimated cost \$65,000, May 23, 2023 through May 22, 2024.

Estimated Cost:

\$38,500 Training Cost, to be split between Fire Department and Police Department.

\$26,500 Equipment Cost – Fire Department

Source of Funds:

General Fund – General Operations – Fire Executive Leadership – Fire Purchasing – Employee Training (001-0001-4500101-11550-52049001) - \$19,250

General Fund – General Operations – Police Training – PD Helicopter – Employee Training (001-0001-4200841-11059-52049001) - \$19,250

Fire - Fire Sales Tax - Budget-Fire Department - Fire Other Tools & Equipment - Budget-Materials & Supplies (030-0150-450XXXX-11551-53000001) - \$26,500

Review:

Fire Department

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.