

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Approval of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Applications

DATE OF MEETING: October 25, 2022

Work
Session/Regular
Session

BUDGET IMPACT: \$1,839,820 - Fully reimbursed to Lowndes County (90% from FEMA and 10% from Pruitt Health Corporation)

FUNDING SOURCE:

- (X) FEMA HMGP
Funding:
\$1,655,838
- (X) Pruitt Health
Corporation:
\$183,982
- () N/A
- () SPLOST
- () TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Approval of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Applications

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: In August 2019, the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners authorized staff to submit applications under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for the installation of emergency backup generators on each of the five (5) long term care facilities (i.e. nursing homes) in Lowndes County owned by Pruitt Health Corporation. 2019 was the first year that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) allowed nursing homes to qualify for HMGP funding. The caveat was that the Board of Commissioners was required to serve as the applicant agent on their behalf. Lowndes County entered into an agreement to establish that Pruitt Health would be responsible for any matching funds required as part of the grant and any subsequent maintenance of the generators. Those original applications are still being reviewed by FEMA and no funding decision has been made. However, additional HMGP funds are available this year. Staff has worked with staff from Pruitt Health to obtain updated cost estimates for generators at each of the five facilities which are reflective of the price increases which have gone into effect since the original applications were submitted three years ago.

After consulting with staff from the Hazard Mitigation Division of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), staff recommends submitting new applications under the current round of HMGP funding. If the 2019 applications are approved, then the new applications will be withdrawn, but if the original applications are denied or do not receive approval before awards begin from this round of funding, Lowndes County and Pruitt Health will still have the opportunity to receive funding for these projects. An additional advantage of the current HMGP application process is that the cost share is split with FEMA providing 90% funding and the applicants only being required to provide 10% in matching funds. The original applications are funded using a 75% Federal and 25% local cost share formula.

- OPTIONS: 1. Authorize the Chairman to sign applications for HMGP funding and authorize staff to transmit them to GEMA for consideration.
2. Board's Pleasure.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Board's Pleasure

DEPARTMENT: Emergency Management

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Ashley Tye

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: