



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq.
Chief Deputy Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting

September 19, 2024

Members Present

Chief Craig Branch, Chair
Ed Macon (Proxy for Karl
Hade)
Ebony Clark
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.
Maria Jankowski
Russell "Rusty" McGuire
Sheriff Brian Hieatt

Members Absent

I. Call to Order

Chief Craig Branch called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM

II. Roll Call

Chief Branch asked Wendy Lohr Hopp to conduct the Roll Call. Wendy stated there was a quorum with six members present. Maria Jankowski also joined soon after the Roll Call. All members joined the meeting by electronic communication.

III. Introductions/ Opening Comments

Chief Branch officially welcomed guests and any agency dignitaries.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Chief Branch called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the May 30, 2024 meeting. A motion was made by Ed Macon to approve the minutes and was seconded by Sheriff Brian Hieatt.

V. Grant Review

- a. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Funding – Law Enforcement Division, Patrick Long**

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) funding is to support local Virginia CIT program training of behavioral health providers, law enforcement officials, and other public safety and public health system professionals. Virginia CIT will use ARPA funds to provide \$27,500 to each of the forty (40) local CIT programs. Funds will support CIT trainings, the CIT Virginia Conference, operating expenses, and information technology needs.

DCJS received one application from one eligible organization that will support all local CIT programs. DCJS staff reviewed the request for funding to ensure all requested expenses were allowable and the grant project is designated to serve the defined purpose.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund one award totaling \$1,300,000, with ARPA funds.

A motion was made by Rusty McGuire, seconded by Ebony Clark. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

b. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Regional Criminal Justice Training Academies (CJTA) – Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Tracy Matthews

Included in the State Budget for Fiscal Year 2023, was an allocation of \$75 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Department *“to make one-time grants to state and local law enforcement agencies located in the Commonwealth, including colleges and universities, local and regional jails, for the purpose of training and purchasing equipment and supplies to support law enforcement related activities, excluding equipment from which one-time equipment grants were appropriated from the General Assembly in item 406 chapter 552 of the 2021 Acts of the Assembly.* Of the amount provided, no less than \$60,000,000 shall be provided for the support of local law enforcement agencies.”*

Of the \$75,000,000, \$1,990,200 (2.65%) of total funding remains available to be obligated by the December 31st, 2024, deadline imposed by the United States Treasury. This total is comprised of both previously unallocated ARPA funding and unspent funding from the Law Enforcement Equipment and Technology grant programs, which featured a period of performance from 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2024. DCJS intends to repurpose the unspent funding along with the remainder of unallocated funding within the ARPA allocation to make one-time awards to the 11 regional criminal justice training academies for the training of law enforcement officers and other emergency personnel.

The methodology proposed to divide the \$1.99M of funding amongst the 11 training academies is identical to the general fund allocation methodology where funding has

been divided based on the number of officers each academy serves. Using this methodology ensures that academies who serve a greater number of officers receive a proportionally larger percentage of the available funds to handle the increased demand of their training programs. At the conclusion of the grant program, each academy will be required to report on the number of law enforcement officers and other emergency personnel that were trained for the period of performance.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 11 awards, totaling \$1,990,200, using federal ARPA funds.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

VI. Old Business

No Old Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VII. New Business

Chief Branch announced that Ed Macon has been appointed the Vice Chair of the Grants Committee.

VIII. Public Comment

No Public Comment was brought forth at this meeting.

IX. Announcements

Chief Branch announced that the next Grants Committee meeting will be held November 25, 2024.

X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 am. A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Sheriff Brian Heatt. The motion passed unanimously.

Recusals

Chief Craig Branch, Chair

- Application # 539039 – RACIT and RRCIT
- ARPA Regional Criminal Justice Training Academies – Rappahannock CJA