



M E M O R A N D U M
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Devon Bell, Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal
BY: Jerry Rogers, Administrative Services Manager
SUBJECT: HigherGround Capture911 Loggers

DATE: December 15, 2020

ACTION REQUESTED

1. Approve the purchase of three HigherGround Capture911 Loggers and associated hardware and software from AT&T Inc. Funding for these purchases in the total amount of \$231,830 is available within the Sheriff's FY 2020-21 Final Budget.
2. Authorize the Purchasing Manager to execute resulting purchase orders and related documents.

BACKGROUND

The Placer County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center utilizes an audio logger to record all incoming and outgoing phone lines, including 911 calls and non-emergency phone calls. In addition to calls, the system also records radio channels utilized by Dispatch to communicate with Sheriff's Deputies in the field, as well as Fire agencies. All recordings are retained in accordance with the law and provided to the District Attorney when requested for court cases, internal investigations, and specific Public Records Act requests.

A recent major system failure resulted in the logger's inability to record radio channels, as well as radio channels recording on top of one another, resulting in inaudible recordings. The Sheriff's Office has been working with Placer Telecommunications Division, which has put in place a series of temporary fixes to the current logger. The problem was resolved over the short term, but the recommendation was made to fully replace the logger as the system is unstable and will likely fail again. In addition to the recording issues, the logger will not be compatible with the Countywide Interoperable Radio System upon its next upgrade, which is scheduled in 2021. The cost of a new HigherGround Capture911 logger for the Dispatch Center is \$191,148, which includes maintenance costs of \$45,000 for 5 years.

In addition to the system utilized by the Dispatch Center, both the Auburn and South Placer Jail facilities utilize loggers to record all radio traffic. These systems are also outdated and are not supported by the vendor for maintenance or repair. The cost of a new HigherGround Capture911 logger for each jail facility is \$20,341, which includes maintenance costs of \$6,000 for 5 years for each system.

On October 27, 2020, the CEO provided your Board with a Quarter One Budget Update in which a request was made on behalf of the Sheriff's Office to approve supplemental funding in the amount of \$222,200 for the purchase of the new loggers, and to add the equipment to the Master Fixed Asset List. Since your Board approved this supplemental request, the revised quotes from the vendor total \$231,830; the Sheriff's Office will absorb the difference into the FY 2020-21 Final Budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for this purchase in the amount of \$231,830 is available within the Sheriff's FY 2020-21 Final Budget, including \$222,200 in the approved supplemental funding. There is no additional impact to the General Fund.

