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**Police
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Staff Report

ITEM NO. 4

To: Lemoore City Council
From: Kimberly Morrell, Chief of Police
Date: April 1, 2009
Subject: Recovery Act JAG Allocation

Discussion:

The Police Department is in the process of applying for the allocation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program. This formula uses the calculation of population and part one crime statistics. We are eligible to receive from the federal government a non competitive stimulus fund award of \$39,304. We are in the process of applying for this money. We are required to hold a public hearing on the use of the money at least one month prior to the application being submitted which the due date is May 18, 2009.

The award may be used for police equipment; we have not included any of the usual requests for equipment in our regular budget. There are several needs that we do not anticipate being funded the 2009/10 budget. A problem that is just surfacing is with the mobile computers. They will need to be fixed or replaced because the rails for the air cards are wearing out. The cost to replace the rails is approximately \$420 each while the cost to replace a mobile computer is approximately \$5,100. We currently have ten mobile computers. It would be approximately \$5,000 to replace the rails on all units and \$51,000 to replace the units themselves. The Police Department currently has six rifles which are shared by all patrol staff. We would like to increase this number to nine to cover times when we deploy more than six patrol units. The cost for three rifles would be approximately \$2,400. Any monies that are not used as listed above may be used for the SMART or Dispatch project.

If the City of Lemoore is considering cutting law enforcement position to save money due to reduction in General Fund Revenues (and not dip in the General Fund Reserves), this money may be used to off set and preserve a job. A bottom step police officer's salary and benefits total just over \$60,000 and this money will not cover a full officer position. However, if used for a position, this amount could (coupled with other resources) secure one position for one year.

Budget Impact:

The allocation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program from the federal government brings and additional \$39,304 in reserves for Police Department needs.

Recommendation:

That the Lemoore City Council open a public hearing and receive testimony on the use of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Byrne monies by the Police Department, the City Council authorizes the use of the funds to buy needed equipment for the Police Department that is authorized by City Manager in the next year.