

Agenda Item: 6.

Memorandum

To: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

From: John Winkler, General Manager

Date: April 2, 2015

Re: Cost Share Agreement with Omaha Fire Department for Search and Rescue Boat

The Omaha Fire Department currently has an active Water Rescue Program that responds to all types of water rescue incidents like ice rescue, flooding and general public safety events on area lakes, rivers, creeks and waterways.

In the last two years alone the Water Rescue Team has responded to forty-two life rescue incidents. In addition, the team assisted in the 2011 Missouri River Flood and the 2014 flooding in Northeast Omaha.

The Department has removed its primary portable rescue boat from service and is seeking a boat capable of responding to smaller waterways not accessible with the remaining Omaha Fire Department Fleet. The Rescue One Vessel desired is equivalent to four boats and is ideal for responses on lakes in the District (Chalco, Zorinsky, Walnut Creek, and Prairie Queen) and especially the Papillion Creek system.

In 2013 the District provided a \$20,000 cost share to the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office for the purchase of a safe and reliable replacement rescue boat for their department.

Per the attached letter the Omaha Fire Department is requesting a \$28,000 District cost share to assist in the purchase of a more durable and versatile rescue boat for their department. The Omaha Fire Department has agreed to display the NRD logo on the boat and to properly acknowledge the District's contribution in any communication regarding this watercraft and its operation.

Therefore, Management recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the Board of Directors that the General Manager be authorized to execute an Inter-local Agreement between Omaha Fire Department and the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District to provide a fifty (50) percent cost share in a not-to-exceed amount of \$28,000, for the purchase of a Search and Rescue Boat, with changes deemed necessary by the General Manager and approval as to form by District Legal Counsel.



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Jean Stothert, Mayor

Fire Department

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Bernard J. Kanger, Jr.
Fire Chief

March 12, 2015

Papio-Missouri Natural Resources District Board Members:

Thank you in advance for your time and considering this proposal on behalf of the Omaha Fire Department to purchase a new rescue boat for the Water Rescue Program.

The Omaha Fire Department currently has a fifty two member Water Rescue Program that can and will respond to all types of water rescue incidents including, but not limited to:

- swift water rescue
- ice rescue
- underwater rescue
- public safety events
- flooding
- property and body recoveries

The donation of a new rescue boat is vital to continue to provide the services mentioned and save the lives of citizens within the Papio-Missouri's Natural Resource District's boundaries.

The Omaha Fire Department's Water Rescue Team is the primary dive team and responds to all lakes, rivers and waterways within a 50 mile radius of the Omaha Metro Area. Attachment 1 provides a map of Omaha Fire Department's response area affecting Papio-Missouri Natural Resource District. Our Water Rescue Team has been in place since 2008. In the past two years we have responded to forty two life rescue incidents, six body recovery incidents, and seventeen property recovery incidents. We have assisted and provided safety plans for both the Missouri River flood in 2011 and rescue for the flood of Northeast Omaha in 2014. Our rescue team also provides public safety at events such as The Papillion Tri-athlon and the Omaha Tri-athlon.

The Omaha Fire Department's Water Rescue Program has relied heavily on donations for equipment and vehicles in an effort to provide this valuable life safety service to area residents. Due to our primary portable rescue boat's removal from service, I am seeking donations for a new, more versatile and durable boat to take its place. Although the Omaha Fire Department keeps a rescue boat on the Missouri River eleven months of the year, the fleet includes several vehicles capable of responding to tributaries and smaller waterways inland of the river. One of those vehicles needs to be replaced.

A donation from the Papio-Missouri NRD to purchase a new Rescue One Boat would equip the Omaha Fire Department with a boat capable of responding to smaller waterways not accessible with the remaining Omaha Fire Department Fleet. The Rescue One Boat is equivalent to four boats and is ideal for responses to lakes in the Papio-Missouri NRD including the Papio Creek, Lake Zorinsky and Chalco Hills. The proposed boat can be viewed at www.rescueoneboats.us. The cost of the boat is \$28,792, with an approximate \$28,000 needed for added operational equipment. An expense breakdown is included on attachment 2.

Thank you for taking the time to consider donating to the Omaha Fire Department. A partnership between the two agencies is beneficial to residents and visitors of the city and waterways of the Papio-Missouri Natural Resources District. I look forward to working with your board now and in the future.

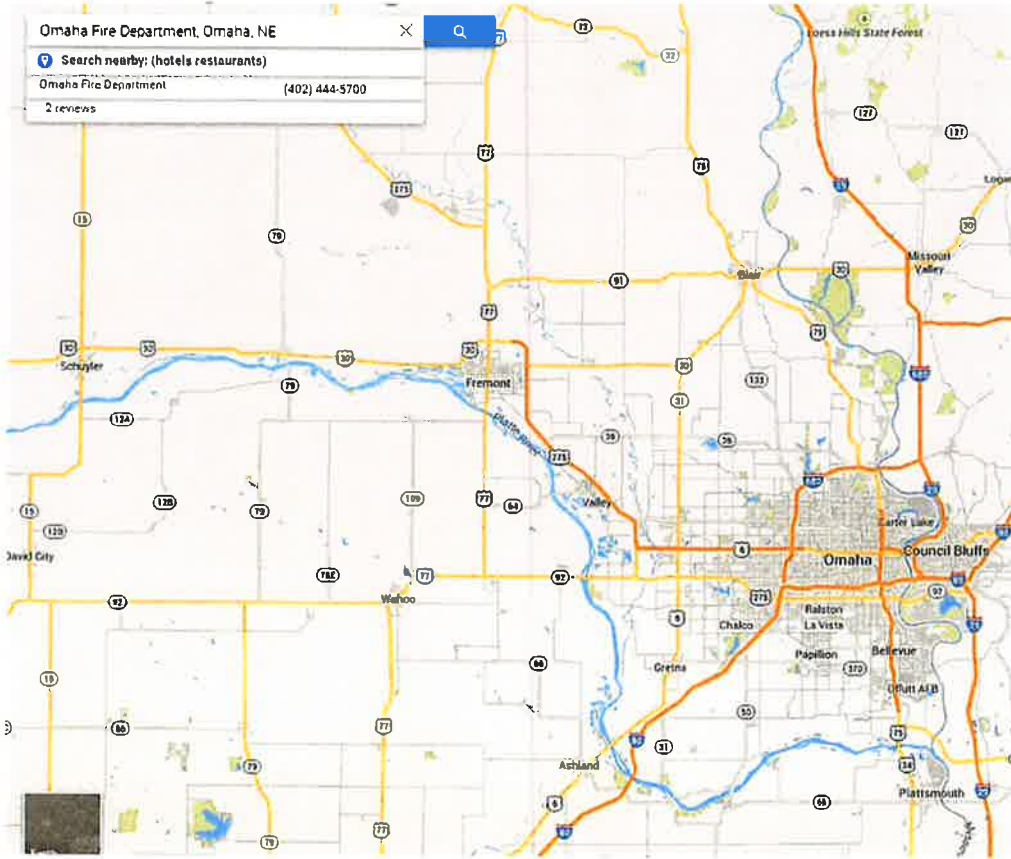
Respectfully,



Scott Alff

Omaha Fire Department
Special Operations Bureau

Attachment 1



Map depicting 50 mile radius from Omaha affecting Papio-Missouri NRD.

Attachment 2

Waterway	Event	Rescue Incident
Lake Zorinsky	X	X
Chalco	X	X
Lake Cunningham	X	X
Walnut Creek	X	X
Standing Bear		X
Papio Creek		X
Elkhorn River		X
Missouri River		X

Attachment 3

Item	Description	OFD Cost	NRD Cost
Rescue Boat	http://www.rescueoneboats.us/rescue-boat-resources.php		\$28,792
Mobile Radio	Motorolla	\$8,000	
Additional Equipment	Life jackets, body bags, ropes, air horn, high intensity search lights, mark buoys, evidence recovery tubes, push poles, bumpers, etc.	\$13,000	
Sonar	Garmin Side Scan Sonar	\$7000	
Maintenance	Lifetime maintenance and repair	Budgeted item	
	Total	\$28,000	\$28,792



The above image is a stock photo from <http://www.rescueoneboats.us/rescue-boat-resources.php>