



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

2x
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: December 15, 2020

Title of Item: 2020 Voting Equipment Grant

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing* <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>
Submitted by: Kirk Peysar, County Auditor		Department: Auditor
Presenter (Name and Title): Kirk Peysar, County Auditor		Estimated Time Needed:
Summary of Issue: Aitkin County was awarded \$35,093.39 toward the purchase of new election equipment. Request is to authorize signatures to the election equipment grant agreement with the MN Secretary of State.		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:		
Recommended Action/Motion: Authorize signatures to the grant agreement		
Financial Impact: Is there a cost associated with this request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ as attached Is this budgeted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i>		

0000197275

STATE OF MINNESOTA
2020 VOTING EQUIPMENT GRANT AGREEMENT (VEGA-2)

This grant agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") is made between the State of Minnesota, (hereinafter, "State") acting through its Secretary of State, 180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Saint Paul, MN 55155-1299 ("State") and Aitkin County, 307 2nd St. NW, Aitkin, MN 56431 ("Grantee").

Recitals

- 1 Under Minnesota Laws 2019, 1st Special Session, chapter 10, Article 1, section 6 and Minnesota Laws 2017, First Special Session, Chapter 4, Article 3, § 17, coded as Minnesota Statutes, § 206.95, the Grantee is empowered to apply for the funds requested in this Agreement, and submitted a grant application under subdivision 3 of that section prior to 4 P.M. Central Time on January 31, 2020, and the State is empowered to enter into this grant.
- 2 Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this Agreement to the satisfaction of the State and in accordance with all state laws authorizing this grant. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd. 1, the Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this grant.
- 3 The State is in need of assurance that Minnesota elections are conducted on modern voting equipment. Grantee is in need of funds to purchase optical scan counters, assistive voting devices, or electronic roster systems.
- 4 Grantee represents that it has insufficient resources to purchase these counters, devices or systems without the grant amount provided pursuant to this agreement.

Agreement

1 Effectiveness of Agreement

- 1.1 **Effective date:** February 28, 2020, or the date all required signatures, including those required by Minnesota Statutes, § 16B.98, Subd. 5, have been affixed to the agreement by Grantee and State, whichever is later. Per Minnesota Statutes, § 16B.98, Subd. 11, the grantee submitted and the State approved a work plan and budget. Per, Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 Subd. 7, no payments will be made to the Grantee until this grant agreement is fully approved and executed, and Grantee has been notified by the State's Authorized Representative that they are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement.
- 1.2 **Expiration date:** December 31, 2020, or when all funds applied for and provided to Grantee by State have been expended, whichever occurs first.
- 1.3 **Survival of Terms.** The following clauses survive the fulfillment of this grant agreement: 4. Conditions; 8. Liability; 9. State Audits; 10. Government Data Practices; 12. Property Insurance; 13. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and 14. Data Disclosure.

2 Grantee's Duties

- 2.1 **Activities.** The Grantee, who is not a state employee, will comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through Minn. Stat. § 16B.97, Subd. 4 (a) (1) and will use all funds provided as a result of this Agreement for the purchase of optical scan counters, assistive voting devices, or electronic roster systems in the manner described in this Agreement and as set forth in the Grant Application previously submitted by Grantee and attached hereto. As Chief County Election Official, the County Auditor or Election Director is responsible for fulfilling all requirements of Grantee under this agreement. Grantee will use the funds awarded only for the procurement of the voting equipment set forth in the Grant Application except as set forth in paragraph 2.4 of this Agreement.

Grantee is hereby awarded \$35,093.39¹⁰ for purchase of O.S. Counters/Assistive Voting Devices. Grantee must match this grant with \$35,093.39 of local funds.

Grantee will expend all funds granted by this Agreement as well as the required match pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, § 206.95, no later than December 31, 2020, or will return all unspent grant funds to the State by December 31, 2020, for potential redistribution.

2.2 Reporting Requirements. Grantee shall report to the State as specified in this Agreement.

- (1) **Progress Reporting.** Grantee shall submit, by December 31, 2020, a financial reporting form to the State utilizing the format identified by the State, stating the amount spent in calendar year 2020 for the

purchase of each kind of voting system, how many were purchased, and how much of the grant award remains to be spent, if any.

- (2) **Final Reporting.** Grantee will submit a final report, no later than December 31, 2020, or 30 days after the grant amount has been fully expended, whichever comes first, including all items listed in 2.2 (1) above as well as cancelled checks, invoices and paid bills, agreement and sub award documents, and records sufficient to detail history of procurements. These records must prove the total expenditure of the Grant Amount and the required total match pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, § 206.95, subdivision 4, or if less than all grant funds were expended, the total of the expended grant funds and the proportionate match required by Minnesota Statutes, § 206.95, subdivision 4.
- (3) **Other Requirements.** Subgrantee must maintain financial records for each grant sufficient to satisfy audit standards and must transmit those records to the secretary of state upon request of the secretary of state.
- (4) **Evaluation.** State shall have the authority, during the course of this grant period, to conduct an evaluation of the performance of Grantee.
- (5) **Requirement Changes.** State may modify or change all reporting forms at their discretion during the grant period.
- (6) **Special Requirements.** The State reserves the right to append to the Agreement terms, at any time before all grant funds have been expended, special administrative requirements deemed necessary to assure Grantee's successful implementation of the program. The State will notify the Grantee in writing of any special administrative requirements.

2.3 Accounting Requirements - Fiscal Control and Accounting Procedures.

Grantee's fiscal control and accounting procedures must be sufficient to:

- (a) Permit preparation of reports required by this Agreement,
- (b) Permit the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to determine that funds have not been used in violation of this agreement, and
- (c) Support accounting records through source documents, such as: cancelled checks, invoices and paid bills, agreement and sub award documents, and records sufficient to detail history of procurements.

2.4 Alterations in Spending Plan.

Grantee may not spend funds granted for electronic roster systems for other equipment, nor may Grantee spend funds granted for other than electronic roster systems on electronic roster systems.

Grantee may spend funds granted for the purchase of optical scan counters on assistive voting devices, and granted for the purchase of assistive voting devices on optical scan counters, or in either case for combinations thereof, if the change is reported in the next financial report due after the purchase.

3 Time

Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this Agreement. In the performance of matters funded pursuant to this Agreement, time is of the essence.

4 Consideration and Payment

4.1 **Consideration.** The State will make an award to Grantee under this Agreement as follows:

- (1) **Grant Award.** The Subgrantee will be awarded the amount listed for the Grantee in paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement.
- (2) **Total Obligation.** The total obligation of the State to Grantee under this grant agreement will not exceed the amount stated in paragraph 2.1 of this Agreement.

4.2 **Fiscal Requirements.** Grantee shall report to the State as provided by paragraph 2.2 of this Agreement.

- (1) **Financial Guidelines.** Grantee's eligible expenditures under this grant agreement must be specifically incurred by Grantee. Grantee will report on all expenditures pertaining to this grant agreement as provided in paragraph 2.2.
- (2) **Records.** Grantee shall retain all financial records for a minimum of six (6) years after the date of submission of the final financial report, or until completion of an audit which has commenced before the expiration of this six-year period, or until any audit findings and/or recommendations from prior audit(s) have been resolved

between the Grantee and State, whichever is later, and comply with all other Retention and access requirements for records provided in the jurisdiction's retention schedules.

4.3 **Payment Invoices.** State will pay the grant amount to an account of Grantee within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreement.

4.4 **Conditions.**

- (1) Payments under this Agreement will be made from funds appropriated by Minnesota Laws, 2019, 1st Special Session, Chapter 10, Article 1, section 6. Grantee is responsible for compliance with all requirements imposed on these funds and accepts full financial responsibility for any requirements imposed by the Grantee's failure to comply with statutory or grant agreement requirements.
- (2) Grant funds must be used only to increase the funds that would, in the absence of this grant, be made available for procurement of the equipment set forth in paragraph and operating expenses as defined by law.
- (3) Grantee assures that equipment to be acquired with these grant funds is required because Grantee has need of the equipment, and has insufficient funds for that purchase. Grantee also assures that equipment purchased with grant funds will be used for all elections as required by law. Grantee agrees that it will only purchase optical scan counters, or assisted voting devices, certified under M.S. 206.57, or electronic rosters that the jurisdiction determines meets requirements of M.S. 201.225.
- (4) Grantee, for five full years following the purchase of equipment with grant funds, may dispose of that equipment only after first offering the equipment to Minnesota jurisdictions using the same type of equipment. During that five year period, Grantee may only sell the equipment at or below a price equal to the amount of the funds initially expended by Grantee for the equipment purchase, excluding the grant made pursuant to this agreement. If the funds so expended, or any part thereof, were initially received from the Help America Vote Act, funds from the sale of the equipment must be returned to the jurisdiction's Help America Vote Act (HAVA) account and must be retained and expended only for the purposes of HAVA.

5 **Satisfaction**

All duties required and agreements or assurances provided by Grantee in this Agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations.

6 **Authorized Representative**

The State's Authorized Representative is David Maeda, Director of Elections, 180 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Saint Paul, MN 55155-1299, 651-556-0612, or his successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and compliance with this Agreement.

Grantee's Authorized Representative is Kirk Peysar, County Auditor, 307 2nd St. NW, Aitkin, MN 56431, kirk.peysar@co.aitkin.mn.us, 218-927-7354.

Grant payment will be made to:
Aitkin County
Federal ID Number: 41-6005749

Grantee must be registered as a vendor in the SWIFT system, or must provide a W-9 form with this executed agreement, in order for State to register Grantee in the SWIFT system.

If Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time before the funds provided for in this Agreement are fully expended, Grantee must immediately notify the State.

7 **Assignment Amendments, Waiver, and Grant Contract Complete**

7.1 **Assignment**

Grantee shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this grant contract without the prior

written consent of the State, approved by the same parties who executed and approved this grant contract, or their successors in office.

7.2 Amendments

Any amendments to this grant contract must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original grant contract, or their successors in office.

7.3 Waiver

If the State fails to enforce any provision of this grant contract, that failure does not waive the provision or the State's right to enforce it.

7.4 Grant Contract Complete

This grant contract contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and the Grantee. No other understanding regarding this grant contract, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

8 Liability

Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the expenditures of the funds provided by this Agreement by Grantee or Grantee's agents or employees.

9 State Audits

Under Minnesota Statutes, § 16C.05, subd. 5, and 16B.98, subd. 8, Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Agreement are subject to examination by the State and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this grant agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

10 Government Data Practices

Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, Ch. 13, as it applies to all data provided by the State under this Agreement, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by Grantee under this Agreement. The civil remedies of Minnesota Statutes, § 13.08 apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either Grantee or the State.

If Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Subgrantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

11 Workers' Compensation

Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, § 176.181, subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

12 Property and Casualty Insurance

Grantee is required to maintain a property and casualty insurance policy covering "All Risk" (or equivalent) of direct physical loss or damage, including, but not limited to, the perils of transit (if applicable), theft, and flood for the counters, devices or systems acquired using funds granted under the Agreement. The insurance limit shall be equal to the replacement cost of the election equipment. Any deductible shall be the sole responsibility of Grantee.

13 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this Agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

14 Data Disclosure

Under Minnesota Statutes, § 270.66, and other applicable law, Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security

number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring the Subgrantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any, or pay other state liabilities.

15 Termination.

The State may immediately terminate this grant contract with or without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee.

16 Grantee Procurement

Grantee certifies that it will use the procurement processes applicable in Grantee's jurisdiction in purchasing equipment with funds subject to this Agreement.

1. ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minnesota Statutes, §§ 16A.15 and 16C.05.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 7/13/2020

Grant Agreement No. 180056, PD 3196

3. STATE (Office of the Secretary of State)

By: [Signature]
(with delegated authority)

Title: Director of Elections

Date: 7/15/20

2. GRANTEE (Local Jurisdiction)

Grantee certifies that the appropriate person(s) have executed the grant agreement on behalf of Grantee as required by applicable resolutions or ordinances.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Distribution:

Grantee
State's Authorized Representative