



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Central Emergency Service Area

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

DAVID R. CAREY
BOROUGH MAYOR

THRU: David R. Carey, Borough Mayor *DKC*
Craig Chapman, Finance Director *BC*
Brenda Ahlberg, Community & Fiscal Projects Manager *BA*

FROM: Chris Mokracek, CES Fire Chief *CM*

DATE: June 23, 2011

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2011-19- 03 an ordinance accepting and appropriating a grant in the amount of \$423,742.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for staff recruitment and appropriating \$12,881.75 in the Central Emergency Service Area for the administrative fee

Central Emergency Services (CES) is committed to the health and safety of its firefighters and the service area residents it serves. CES continues to operate some fire stations with one firefighter on-duty 24/7. This is of serious concern to the CES Board and administration in regards to firefighter safety and public safety during an emergency. For example, at the Funny River Station a lone firefighter must wait 20 minutes or more while additional personnel respond from Soldotna to drive the ambulance or to assist in fighting a structure fire.

CES has applied for and received award notification through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Assistance to Firefighters, "Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response" grant. This grant has a two-year performance period ending June 4, 2013. It will pay the salary and benefits for three new firefighters for two years. The grant requires the service area to provide continued retention of these new employees for a third year at the borough's expense; otherwise, the borough will be liable for reimbursing Homeland Security for the grant funds.

Funds are available in the service area's fund balance to meet the 3.04 percent administrative fee. The Service Area Board met on March 19, 2011, and unanimously approved acceptance of this grant and renewed its commitment to increase staffing at single firefighter stations.

The CES Fire Chief shall provide grant oversight and project completion.

Attachment: DHS award letter

FINANCE DEPARTMENT FUNDS VERIFIED	
Acct. No.	<u>211.27900 FB</u>
Amount	<u>\$12,882.00</u>
UNABLE TO VERIFY estimated cost to KPB in FY2014 of approximately \$315,000.00 + PERS liability.	
By:	<u>CSW</u> Date: <u>6/23/11</u>