

PINELLAS COUNTY EMS WATER RESCUE GRANT PROGRAM

RESOLUTION 16- 69

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN EMS WATER RESCUE GRANT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR ITS CREATION AND PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR THE PROVISION OF FUNDING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING FOR WATER RESCUE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE ON A COUNTYWIDE BASIS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in order to provide Water Rescue services to the citizens and visitors of Pinellas County, it is essential to continue to improve and expand the capability, expertise and resources to handle situations where such emergency services are needed; and

WHEREAS, the fire rescue agencies respond to various waterborne emergency incidents; and

WHEREAS, the fire rescue agencies are all signatories to the automatic aid agreement among all of the fire rescue agencies within Pinellas County and respond without regard to jurisdictional boundaries when emergency calls are received; and

WHEREAS, the County, acting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, wishes to collaborate with such agencies to establish a countywide Water Rescue Grant Program that will support enhanced operations, maintenance, equipment and training through a two year plan including Fiscal Years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Services Authority through County staff and the partner agencies will continue to develop a long term comprehensive plan during this initial two year program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, ACTING AS THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (“AUTHORITY”), THAT:

SECTION 1. EMS WATER RESCUE PROGRAM.

- (a) Creation and Role. There is hereby created an EMS Water Rescue Grant Program to provide for the enhanced preparedness and response to waterborne medical emergencies and rescue situations through the support of a countywide program that provides funding support for operations, maintenance, equipment and training necessary to improve and expand the capacity and capability of the various fire rescue water rescue resources.
- (b) Purpose of Funding. In exchange for funding, equipment and training from Authority as outlined herein, the fire rescue agencies will make available water rescue resources and personnel, who are trained and equipped to respond to any Water Rescue incident to rescue patients and provide medical treatment throughout Pinellas County.

Water Rescue incidents include, but are not limited to, providing emergency response, medical aid, and search and rescue services operating in water, in all weather and all hazard environments in Pinellas County and its surrounding waters, including environments of extreme weather, flooding, debris, fire, entrapment, ejections from vessel and distressed swimmers.

- (c) Definitions. Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalized terms used herein shall have the following meanings ascribed to them:

“Dive Team” means personnel that provide dive, rescue, recovery and black water rescue services.

“Fire Rescue Boat” or “(FB)” means a specialized vessel that is designed for firefighting, emergency response, medical aid and search and rescue.

“Light Marine” or “(LM)” means a small, powerful and agile vessel such as a personal watercraft with a rescue sled that is used for rescues in many different environments.

“Marine Unit” or “(M)” means a specialized vessel such as a boat or inflatable that is designed to meet individual mission requirements such as emergency response, medical aid, and search and rescue.

“Rapid Diver System” means a fast donning, lightweight, all-inclusive scuba system to be used in place of traditional bulky scuba equipment.

- (d) Water Rescue Coordinators. Participating fire rescue agencies shall designate a named person to serve as a Water Rescue Coordinator to actively participate in the Water Rescue committee, assist with equipment and training needs assessment; assist in the coordination and participation of their individual agency.

SECTION 2. WATER RESCUE FUNDING AND SUPPORT.

- a) Supplemental Operating and Maintenance Funding. The Authority will provide supplemental operating and maintenance funding each fiscal year as indicated in Appendix "A".
- b) Equipment and Training. The Authority will provide equipment and training, which may include instructors and training materials, as described on Appendix "B", but shall not include funding for salaries for students to attend training. Other identified training or equipment needs will be met in the discretion of the Authority's executive director to the extent of budgeted available funds for such purposes.
- c) Term & Payment. This program shall be effective for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 fiscal years. Payments will be made in lump sum each fiscal year.
- d) Fiscal Non-Funding. In the event sufficient budgeted funds are not available in any fiscal period, the Authority shall notify the fire rescue agencies in writing within five (5) days of the determination of such occurrence.
- e) Not to Exceed Cap. Expenditures for 2015-2016 fiscal year shall not exceed \$150,000.00 and for 2016-2017 fiscal year shall not exceed \$300,000.00 for this program.
- f) Authority Assets. All assets purchased by the Authority shall remain the property of the Authority. Assets may be provided to fire rescue agencies for use through a "hand receipt" process. The Authority will maintain such equipment during the equipment's safe useful life.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Commissioner Welch offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Long, and upon role call the vote was:

Ayes: Justice, Long, Welch, Eggers, Gerard, and Seel.

Nays: None.

Absent and not voting: Morrioni.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: 
Office of the County Attorney

**APPENDIX A
OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**

Apparatus Type	Description and Function	Standardized Reimbursement
Dive Team	Search, Rescue and Recovery	\$15,000
Fire Rescue Boat	Boat capable of Firefighting and Rescue	\$10,000
Marine Unit	Boat or rigid hull inflatable boat	\$5,000
Light Marine Unit	Personal watercraft with rescue sled	\$1,000

Apparatus

Contractor	Light Marine Unit	Marine Unit	Fire Rescue Boat	Dive Team	FY15-16 Reimbursement
City of Clearwater	LM44 LM46 LM49	M45 M49	FB44	S51	\$38,000
City of Dunedin			FB60		\$10,000
City of Madeira Beach	LM25x2				\$2,000
City of Safety Harbor			FB52		\$10,000
City of Seminole		M29			\$5,000
Pinellas Suncoast Fire District		M27			\$5,000
City of St. Petersburg		M11 M15	FB11	DV11	\$35,000
City of Tarpon Springs			FB69		\$10,000
City of Treasure Island	LM24				\$1,000
Palm Harbor Fire District		M68			\$5,000
TOTAL					\$121,000

Apparatus

Contractor	Light Marine Unit	Marine Unit	Fire Rescue Boat	Dive Team	FY16-17 Reimbursement
City of Clearwater	LM44 LM46 LM49	M45 M49	FB44	S51	\$38,000
City of Dunedin			FB60		\$10,000
City of Madeira Beach	LM25x2				\$2,000
City of Safety Harbor			FB52		\$10,000
City of Seminole		M29			\$5,000
Pinellas Suncoast Fire District		M27			\$5,000
City of St. Petersburg		M11 M15	FB11	DV11	\$35,000
City of Tarpon Springs			FB69		\$10,000
City of Treasure Island	LM24				\$1,000
Palm Harbor Fire District		M67	FB68		\$15,000
TOTAL					\$131,000

**APPENDIX B
TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT PLAN**

FY 15/16 Equipment

Forward Looking Infrared Handheld Thermal Imagers
Forward Looking Infrared Thermal Night Vision Cameras
Rapid Diver System Equipment

FY 15/16 Training

Marine Firefighting for Land Based Firefighters Course
Search and Rescue Planner's Course

FY 16/17 Equipment

Rapid Diver System Equipment

FY 16-17 Training

Rapid Diver Training
Communications Exercise
Rescue Boat Operations Course
Search and Rescue Operations Course

Equipment will be provided to individual fire rescue agencies as determined by the Authority's executive director within the budgetary constraints of this Resolution.