

Proposal to Obtain Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Issue

In 2006 the fire department was awarded a grant for all new SCBA assemblies and bottles to outfit the department. At this time, we do not have these units on a replacement schedule but are looking to set this up as we have the turnout gear. We are looking to replace them on a 10-year rotation and would be opposite of the 5-year lease on the turnout gear, this will keep us in a proactive compliance situation. The units are typically good for 15 years and should be considered for replacement at that time due to new technology enhancements, wear and tear, along with hydrostat requirements and preventative maintenance. Many of our bottles and packs are now out of compliance and unable to be tested. We have also paid off the turnout gear lease so we are in a position to move forward with this rotation.

Proposal

Purchase all new SCBA units through a leasing program

Approval is being sought for the purchase new self-contained breathing apparatus. These assemblies include a harness, bottle and face piece in the unit cost along with pack tracking capabilities. We are seeking to purchase all new units consisting of 40 units, additional bottles for trade out on scenes and Rapid Intervention Team packs. We sought bids on these units for the two manufacturers that the department was interested in pursuing, they were close on price but the 5 Alarm quotation would take additional purchases in the future to have comparable capabilities of the Scott

Rationale

SCBA assemblies are a critical piece of firefighting equipment that necessitates compliance and a rotational replacement plan. By going with this replacement process this will set the department up on a proactive approach to set the turnout gear and SCBA assemblies offsetting. By being awarded the grant several years ago it enabled us to go a few years without having to worry about replacement but now the time has come that they have hit their end of life.

Cost

Total cost analysis

Scott – Vendor Hoosier Fire – 329,685.00 – Recommended Purchase

MSA - Vendor 5 Alarm – 328,621.98 (this includes only 3 lunar devices, where there would need to be additional purchases in the future for the rest of the packs for correct functionality usage.)

Summary

These necessary pieces of equipment have a predetermined life span due to their life safety utilization; we have reached that life span on many of our units. In addition to this, by replacing these units we will get back to a point where we are not out of compliance with regulations that are set forth by NFPA or OSHA. We feel that this is an effective plan and has been proven through its implementation in other areas.