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FIRE DEPARTMENT**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator
Jerry Ewers, Fire Chief

FROM: Mike Hartman, Assistant Fire Chief

DATE: March 18, 2013

SUBJECT: Request authorization to submit MHSF grant request

INTRODUCTION:

This is a request to apply for a grant through the Muscatine Health Support Foundation for equipment and communications upgrades for telemetry using cardiac monitors (including 12 lead EKG transmissions). The deadline for this grant application is April 10, 2013.

BACKGROUND:

The Muscatine Health Support Foundation (MHSF) offers grant submittals on a rotating basis. The Spring 2013 grant submittal period is presently open, and will conclude April 10th, 2013. This spring MHSF anticipates total grant funding to be in the \$100,000 range. The Muscatine Fire Department has been extremely successful in obtaining these grants. For this grant period the department is seeking to improve the cardiac monitor and 12 lead EKG transmission capabilities. The upgrades will include replacement of the present modems on the machines themselves and set the groundwork for the transition from a machine-based to a mobile hot spot-based transmission. This will allow the department to decrease the number of communication points and result in a decrease of recurring costs. The upgrade will allow for better integration of newer cellular technology. Other ambulance services presently use this type of system, and it should provide for better data transmission. The cost for the upgrade is \$5200, with no match needed from the City.

RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:

We are requesting that City Council authorize the Muscatine Fire Department to fill out a grant application and submit it to the MHSF for upgrading the present data transmission system for the all of the cardiac monitors presently used by the Department. The grant amount will be \$5200 and does not require a City match.