

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2008**

The Health & Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 3:25 p.m. Mr. Carrigg, Committee Chairman presided.

Members Attending:

John W. Carrigg, Jr., Chairman

Debra B. Debbie Summers

William C. Billy Derrick

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, V Chairman

Bobby C. Keisler

Absent:

*William B. Banning, Sr.

*Mr. Banning was not present during the meeting.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

2006 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) - Buffer Zone Protection Plan (Goal 1) - Public Safety/Emergency Management - Maj. George Brothers – The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division has awarded the Lexington County Sheriff's Department \$256,000 for the 2006 State Homeland Security - Buffer Zone Protection Plan Grant Program. The grant requires no County match. The grant will allow the County to purchase equipment necessary to complete the vulnerability reduction plan under the Federal Buffer Zone Protection Plan. The equipment includes night vision goggles, thermal imaging cameras, portable repeater, CCTV system, binoculars and a vessel barrier to secure and monitor facilities. These items have been approved by the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

A motion was made by Mr. Keisler, seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat to recommend to full Council to approve the acceptance of the 2006 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) - Buffer Zone Protection Plan Grant Program grant award.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program (FEMA Grant) Application Update (Goals 1,3) - Chief Bruce Rucker, Assistant Sheriff/Director of Public Safety & Homeland Security – Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator, gave an update on the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)

Program (FEMA Grant) application. She indicated this would be a unique partnership with FEMA and the South Carolina Department of Emergency Management Division (EMD) to assist with the County's new communication center and EOC, more specifically, the hardening of the structure. The architect's contract is with The Center for Public Safety Research and Planning located in Florida. The architect recommended the County seek assistance of up to \$2,349,000 worth of hardening cost which approximately 75% would be funded by FEMA. The request would be submitted to EMD then forwarded to FEMA. If full funding is received for hardening, then it will be evaluated to see how it impacts the project and the County would have the architects proceed. If part or no funding is received, then the architects would be asked to reevaluate their design. Staff requested approval to proceed with the submittal of the application to the State.

A motion was made by Mr. Derrick, seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat to recommend to full Council to approve staff's request to move forward with the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program (FEMA Grant) Application.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Old Business/New Business – None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

John W. Carrigg, Jr.
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk