

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Hazardous Materials)
Training Grant Program Award.) Case No. 15-1003-TR-UNC

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) R.C. 4923.99 provides for the Commission to assess civil forfeitures for violations of R.C. Chapters 4921 and 4923, and rules adopted thereunder. R.C. 4921.21(B)(2) provides that the first \$800,000 in civil forfeitures collected under R.C. 4923.99 for violations of rules applicable to the highway transportation of hazardous materials shall be credited to the public utilities transportation safety fund. This section also sets forth the manner in which such funds shall be distributed by the Commission for the purposes of emergency response planning.
- (2) Under R.C. 4921.21(B)(2), 50 percent of such funds are distributed to Cleveland State University for its training program for public safety and emergency services personnel in proper techniques for the management of hazardous materials releases that occur during transportation or otherwise. The remainder is distributed to other educational institutions, regional planning commissions, state agencies, and political subdivisions that have training programs for public safety and emergency services personnel in proper techniques for the management of hazardous materials releases that occur during transportation or otherwise.
- (3) Historically, entities interested in receiving grants from the fund have submitted applications to the Commission. Information regarding the grant program and application materials is provided on the Commission's website. All requests are reviewed by a committee of staff members including the director of the transportation department, and representatives from the enforcement and compliance

divisions of the transportation department. Priority is given to counties that had not previously received grant funds, county training needs that are unique because of specific hazardous materials issues, train-the-trainer courses, and joint applications by counties or agencies. Applications are denied and/or modified after committee review, if it is determined that the applicant requested funding for equipment that is not essential for training purposes, courses that are not sufficiently related to the transportation of hazardous materials, and/or courses that involve unnecessary out-of-state travel when a comparable in-state course is available. These determinations are made pursuant to course descriptions and additional literature provided by the applicant and the course instructor.

- (4) During this grant cycle, five applicants submitted grant requests. Based upon the above criterion, Staff recommends that all five applicants be awarded grants in the amounts indicated in the Attachment to this Finding and Order. Since grant requests exceeded available funding during this grant cycle, Staff recommends that all applicants be awarded course, manual, and facility costs associated with their grant requests. These grants are to be made on a reimbursement basis, i.e., applicants will be reimbursed up to the dollar amount awarded, for expenses incurred in implementing their hazardous materials response training programs after submission by the applicant of the documentation for those expenses. The total amount of the recommended grants is approximately \$39,193. The grants awarded will potentially train over 400 hazardous materials incident response professionals.
- (5) The Commission finds that the applications for hazardous materials training grants are reasonable and should be awarded as recommended by Staff. Accordingly, Staff should award the training grants on a reimbursement basis to the selected applicants as set forth in this Finding and Order and in the Attachment.


It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That, pursuant to R.C. 4921.21(B)(2), the hazardous materials training grants described in this Finding and Order be awarded to the applicants in the amounts set forth in the Attachment. It is, further

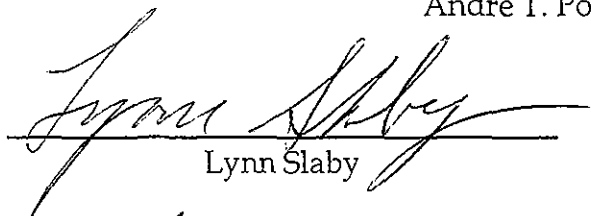
ORDERED, That the grants be distributed on a reimbursement basis as set forth in the Attachment to this Finding and Order. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon each of the applicants identified in the Attachment.

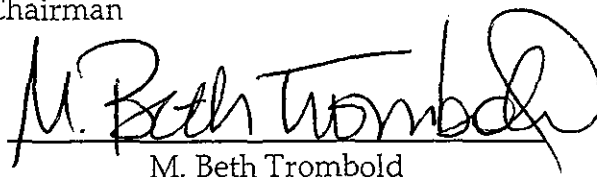
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



Andre T. Porter, Chairman



Lynn Slaby



M. Beth Trombold



Asim Z. Haque



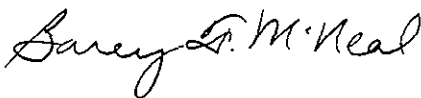
Thomas W. Johnson

JST/js

Attachment

Entered in the Journal

JUN 03 2015



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary

ATTACHMENT

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING GRANTS

June 2015

Due to the popularity of the Hazardous Materials Training and Planning Grant Program during this grant cycle, grant requests exceeded available funding. Staff recommends that all applicants be awarded only course, manual, and facility costs associated with the grant requests. This allows all applicants to provide necessary emergency response training in the areas served.

1) Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council

Franklin County

The Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) requests grant funding to conduct the Local Emergency Planning Committee Hazardous Materials Functional Exercise to implement and review Franklin County's Hazardous Material Plan. The exercise presents a realistic emergency scenario that engages first response personnel. Central Ohio responders will be involved in the design and execution of the exercise. The exercise will assist CEPAC in coordinating several agencies to streamline emergency response. CEPAC requests a grant for \$20,000 for this exercise.

The Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council is awarded partial exercise design and implementation costs of \$18,893.11.

2) Cumberland Trail Fire District #4

Belmont County

The Cumberland Trail Fire District requests grant funding towards conducting the 8 hour Hazmat IQ First Responder Offensive course. The course will be offered by Federal Resources and will be conducted at a training facility in Belmont County. The course would train approximately 45 fire service responders. The Cumberland Trail Fire District requests a grant for \$7,450 for the instructional costs of conducting the course.

The Cumberland Trail Fire District #4 is awarded instructional costs of \$7,450.

3) Dayton Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team

Montgomery/Greene County

The Dayton Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team requests grant funding towards conducting the Confidence in the Hot Zone Workshop course. There will be three sessions offered to fire service, law enforcement, EMS and emergency managers in these counties. The course will be provided by Safe Transportation Safety Specialists and will train approximately 90 responders. The grantee is contributing \$10,099 to course expenses. The Dayton Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team requests a grant for \$2,600 for conducting the course.

The Dayton Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team is awarded instructional and training manual costs of \$2,600.

4) Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency

Fairfield County

The Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency requests grant funding towards conducting Hazmat IQ Above the Line/Below the Line training. There will be two sessions of the course offered at two locations within Fairfield County. The course will be presented by Federal Resources and will train approximately 60 fire service responders. The Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency requests a grant for \$5,950 for the costs of conducting the course.

The Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency is awarded instructional costs of \$5,950.

5) Shawnee Township Fire Department

Allen County

The Shawnee Township Fire Department requests grant funding towards sending fire service responders to the XTREME Industrial Fire & Hazard Training program offered by Williams Fire and Hazard Control. The grantee is contributing \$2,000 towards travel and lodging expenses of the course. The Shawnee Township Fire Department requests a grant for \$4,300 for the instructional costs of attending the course.

The Shawnee Township Fire Department is awarded instructional costs of \$4,300.