

**Item Title:** Authorize and Accept Grants for CCBI Crime Lab

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners:**

- 1. Approves the NC Governor's Local Governmental Resolution and Agreement Conditions; and**
- 2. Accepts NC Governor Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant awards totaling \$466,046.**
- 3. Appropriates \$410,000 in funding for the purchase of a Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometer in the Criminal Justice Element of the County Capital Fund as part of the NC Governor Highway Safety Program (GHSP) Grant awards.**
- 4. Appropriates \$168,138 in FY 2019 personnel funding and associated supply & equipment costs for two Forensic Chemist positions in the Grants and Donations Fund.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners accepts and appropriates grant awards to County departments. These grant awards support the City-County Bureau of Identification's (CCBI) DWI Blood Chemistry lab and requires the Board of Commissioners to authorize the attached Local Government Resolutions.

**Background:** CCBI's DWI Blood Chemistry Unit is part of the Crime Laboratory division, which provides impression evidence analysis, blood alcohol and drug analysis, and digital evidence analysis. In 2018 CCBI applied for GHSP Grant funds to support the CCBI DWI Blood Chemistry Laboratory. GHSP has approved a grant application of \$410,000 to purchase equipment to increase the lab's capabilities in testing blood for impairing drugs in DWI cases.

Additionally, GHSP approved a grant application of \$56,046 to partially fund two Forensic Chemist positions and supplies/equipment. This grant award represents a 5<sup>th</sup> year of GHSP funding for the chemist positions. The grant was originally scheduled to end in FY 2019.

Approval and award of final grant funds will be made in September 2018, once the agreement is finalized.

**Board Goal:** This action supports Wake County operations and does not relate to a specific board initiative.

Fiscal Impact: The County will receive two GHSP grant awards, including \$410,000 to purchase Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometer. No matching funds from the County are required for this grant award.

The second grant award of \$56,046 requires matching Wake County funds of \$168,138 over the performance period of the grant (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019). Funding for the County's match for the Forensic Chemist positions and costs is available in the FY 2019 Adopted Budget.

### **Additional Information:**

#### **\$410,000 NC Governor Highway Safety Program Grant for Purchase of Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometer**

The DWI Blood Chemistry Unit of the CCBI Crime Laboratory currently utilizes gas chromatograph / mass spectrometers (GC/MS) to identify drugs in blood samples seized from drivers charged with impaired driving. GC/MS technology is limited in its ability to detect certain drugs in blood. The purchase of a liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer mass spectrometer (LC/MS/MS) will reduce analysis time for drugs and expand the capabilities of the CCBI DWI Blood Chemistry Unit to identify drugs in blood samples.

The County will receive a GHSP grant award for the purchase of this equipment. No matching funds from the County are required for this grant award.

#### **\$56,046 NC Governor Highway Safety Program Grant for fifth-year funding of two Forensic Chemists and supplies/equipment**

From September 2012 to December 2017, CCBI's DWI Blood Chemistry Unit received 3,742 blood samples seized from impaired drivers to be analyzed for impairing substances. Approximately 40% of these submissions requested an analysis for the presence of impairing drugs.

Support of the Forensic Chemist positions and equipment will continue what originally was to be a four-year grant awarded in FY 2015. Under the grant schedule (on the following page), the County began funding a portion of the DWI lab costs in FY 2016, with the County's funding share increasing each year. The County's 75% match will be funded out of the nine months of personnel and supply costs the County expected to incur when the grant was originally expected to end on October 1, 2018. This funding is being transferred from the General Fund to the Grants and Donations Fund. The additional year of funding will extend the GHSP grant funding through September 30, 2019. Once the grant funding ends, it is the County's intention to continue to permanently fund the two Forensic Chemist positions with the County incurring 100% of the cost in the General Fund.

The total amount of expenditures in the grant program are anticipated to be \$224,184 during the performance period of the grant from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

During this 12-month period, Wake County's 75% match responsibility will be \$168,138 and the total anticipated reimbursement from the GHSP grant award will be \$56,046.

Chemist GHSP Grant Program Summary			
Award Year	GHSP Funding	Wake County	Total Funding
2015	\$356,180 (100%)	\$0 (0%)	\$356,180
2016	\$192,600 (85%)	\$33,988 (15%)	\$226,588
2017	\$161,357 (70%)	\$69,153 (30%)	\$230,510
2018	\$121,194 (50%)	\$121,194 (50%)	\$242,388
2019	\$56,046 (25%)	\$168,138 (75%)	\$224,184

Due to the grant program's October 1, 2018 start date, only nine months of the grant funding will be expended during FY 2019, with the remaining three months of the grant program to take place during FY 2020.

The charts below detail how the total anticipated expenditures of the grant program will be appropriated during the 12-month period that crosses over the FY 2019 and FY 2020 fiscal years. The requested action in this item (Action #4) is to appropriate the \$168,138 of personnel and supply costs that will be incurred during FY 2019 (a nine-month period). The remaining three months of expenditures will take place during FY 2020 and will be budgeted for during the FY 2020 budget process.

FY 2019 Chemist GHSP Grant Summary (Nine Months)			
Fiscal Year	GHSP Funding	Wake County	Total Funding
2019	\$42,035 (25%)	\$126,103 (75%)	\$168,138

  

FY 2020 Chemist GHSP Grant Summary (Three Months)			
Fiscal Year	GHSP Funding	Wake County	Total Funding
2020	\$14,011 (25%)	\$42,035 (75%)	\$56,046

**Attachments:**

1. North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program Local Governmental Resolution - \$410,000 Award
2. North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program Local Governmental Resolution - \$56,046 Award
3. North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program Agreement of Conditions
4. Budget Memo – Grants and Donations Fund
5. Budget Memo – County Capital – Criminal Justice Element