

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Network Upgrade

DATE: May 4, 2021

(X) RECOMMENDATION

() POLICY DISCUSSION

BUDGET INFORMATION:

() STATUS REPORT

ANNUAL- N/A

() OTHER

CAPITAL- \$38,381.04

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: May 17, 2021

PURPOSE:

To seek Commission approval for the upgrade/replacement of network switches located at E911, Sheriff's Office and the Landfill. Funding for this solution was allocated and approved in the FY 2021 CIP budget for Information Technology in the amount of \$40,000. The total cost for this replacement will be \$38,381.04.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

The purpose of the request is to replace network switches located at E911, Sheriff's Office and the Landfill, which are end-of-life, difficult and expensive to maintain, subject to failure, and vulnerable to cyber-attack. Habersham County depends on the availability of the network to provide vital services to our community. When the network is down, virtually all county services come to a standstill, or are severely disrupted.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

It is our request to replace our existing network equipment at the locations mentioned above with new Layer 3 network switches. We are requesting new switches for several important reasons. They are based on a modern technology that makes them easy to support and maintain. For example, updates are provided automatically with no need to schedule maintenance downtime, so our network will remain secure and up to date with the latest software.

- Existing network switches are end of life and no longer receive support or firmware updates.
 - Several ports on the existing switches are no longer operational.
 - Replacement switches provide visibility into network activity allowing us to better control who is on the network and what they are doing.
 - The Cisco partner engaged at Habersham County is Disys Solutions, Inc. (DSI), a leading network engineering company in the government and education market. DSI engineers worked with us to design a solution appropriate for our environment, including the ability to phase the implementation as budget allows.
 - Having a modern, reliable, and robust network will help ensure the continuity of technology enabled services that make our county run. Having an easy to support network would free our small information technology staff to respond to the many requests of our administration and department employees.
 - All equipment includes a 5-year Enterprise license for support and maintenance.
 - Solution will be purchased off of the Georgia Statewide Contract #: 99999-SPD-T20120501-0006 Cisco (Networking Equipment). Disys is an authorized reseller on this contract.
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OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve replacement and installation of network switches at E911, Sheriff's Office and the Landfill.
 - 2) Deny replacement of network switches at E911, Sheriff's Office and the Landfill.
 - 3) Commission defined alternative.
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RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:

I move to approve the replacement of network switches at E911, Sheriff's Office and the Landfill.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Tracy Williamson

Director: Information Technology Director _____

ADMINISTRATIVE

COMMENTS: _____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager
