

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Wireless Network Upgrade/Replacement

DATE: January 7, 2022

(X) RECOMMENDATION

() POLICY DISCUSSION

BUDGET INFORMATION:

() STATUS REPORT

ANNUAL- N/A

() OTHER

CAPITAL- \$45,000

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: January 20, 2022

PURPOSE:

To seek Commission approval for the upgrade/replacement of our county-wide wireless network. Funding for this solution was approved in the FY22 CIP budget for Information Technology in the amount of \$45,000.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

The purpose of the request is to upgrade/replace our existing county-wide wireless network.

Our current wireless solution is 6-7 years old and does not meet current Wi-Fi standards. This system is end-of-life and can no longer receive security or firmware updates, making it more susceptible to cyber security threats.

We currently have a total of (51) indoor wireless access points strategically placed throughout our facilities, county-wide.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

It is our request to replace existing wireless network equipment at all County facility locations with an enterprise-grade line of cloud-managed WLAN access points using advanced Wi-Fi 6 technologies. We are requesting this new wireless solution for several important reasons:

- Existing wireless controller and wireless access points are end of life and no longer receive support or firmware updates.
 - Proposed solution is based on 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.
 - Provides us with the ability to deploy a Guest Pass system for our patrons and offers better insight into the BYOD on the network using layer 7 client fingerprinting.
 - New solution will provide visibility into network activity allowing us to better control who is on the network and what they are doing.
 - Newer wireless access points will be more secure, have better throughput, and meet specifications of the latest mobile devices.
 - Our wireless network is very popular and widely used by all departments and patrons throughout the county. At times we have seen over 200 connected devices on the wireless network in one day.
 - All equipment includes a 5-year Enterprise license for support and maintenance. 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.
 - 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 wireless network upgrade/replacement purchase request with DSI.
 - 2) Deny wireless network upgrade/replacement purchase request with DSI.
 - 3) Commission defined alternative.
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RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:

I move to approve the wireless network upgrade/replacement purchase request with DSI.

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Tracy Williamson

Director: Information Technology Director _____

ADMINISTRATIVE

COMMENTS: _____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager
