HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: FY24 Storage / Compute / Infrastructure Replacement Project

DATE: April 15, 2024	**(X) RECOMMENDATION**
	( ) POLICY DISCUSSION
BUDGET INFORMATION:	**( ) STATUS REPORT**
ANNUAL- N/A	**( ) OTHER**
CAPITAL- **$138,867.43**	

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: April 15, 2024

PURPOSE: To seek Commission approval for the purchase of a new hyperconverged solution combining storage, compute and virtualization into a single appliance. Appliances will be purchased for the SO and Courthouse. This was Approved in the FY2024 CIP, however, the costs have increased since those quotes were approved in the Budget. We have worked with the Finance Department and have identified the additional funding without having to request additional funds for this project. Funding sources for this project will be as follows: IT CIP FY24 Project - $80,000 data storage, recommend moving the $22,000 budgeted for the FOIA & Public Records Request Software project approved in the FY24 IT CIP budget to this project as that Software project will no longer be needed. In addition, we recommend using unused funds from the Courtroom Upgrade Project in the amount of $36,867.43 to complete this Storage & Infrastructure project purchase. The total cost for the replacement of this equipment will be $138,867.43.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY: The County's data storage and computer resources continue to grow. Our existing storage appliance was purchased in October 2019 and is nearing full capacity. In addition to our storage needs, our physical servers and virtualization platform are also at the end of their useful life. In the past, we have gone with the traditional client-server architecture with directly attached and networked storage. Due to the increased cost of the new VMWare subscription model, we can no longer justify the use of this virtualization platform. FY24 costs for the VMWare subscription licensing came in at over $50K a year. This is a 525% increase from FY23. This project will allow us to modernize our aging infrastructure with a solution that will offer us high availability, redundancy, and is scalable, affordable and easy to use.

FACTS AND ISSUES:
- This solution will replace 4 servers, VMware and will provide adequate storage at these locations for 3-5 years. We will use a rolling replacement schedule, purchasing one node for each cluster every 3 years, keeping our operational and capital costs down year over year.
- 3 nodes will be installed at the Courthouse and 3 nodes to be installed at the SO. Operations will be optimized with a self-healing platform automatically identifies, mitigates, and corrects infrastructure problems in real-time, enabling applications to achieve maximum uptime.
- Hyperconverged infrastructure reduces operational costs with a tightly-integrated hardware and software solution that eliminates the complexities associated with networking, purpose-built storage, and complex planning. Staff can monitor and manage the compute and storage resources in less time, freeing personal to focus on other strategic priorities.
- Migration costs from the existing solution to the new hyperconverged solution are included. VMWare Rip & Replace Promo has been applied to the total cost saving us 25% on software and services.
- 5-year license for software and hardware maintenance and support are included in the total cost.
- Solution to be purchased off of the Omnia Partners - IT Solutions, Contract #: 2018011-02 purchasing contract.

OPTIONS:
1) Approve the purchase of the hyperconverged solution for the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office.
2) Deny the purchase of the hyperconverged solution for the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office.
3) Commission defined alternative.

RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:
I move to approve the purchase of the hyperconverged solution for the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office.

DEPARTMENT:
Prepared by: Tracy Williamson
Director: Information Technology Director_____

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS: _____

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County Manager   **DATE:** _____