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TO: Budget Committee & Goodhue County Board Commissioners

FROM: Kristine Holst, Financial Manager
Earl Merchlewitz, Emergency Management Director

DATE: January 9, 2025

RE: 2025 Out of State Travel Request – Emergency Management

The National Emergency Management Basic Academy, located in Emmitsburg, Maryland, offers training for local emergency managers through classroom instruction and discussion with peers from across the country. Mallore McCarty has completed four out of the five required courses. Upon finishing the final course, E0101: Foundations of Emergency Management, she will fulfill the compliance requirements for the EMPG (Emergency Management Preparedness Grant) that our county utilizes.

Lodging and travel costs will be covered by DHS (the Department of Homeland Security). The only cost is a meal plan ticket for the week, which is approximately \$300. This cost will be covered by the REP (Radiological Emergency Preparedness) grant.

The National Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Conference is scheduled from April 21, 2025, to April 24, 2025, at the Le Meridien Resort & Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. More information about the National REP can be found at <https://nationalrep.org/events/>.

Earl Merchlewitz plans to attend the conference alongside other regional and state REP partners. The conference will offer several days of educational sessions focused on Radiological Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management, as well as networking opportunities to enhance emergency preparedness in Goodhue County.

The total cost to attend this training conference, including registration, lodging, airfare and meals is \$2,050 and will be funded by the 2025 REP grant.

Recommendation:

The Budget Committee and County Board approve the out-of-state travel request for Mallore McCarty and Earl Merchlewitz.

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