

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** Honorable Board of County Commissioners

**THROUGH:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
David Johnson, Director  
Department of Emergency Services

**FROM:** David Kiernan, Deputy Fire Chief  
Fire Rescue Division

**DATE:** July 23, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Replacement Marine Vessel

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It is respectfully requested that the information contained herein be given formal consideration by the District Board of Commissioners at the next regular scheduled meeting.

**DESCRIPTIONS AND CONDITIONS**

Fire Rescue's current marine vessel, M21, has reached the end of its service life. M21 is a 2005 Boston Whaler which was re-powered in 2017 and continues to require expensive repairs to aging, outdated equipment. Through the approved Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Capital Improvements Element (CIE), the Department was approved for funding in year two (Fiscal Year 2024/2025) to purchase a new marine vessel capable of providing a more enhanced level of service. The proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget includes \$550,000 for this purchase.

The proposed new marine vessel, a 31' Life Proof aluminum boat, represents a significant advancement in maritime operations. Equipped with twin 400hp outboards, it promises enhanced speed and maneuverability essential for responding to emergencies swiftly and effectively.

Key features of the new vessel include:

- **Advanced Technology:** It will be equipped with radar and night vision, enhancing operational effectiveness during low-light conditions and adverse weather.
- **Marine Fire Suppression:** The ability to control marine fire suppression from the safety of the cabin using a joystick capable of flowing 575 gpm. This reflects a modern approach to firefighting on the water, ensuring both safety and efficiency.

- **Purpose-Built Design:** Designed specifically for their operational needs, the Life Proof aluminum boat is likely to provide durability and stability crucial for the varied demands of maritime search and rescue, dive rescue, evidence recovery, and marine fire suppression.

The acquisition of this new vessel underscores Indian River County Fire Rescue's commitment to maintaining high standards of emergency response and ensuring the safety of its personnel and the community they serve. The new vessel will cost \$542,693.17. Due to the length of time it takes for the vessel to be built (approximately 12 months) and rising costs, Staff is requesting the Board's approval to start the purchasing process now to ensure delivery of the vessel is in Fiscal Year 2024/2025. The bulk of the vessel, as quoted, is in accordance with GSA contract 47QSWA18D0015. Open market items amount to \$56,023.33 of the total cost. Staff requests the Board waive the requirement for bids for those open market items.

**FUNDING:**

Funds, in the amount of \$542,693.17, will be needed in the Emergency Services District/Fire Services/Automotive account, number 11412022-066420. This will be accomplished via budget amendment.

<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Emergency Services District/Fire Services/Automotive	11412022-066420	\$542,693.17

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the purchase of the marine vessel and authorize the Purchasing Division to issue a Purchase Order to Life Proof Boats in the amount of \$542,693.17.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Life Proof Quote