



CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Douglas Schulze, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Laurie Sampson, Assistant City Manager

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024

SUBJECT: Consider Resolution 2024-66, Approving an Office Lease with Riverside County on Behalf of the Emergency Management Department for Office Space within the Armory Located at 2041 W. Nicolet St. to be used by the Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES)

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution 2024-66.

BACKGROUND:

RACES stands for "Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service" a protocol created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Many government agencies across the county train their Auxiliary Communications Service volunteers using RACES protocol. Amateur Radio Operators, also known as Ham Radio Operators, are an important component in an Emergency Communication Plan. The Radios will still operate without cell towers and phone lines.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Pass Area RACES organization is highly trained and is an integral part of the Emergency Response Plan should an emergency occur. The Armory has been designated as the Emergency Operations Command (EOC) and having RACES located in the building will ensure any emergency operation is conducted efficiently.

FISCAL IMPACT:

RACES will pay \$1 per year for a total of three years, with an option to renew. They will also contribute to the utilities of the Armory at a rate of \$100 per month.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Pass Area RACES groups have used several locations to train and store their equipment. None have worked out long term. As the Armory is now our designated Emergency Operations Center housing RACES there is the best solution to the needs of RACES and the City. If RACES must find another location it would impede communications in the event of an emergency.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Resolution 2024-66, Office Lease Agreement with RivCo.docx](#)
2. [Banning - Office Lease_Armory Bldg \(RACES\) draft.pdf](#)