



# SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **ROBERT B. NORRIS**

UNDERSHERIFF **BRETT A. NELSON**

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**To:** Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Sheriff Robert B. Norris, via Sergeant Chris Fresh

**Re:** Funding for Boat Repairs

**Date:** January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Dear Members of the Board,

I am requesting authorization to spend funds in an amount not to exceed \$26,000 for critical repairs to a Sheriff's Office patrol boat.

The patrol boat is currently unserviceable due to failure of the inflatable bladder. The bladder is a primary structural and flotation component of the vessel, and its condition renders the boat unsafe for operation. Replacement of the bladder is necessary to return the boat to service and ensure it meets operational and safety standards.

The requested amount covers removal of the damaged bladder, replacement with a new bladder, and associated labor. Repairing the existing vessel is significantly more cost-effective than replacement of the entire boat.

Funding for this repair will be paid for through the Boater Safety Grant and will not impact taxpayer money.

Your approval will allow the Sheriff's Office to restore this critical asset to service as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if additional information is needed.

Respectfully,  
Sheriff Robert B. Norris  
By: Sergeant Chris Fresh

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