



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 3/17/2015

Agenda Placement: 6H

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kerry Whitney for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
Emergency Services

REPORT BY: Kerry Whitney, Risk & Emergency Services Manager - 253-4821

SUBJECT: MOU for Coordination of Emergency Volunteers

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer and Risk/Emergency Services Manager request approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) for a maximum of \$25,000 for the term March 17, 2015 through June 30, 2015 with an automatic renewal for coordination of volunteers in the event of a disaster.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The former Volunteer Center of Napa County was partnered with Community Action Napa Valley (CANV) to provide coordination and management of volunteer resources. The CANV Board has since voted to discontinue financial support of that function. As a result the Volunteer Center of Napa County merged with the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) located in Marin County. They will continue to provide volunteers and services to Napa County, however there will now be an increased capacity to provide additional nonprofit support services due to the combined relationship as a multi-county agency.

The CVNL is also responsible for coordination of the Volunteer Reception Centers (VRCs) throughout the County and operates those centers with CVNL staff pursuant to the specialized training that the VRC staff have received.

The Scope of Work for the Coordinator includes training individuals as well as outreach to non-profit groups and local public agencies for disaster-related activities and preparation.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes

Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Emergency Services
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Volunteers are a necessary part of emergency preparedness and provide a valuable service during emergency/disaster situations.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	Funding will be appropriated in future years for MOU renewals.
Consequences if not approved:	The County would be tasked with recruiting and training volunteers as well as maintaining current lists of volunteers, their contact information, skill levels and availability along with coordinating their response and placement in times of disaster.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The former Volunteer Center of Napa County was previously partnered with Community Action Napa Valley (CANV) to provide coordination and management of volunteer resources for Napa County. The CANV Board has since voted to discontinue their financial support of that function. As a result the Volunteer Center of Napa County merged with the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership (CVNL) located in Marin County. They will continue to provide recruitment and placement of volunteers and other services to Napa County, however they will now have an increased capacity to provide additional nonprofit support services due to the combined relationship as a multi-county agency.

The CVNL Coordinator is responsible for coordination of the Volunteer Reception Centers (VRCs) (formerly known as Emergency Volunteer Centers) in Napa County and operates those centers with trained volunteer staff. In addition, the Coordinator will continue to participate as a member of the Napa County Operational Area (Emergency Preparedness and Response), oversee miscellaneous disaster-related training and preparation activities, and continue outreach with local agencies, special districts and local nonprofits to maximize the use of volunteer resources so critically important to a prepared and resilient community.

In the event of a natural disaster, the CVNL will assist the County by managing the overall response of volunteer workers, including the lists of volunteers registered in the CVNL database and with local nonprofits and public agencies, spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers, and the approximately 1,000 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers for the County of Napa. The CVNL also registers and supervises spontaneous volunteers and makes assignments as necessary during a disaster through Volunteer Reception Centers (VRCs) located in Napa County.

Without this valuable resource the County, local agencies and local nonprofits would be tasked with not only maintaining the lists of registered volunteers but also managing the volunteers during its response to a disaster.

During any catastrophic event, and in the immediate 48-72 hours that follow, when local government and first responders are stretched beyond capacity, trained CERT volunteers are poised to respond to assist in their local communities and they are invaluable to the overall response. The coordination of that volunteer response in Napa County is handled by trained staff at the CVNL.

The MOU with the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership will greatly enhance emergency response in Napa County.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi