



Agenda Date: 3/28/2006  
Agenda Placement: 6Z

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer  
Emergency Services  
**REPORT BY:** Patti DeWeese, Staff Services Analyst, 253-4197  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement with Paul Dubois dba Of The Woods related to the Firewise grant program

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

County Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Paul Dubois doing business as Of The Woods for a maximum of \$50,000 for the term April 1, 2006 through August 31, 2006 to provide brush chipping services for the Firewise grant program.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The County Office of Emergency Services is currently administering the 2005 Firewise grant program. This grant provides funds for, among other things, fire hazard mitigation within both city and county urban fire interface areas. Homeowners in selected rural, suburban and urban areas will have the opportunity to remove excess vegetative materials from around their residences and to pile it at the street access to their property. Of The Woods tree service will be responsible for pile removal, chipping of the material and transfer of the material to approved sites or allowing the homeowner to use the chipped material as a landscaping material on their property. The process converts dangerous flammable vegetation into usable mulch for either the homeowner or the community at large.

### **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:	Services provided by this agreement are an integral part of the overall Firewise hazard mitigation program.
Is the general fund affected?	No

Future fiscal impact: No impact beyond the current year.  
Consequences if not approved: The County will not be able to provide the fire hazard mitigation program.  
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 Firewise grant assists Napa County in creating a fire-planned and prepared county, by promoting a healthy watershed and other fire hazard mitigation measures, thus protecting the people and landscape from destruction. The projects planned using the current Firewise grant include public education, community chipping services, GIS mapping and defensible space inspections.

One critical component is the chipping program, which encourages homeowners to create defensible space around residences located in designated rural, suburban and urban areas of the County. County Fire has preselected areas which will be offered the chipping services based on the factors of threat, need and community interest. It is the second year the chipping program has been utilized for wildland fire mitigation. The response to last year's program was excellent.

Of The Woods tree service in Calistoga was selected to provide the chipping services using an RFP process. Homeowners are notified in advance of the dates the service will be offered in their area. They then clear vegetation from around their residences and place the piles along the public access roadway. Of The Woods will retrieve the material piled at the property owners' street access, chip the material and either transfer it to designated sites for distribution as mulch or leave it piled for the homeowners' own use.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey