



Agenda Date: 4/12/2005
Agenda Placement: 6R

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Britt Ferguson for Nancy Watt - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Meegan Condon, Analyst, 259-8748
SUBJECT: Appointment of the County Mental Health Director

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer requests adoption of a resolution appointing Dr. Suzanne Tavano as the Mental Health Director for the Napa County Health and Human Services agency, effective May 9, 2005.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of this item would appoint Dr. Suzanne Tavano to the position of Napa County Mental Health Director. The Mental Health Director is responsible for the administration of the Mental Health Division of Health and Human Services.

FISCAL IMPACT

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Is there a Fiscal Impact? | Yes |
| Is it currently budgeted? | No |
| What is the revenue source? | Salary savings from the Behavioral Health Care Manager position that was deleted 11/9/04 when the Mental Health Director position was created. |
| Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? | Mandatory |
| Is the general fund affected? | Yes |
| Future fiscal impact: | This will be an ongoing expense. |
| Consequences if not approved: | Mandatory services will not be provided. |
| Additional Information: | None |

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5607 provides that "local mental health services shall be administered by a local director of mental health services to be appointed by the governing body." The Mental Health Director is responsible for the operation of all mental health programs and services within the agency; establishes, interprets, and carries out mental health division policies; makes recommendations on the scope and provision of such services; establishes facilities and contracts for such services; and submits required reports on the activities of the mental health program.

The recruitment process for the Mental Health Director included the following:

1. Statewide advertisements for the position;
2. A screening of applications by the Human Resources Department;
3. A review of applications, with recommendations on top candidates, by the Mental Health Board;
4. An initial interview that included the Chair of the Mental Health Board, Dr. Anita Catlin; Health and Human Services Director, Randy Snowden; Health and Human Services Assistant Director, Jim Featherstone; and County Executive Office Analyst, Meegan Condon;
5. The final round of interviews included a two step process where the final two candidates met with a small group representing Health and Human Services staff and contractors and then a final interview with County Executive Officer, Nancy Watt and Health and Human Services Director, Randy Snowden.

At the completion of this process, and with the support of the Mental Health Board, Health and Human Services Director, Randy Snowden and County Executive Officer, Nancy Watt recommend appointment of Dr. Suzanne Tavano as Napa County Mental Health Director.

Dr. Tavano has a Ph.D in Clinical Psychology, is a licensed registered nurse by the Board of Registered Nursing in the State of California, and meets the requirements for education, experience, and the other qualifications for Mental Health Director as required by the State Department of Mental Health. Dr. Tavano has 30 years experience in the mental health field and is currently employed as the Chief of Clinical Operations for Contra Costa County Mental Health.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Britt Ferguson