



Agenda Date: 5/1/2007
Agenda Placement: 6B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Stacie McCambridge for Ernie Loveless - Fire Chief
County Fire Department
REPORT BY: Stacie McCambridge, Staff Services Analyst, 707-967-1417
SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreement between the County and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

RECOMMENDATION

County Fire Chief requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for a maximum of \$6,859,493 for the term July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007 for fire protection.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 1932, the County of Napa and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) have been partners in cooperative fire protection. By agreement, CALFIRE provides management of the Napa County Fire Department which includes four paid fire stations, nine volunteer fire stations and a Fire Marshal Bureau.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Funding is provided in the Final FY 06-07 Fire Protection Budget
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Mandatory
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	Each year staff calculates the amount of the contract based upon staffing needs, labor agreements between the State and its firefighter employee groups, and equipment needs.
Consequences if not approved:	CALFIRE will not provide fire protection.

Additional Information: The increase in the budget to \$6.8 million is due to "planned overtime" adjustments for fire suppression personnel, funding of a staffed engine at St. Helena Station and increases to benefit rates, pursuant to the State's labor agreement with its firefighters.

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 Napa County Fire Department consists of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE), under contract with the County for fire protection services, and nine volunteer fire departments. CALFIRE'S Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit Chief serves as the County's Fire Chief and is responsible for the direction and coordination of fire protection services on a countywide basis.

The annual contract with CALFIRE includes \$4,498,936 for Schedule A fire protection services. These services include provisions for 34.25 full-time fire control personnel, principally at the Napa, Greenwood Ranch and St. Helena stations plus ten support staff. The portion of the contract allocated to the Yountville station is calculated at \$1,484,337. The contract also includes \$675,698 for fire code enforcement by 5 full-time personnel in the Fire Marshal's Office.

The "Amador" portion of the contract provides \$200,522 to keep the stations at Spanish Flat and St. Helena, and the second engine at Napa, operating during the seven-month non-fire season.

The maximum amount for the Fiscal Year 06-07 contract is \$6,859,493, which is \$456,322 higher than the prior year's contract. This increase primarily reflects a "planned overtime" adjustment for fire suppression personnel, full funding of the engine at St. Helena Station and an increase in the benefit rate, pursuant to the State's labor agreement with its firefighters. Because the contract provides that the County pay only for actual services received, vacancies in some staff positions will most likely result in contract savings. The contract includes a "hold-over" clause, which allows for the contract terms to extend beyond the expiration date. This contract is being presented late to the Board due to delays at the State level and vacancies in key positions at the County level.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi