



Agenda Date: 6/26/2007  
Agenda Placement: 6NN

## 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:** Adoption of a Resolution accepting Donation of Yurts

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Emergency Services Manager requests:

1. Authorization to accept the donation of 12 yurt structures from the Napa Valley Housing Authority subject to the condition that (1) the County dismantles and removes the foundations from their present location at Lake Hennessey at its expense, and (2) agrees that in the event the County receives competing requests for the use of the yurts, that those involving farmworker housing be given first priority; and
2. Establishment of the yurts as a single fixed asset.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A number of years ago the Napa Valley Housing Authority (NVHA) purchased a total of 12 yurts in order to augment existing seasonal farmworker housing. The NVHA is no longer using these structures and has been storing them in a leased trailer at Lake Hennessey on leased property. The NVHA now wishes to dispose of the yurts by donating them to the County with certain provisions. The County would benefit by having control of the yurts for use during a large, long-term emergency event or for future use as farmworker housing by the Napa County Housing Authority.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

### **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 Valley Housing Authority (NVHA) would like to dispose of 12 yurts which were originally purchased to augment the seasonal farmworker housing capacity. The NVHA now has no need for the yurts and the Authority has offered to donate the yurts to the County with certain conditions placed on the donation.

It would benefit the County to have control of the yurts for use in a large, long-term emergency event or for farmworker housing by the Napa County Housing Authority should the need arise. The County plans to use labor from a Cal Fire inmate camp, with no anticipated cost to the County, to dismantle the existing foundations at Lake Hennessey. The yurts, currently stored in a leased trailer, with salvageable foundation parts would then be stored in existing warehouse space already leased by the County, therefore no additional cost would be required for storage.

According to the March 12, 2001 NVHA agenda item when the NVHA Board of Commissioners authorized purchase of the yurts:

1. The yurts were purchased from Nesting Bird Yurt Company for the total amount of approximately \$130,000.
2. There are ten 16-foot yurts (capable of housing 4 people each), for a total housing capacity of 40 people. There are also two 30-foot yurts which were used to provide dining and recreational space for the residents, but these could also be used for housing, office space, etc. However, because the yurts are stored so as to be assembled all at the same time, they would be viewed as a single fixed asset, according to the Auditor.
3. All of the yurts come with decks and do not require permanent foundations as long as they are set up on a stable surface.

The yurts are currently stored in a leased trailer on property leased by NVHA at Lake Hennessey. The manufacturer of the yurts estimated the original useful life as 15 years (at 5 months of active use per year) and the yurts were delivered in the Summer of 2001. Based upon this, 60% of the useful life of the yurts remains, for a current fixed asset value for the group of yurts of \$78,000. The Auditor has approved the yurts as a single fixed asset due to the fact that the parts are not packaged as individual units.

Based upon consultation with the County Emergency Services Manager, it is expected that the yurts and salvageable portions of the dismantled foundations will be transported to and stored in warehouse space currently leased for other County storage needs, when not being used. The lease for the current trailer will be terminated.

Because this is a one-time donation, it is recommended that the Board accept the donation directly, rather than authorizing the Director of Emergency Services or anyone else to do so. The acceptance would be subject to the following conditions required by the donor:

1. That the County will arrange for the pads constructed at Lake Hennessey to be dismantled and removed from the site, at County cost, although it is proposed that the labor involved will be handled as a corrections crew work project, if possible.
2. That the use of the yurts by the County or persons or entities with whom the County would enter into a license agreement shall be subject to the condition, requested by the viticultural industry groups who raised the funds for the initial purchase of the yurts, that if multiple requests for use are received for the same period of time, those requests involving temporary housing for farmworkers shall be given preference.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Gratton