



Agenda Date: 7/31/2007
Agenda Placement: 6A

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Hillary Gitelman - Director
Conservation, Development & Planning

REPORT BY: Brian Bordona, Supervising Planner , 259-5935

SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement between County and Resource Conservation District regarding the technical review and inspection of erosion control plans, development and presentation of watershed education materials and to conduct limited watershed monitoring.

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Conservation, Development and Planning requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with the Napa County Resource Conservation District for a maximum of \$200,004 for the term July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 for services pertaining to the implementation the County's Conservation Regulations, including the technical review and inspection of agricultural erosion control plans, development and presentation of watershed education materials, Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) Board/Committee support, and watershed monitoring.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Director of Conservation Development and Planning (CDPD) wishes to continue to retain the technical expertise of the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to assist with the implementation of the County's Conservation Regulations. Assistance from the the RCD will be limited to providing technical review of Erosion Control Plans for agricultural projects (ECPAs), including performing inspection and performance reviews, winterization reviews and final project clearance of approved ECPAs. Under the agreement, the RCD will further aid in ECPA pre-application planning and project review of proposed ECPAs by performing hydrologic or other analyses where necessary. RCD staff will also maintain an ECPA project database. A provision in the agreement allows RCD staff to provide technical support of the County's ECPA compliance and enforcement activities, including advice on development of any appropriate erosion control corrective actions. The agreement further allows RCD staff to provide limited support to the WICC Board and committees, develop and present watershed education programs and materials to foster an informed and knowledgeable community, and to conduct limited watershed monitoring to facilitate a better understanding of how the County's watersheds function and support threatened and endangered aquatic species.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Conservation, Development & Planning - A portion of the contract amount is recouped from agricultural erosion control plan fees in accordance with the adopted fee schedule.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	For technical review and inspection of agricultural erosion control plans, WICC Board/committee support, and development and presentation of watershed education materials and watershed monitoring.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	The proposed contract would extend the County's current arrangement with RCD until June 30, 2008, however the contract would automatically be renewed in subsequent fiscal years unless either the County or RCD issues written notice 30 days in advance of contract termination. In practice, the RCD and the County negotiate a specific scope of work and execute a new agreement on an annual basis.
Consequences if not approved:	RCD's technical review and inspection of agricultural erosion control plans, WICC Board/committee support, development and presentation of watershed education materials, and watershed monitoring would not be completed. The County would likely have to contract for these services elsewhere in order to meet its obligations under the Conservation Regulations and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards TMDL program.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Categorical Exemption Class 8: Actions by the County to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for the protection of the environment.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The County of Napa (County) has adopted various regulations ("Conservation Regulations") set forth in Chapter 18.108 of the Napa County Code for the purpose of minimizing erosion from development projects permitted within the County's jurisdiction.

The Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is a special district of the State of California organized as a resource conservation district. RCD's jurisdiction includes the majority of the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County of Napa as well as a small portion of the County of Solano located within the Napa River Delta. The mission of the RCD is the promotion of responsible watershed management through technical

assistance to landowners and facilitation of voluntary watershed-based community land stewardship groups to implement sustainable agricultural practices, protect and enhance waterways and water quality, reduce soil erosion, preserve and restore wildlife habitat and foster an informed and knowledgeable community.

The Director of Conservation, Development and Planning (CDPD) wishes to continue to retain the technical expertise of the RCD to assist with the implementation of the County's Conservation Regulations. Assistance from the the RCD will be limited to providing technical review of Erosion Control Plans for agricultural projects (ECPAs), including performing inspection and performance reviews, winterization reviews and final project clearance of approved ECPAs. RCD will further aid in ECPA pre-application planning and review of proposed ECPAs by performing hydrologic or other analyses where necessary. RCD staff will also maintain ECPA project records and a database. RCD staff will further provided technical support on an as needed basis for the County's ECPA compliance and enforcement activities, including advice on development of any appropriate erosion control corrective actions.

In addition, the CDPD wishes to retain the RCD to provide limited support to the WICC Board and committees, develop and present watershed education programs and materials to foster an informed and knowledgeable community, and to conduct watershed monitoring to facilitate a better understanding of how the County's watersheds function and support threatened and endangered species.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi