



Agenda Date: 8/9/2005
Agenda Placement: 6N

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: Neal T. O'Haire, Emergency Services Manager, 253-4257
SUBJECT: Ratifying Staff Action in Support of Napa County Schools Planning Grant application

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer requests ratification of signatures of support by the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the Emergency Services Manager as a requirement of the Napa County Office of Education grant application to the U. S. Department of Education for a maximum of \$600,000 for the development of a comprehensive Countywide School Emergency Services Plan and Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa County Office of Education is reapplying for a \$600,000 Emergency Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. As part of their application process, they are required to obtain signatures of local officials demonstrating their support for the grant and planning process. These signatures included the senior County law enforcement official, signed by the County Sheriff, the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the County Emergency Services Manager. In order to meet the submission deadline, the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the Emergency Services Manager signed the document contingent upon Board of Supervisors' approval; the County Sheriff has already endorsed their application.

By approving this item the Board of Supervisors will ratify the signatures of support by the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the Emergency Services Manager and recognize that if the County Office of Education is awarded the grant, any County staff assistance rendered to this planning process will be reimbursed at the fully burdened labor rates.

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 County Office of Education is resubmitting an application for a \$600,000 grant to the U.S. Department of Education to develop a countywide school emergency services system. This grant will allow all districts and schools to update their emergency and disaster procedures to: Better protect students and staff in times of disaster, safeguard school facilities and property, standardize the release of students from school facilities in order to maintain safety and accountability, and to shelter and safeguard students who cannot be released. The end products of this grant will include a countywide plan, district annexes and school plan boiler plates applicable to elementary, middle and high schools throughout the County. All planning documents will be developed with staff assistance of subject matter experts from the County staff and be in accordance with both the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

In order to meet grant deadlines, the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the County Emergency Services Manager executed the grant application signifying their support of the County Office of Education's application and deliverables, contingent upon the Board of Supervisors ratifying said signatures.

If the County Office of Education is awarded the grant, County staff time will be reimbursed at the appropriate burdened labor rate by the Office of Education using grant funds. It is anticipated that the Office of Education will use the expertise of County Emergency Management, Fire, Safety and Law to assist them in the creation of plans and protocols, the development of emergency training, and the development and delivery of an emergency exercise program.

The net result of this program will be a program of emergency planning, training and exercises that will elevate school system readiness throughout the County and address the concerns expressed in recent civil grand jury reports. We will commit to assist them as outlined above in ensuring that their plans are compatible with ours, meet the requirements of SEMS and NIMS, and are realistically trained and exercised within and among the various school districts.

Staff recommends that the Board ratify the signatures of the County Executive Officer, the Director of Health and Human Services and the Emergency Services Manager on the previously executed grant application.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Britt Ferguson