



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 9/23/2014

Agenda Placement: 7N

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jon Gjestvang - Chief Information Officer
Information Technology Services

REPORT BY: Maiko Klieman, STAFF SERVICES MANAGER - 707-259-8665

SUBJECT: MOU for the North Bay North Coast Broadband Consortium and appointment to the Oversight Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Chief Information Officer and Director of Library Services and Community Outreach request the following actions regarding the participation in the North Bay Coast Broadband Consortium:

1. Approval of and authorization for the Chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Sonoma, Marin, Mendocino and Napa as part of their participation in the Consortium to improve broadband access to the underserved communities in the North Coast Region; and
2. Appoint Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht as a voting member of the Oversight Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 7, 2014, your Board approved a resolution endorsing Napa County's membership in the North Bay North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC), which seeks to secure grant funding to expand and integrate broadband internet access to underserved communities in the counties of Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin and Napa. The consortium jointly submitted a grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) California Advanced Services Fund ("CASF") Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Grant Program, as the Consortium, to obtain grant funds for that purpose. CPUC has adopted resolution T-17445 approving up to \$250,000 in a two-year grant of funds (up to \$125,000 per year) to enable the Consortium to work together to implement the CPUC approved NBNCBC Annual Work Plan, Project Schedule, and Budget for each year.

Today's approval of the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) is required to define each counties role as part of their participation in the NBNCBC. The MOU authorizes the Sonoma County Economic Development Board to serve as the fiscal agent for the Consortium and distribute the funds to each of the Counties in accordance with the budget. Each county's share totals approximately \$62,500 for the 2 year program (\$31,250 annually). Napa County

will use the funds to survey and document the broadband needs of the residents, businesses, educational institutions, libraries, public safety entities, other government agencies, health care providers, community and non-profit organizations, local businesses, and census designated places, starting with those known to be unserved and underserved. There is no Fiscal Impact since Napa County has decided to join Sonoma County to contract the work out to Chico State. The funds allocated to Napa County will be kept by Sonoma County for this joint project but Napa County will authorize the work that is performed specific to Napa.

The MOU also authorizes the formation of the NBNCBC Oversight Committee, comprised of one board of supervisors member from each county. The request today is to appoint Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht as a voting member of the committee representing Napa County.

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

On January 7, 2014, your Board approved a resolution endorsing Napa County's membership in the North Bay North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC), which seeks to secure grant funding to expand and integrate broadband internet access to underserved communities in the counties of Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin and Napa. The consortium jointly submitted a grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) California Advanced Services Fund ("CASF") Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Grant Program, as the Consortium, to obtain grant funds to gather data regarding the following: (1) immediate and future broadband needs and demands of residents and entities that are located in the North Coast Region; (2) reliability and accuracy of the regional broadband data compiled by CPUC and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA); and (3) assist broadband providers by giving providers access to this data so the providers can ensure standard or broadband access is made available throughout the North Coast Region. CPUC has adopted resolution T-17445 approving up to \$250,000 in a two-year grant of funds (up to \$125,000 per year) to enable Marin, Mendocino, Napa and Sonoma counties to work together to implement the CPUC approved NBNCBC Annual Work Plan, Project Schedule, and Budget for each year.

Today's approval of the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) is required to define each counties role as part of their participation in the NBNCBC. The MOU authorizes the Sonoma County Economic Development Board to serve as the fiscal agent for the Consortium and distribute the funds to each of the Counties in accordance with the budget. Grant related expenses will be reimbursed to NBNCBC members upon approval of quarterly reports and payment requests by the CPUC. Napa County will be allocated up to \$31,250 each year for two years to survey and document the broadband needs of the residents, businesses, educational institutions, libraries, public safety entities, other government agencies, health care providers, community and non-profit organizations, local businesses, and census designated places, starting with those known to be unserved and underserved. The County would then compile the data into a comprehensive Napa Countywide Broadband Plan, which would be integrated with the plans of the three other Consortium members into an overall North Bay-North Coast Regional Broadband Plan. The regional plan would then set the stage to pursue implementation of projects to meet the

priority demands; identify potential deployment funding sources; work with service providers to make use of funding sources to deploy broadband; and develop and implement meaningful adoption programs. Napa County has decided to join Sonoma County to contract the work out to Chico State. The funds allocated to Napa County will be kept by Sonoma County for this joint project but Napa County will authorize the work that is performed specific to Napa.

The MOU also authorizes formation of an NBNCBC Oversight Committee, comprised of a board of supervisor's member from each county. The roles of the NBNCBC Oversight Committee include:

- | Monitoring the progress of the NBNCBC Annual Work Plan, Project Schedule and Budget;
- | Acting as the common interface to the NBNCBC counties and their Boards of Supervisors; and
- | Formulating and facilitating issues and opportunities that cut across the counties.

The NBNCBC Oversight Committee does not have authority to set public policy. Public policy broadband issues and plans that affect a NBNCBC county are to be made by the appropriate county governing bodies within that county. When public policy broadband issues and broadband plans cross over NBNCBC counties, the four county Boards of Supervisors will work towards consensus. Board members that are currently active in member county broadband efforts include Marin County Supervisor Steve Kinsey, Napa County Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht, Mendocino County Supervisor Dan Hamburg and Sonoma County Supervisor Efren Carrillo.

The Consortium is run by the NBNCBC Management Team consisting of a Consortium Project Manager and four County Managers, one for each county. The Assistant Director of Library Services and Community Outreach has been serving in this role for Napa. The team meets monthly via conference call or in-person. The roles of the team include:

- | Execute the Annual Work Plans;
- | Interface with the NBNCBC Oversight Committee on an ongoing basis;
- | Through the County Managers, interface and work with the community-based advisory groups and leaders in the respective counties;
- | Provide quarterly reports to the NBNCBC Oversight Committee and the CASF;
- | Formulate and present issues and opportunities that cut across the four counties to the NBNCBC Oversight Committee; and
- | Provide information to the public.

Due to the nature of the project, the County Chief Information Officer has been working closely with the Assistant Director of Library Services and Community Outreach on the technical related matters.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . MOU

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi