RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Recommend resolution authorizing Chairman of the Board to sign Letter of Intent to contract with State for Local Public Health Services.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Health and Safety code section 101300 requires that any county proposing to contract with the Department of Public Health for services of Public Health Professionals (Public Health Nurses, Environmental Health Scientists) must submit a notice of intent no later than March 1 of the preceding year.

Historically for decades Mariposa has contracted with the State for the services of two Public Health Nurses and two Environmental Health Scientists. This arrangement has allowed the County to obtain the highest level of professional personnel due to state recruitment of

(continued on next page)

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

1. The state may terminate the contract immediately creating sudden job instability for the core Public Health staff at the Health Department and adversely affecting Public Health services.

2. Financial obligations on the part of the County will be unknown if we do not stay within the current system until the results of the negotiations are known.

Financial Impact? (X) Yes ( ) No Current FY Cost: $ ________

Budgeted in Current FY? (X) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: $454,262.00
Additional Funding Needed: $ ________

Source:
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue 4/5's vote
Transfer Between Funds 4/5's vote
Contingency 4/5's vote
General Other

List Attachments, number pages consecutively
Letter of Intent to Contract

CLERK’S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 25
Ord. No. ______
Vote - Ayes: ______
Noes: ______
Absent: ______
Approved ______
Minute Order Attached ______
No Action Necessary ______

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: ______

Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: ______
Deputy

Approved ______

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended ______
No Opinion ______

Comments: ______

CAO: ______

Revised Dec. 2002
employees at state salary and benefits. Mariposa is just one of eleven Counties that have participated in this program over the years. It has served the County well with the core field staff in Public Health being a stable group of Nurses and Environmental Health Scientists.

Instability has recently been injected into the situation with the State demanding more than 15% overhead charges for this program. The Health Officer from Mariposa has been deeply involved in attempting to negotiate a continuation of the contract at the 15% overhead rate but the State has been obstinate in demanding up to 35% (with statements that "it could go higher") for overhead at the State level. All these negotiations are nearing an end. They are not yet finally determined. But to maintain stability, the Health Officer recommends that the board submit the attached Letter of Intent. Note that under State Health and Safety code a county may withdraw this notice by May 1, 2008, so the County's options remain open. It is the intent of the Health Officer that, should negotiations break down to a point where remaining in the relationship with the State is no longer advisable, he will bring to the Board a letter withdrawing that intent prior to May 1, 2008.

Resolution #06-211 authorized the current three year contract with the State for this program which will expire at the end of this fiscal year.
February 26, 2008

Eduardo Schmidt
Department of Public Health
P.O. Box 997377
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377

RE: Letter of Intent to Contract

Pursuant to State Health and Safety code section 101300, please be advised that it is the intention of Mariposa County to contract with the State Department of Public Health to continue local public services under the Local Public Health Services Program.

The Board is aware that the department continues in negotiations with affected Public Health administrators regarding some financial matters attendant to the contract.

Thank you very much for your kind attention to this matter and for your ongoing support to the Local Public Health Services Program for the past several decades.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Lyle Turpin
Chair, Board of Supervisors

/cf