RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-411

MEETING: August 12, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: Emergency Facilities & Land Use Agreement with USDA Forest Service

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Ratify Two Emergency Facilities & Land Use Agreements (YOSE-14-5007 & AG-9A40-B-14-0012) with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service for Use of the Mariposa County Airport as a Heli-Base. The Forest Service requested use of the Mariposa Airport for use as a heli-base to support helicopters, trailers, fuel tenders, and air-base personnel while fighting the El Portal Fire and the French Fire. Due to the emergency situation and deadlines for submitting financial paperwork to the Incident Command personnel, it was necessary for the Agreements to be signed and emailed back to the Forest Service prior to first receiving Board approval. The Forest Service will pay the County $200/day for the use of the Airport beginning on August 1, 2014, and terminating when the El Portal Fire incident has ended, and $200/day for use of the Airport in future fire incidents through December 31, 2018. Having a multi-year Agreement will facilitate payments to the County when the Airport is used as a heli-base during emergency fire situations involving the Forest Service.

Using the Airport as a heli-base has very little impact on the "normal" use of the Airport for private planes as they are not based near the runways. Allowing the Forest Service to use the Airport as a heli-base during emergency fire situations will facilitate fire suppression efforts by not requiring the helicopters to travel a greater distance from fires that are occurring in or near Mariposa County.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has ratified agreements in the past that due to extenuating circumstances could not first be approved by the Board.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not ratify the Emergency Facilities & Land Use Agreement and direct staff to rescind the Agreement. The County will not receive $200/day for the use of the Airport as a heli-base.
FINANCIAL IMPACT:
The Airport Fund will receive $200/day for use as a heli-base during emergency fire situations that involve the Forest Service.

ATTACHMENTS:
USDA Emergency Facilities & Land Use Agreement (PDF)
USDA Use of Temporary Emergency Facilities (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

[Signature]
Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: John Carrier, District V Supervisor
AYES: Lee Stetson, Merlin Jones, Kevin Cann, John Carrier
EXCUSED: Janet Bibby