RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-619

MEETING: December 2, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Pete Judy, Chief Probation Officer

RE: Approve Justice Assistance Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the Application for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Administered through the State of California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) in the Amount of $546,254, Commencing on March 01, 2015, through December 31, 2017; and Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to Sign the Grant Application.

For approximately 15 years Mariposa County has received a non-competitive JAG Grant that has partially funded a Sheriff’s Detective, a Deputy Probation Officer, a Deputy District Attorney, and support staff for a multi-agency anti drug task force. It should be noted that the task force has been highly successful in particular in its ability to discover and destroy large illegal marijuana grows.

This year the State has shifted responsibility for Grant oversight to the BS CC and the BS CC has changed the process to make this a competitive grant for all counties. It also expanded the focus to include an emphasis on a community collaborative approach to reducing adult and juvenile risk of committing crimes as well as allowing non-law enforcement agencies to be eligible and partner for grant funds. Multiple programs that are not related to each other are eligible for funding but must be included in a single grant application. A county agency must re responsible for the application and administration of program(s) funds.

This grant application requests funding to continue to partially support the multi-agency drug task force at last year’s level. The task force program components remain similar to previous years. The second program is a new one involving a partnership with the Mariposa County Unified School District, Probation, Sheriff, and Human Services designed to support the School District’s efforts to reduce at risk behaviors of students at school.

As to the school program, the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and the JAG Steering Committee met with community leaders from the public and private sector to identify and prioritize gaps in local prevention programs. In that process the issue of the increased acting out and disruptive behaviors being exhibited by students at the K-12 level were identified as major risks for local youth to enter the criminal justice and mental health systems. These behaviors not only impact the acting out student, but also negatively impact other student’s ability to learn.
Currently the Mariposa County Unified School District has one counselor to serve all of its schools. This grant would fund a Behavior Specialist who will work with school administrators, school personnel, and at risk families to build positive school climates by planning and implementing a school-wide systems of behavior intervention. This will include training teachers and staff on evidenced based behavior intervention strategies that have shown to promote student success, and thus lower their risk for delinquent and criminal behaviors. The position will also work closely with families to link them with other community support services as well as working closely with the Probation, Sheriff, and Human Services departments to develop effective community interventions and strategies that increase success of at risk students.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has previously approved similar grant proposals.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the grant application. The County will not be considered for the grant award, and there would be a loss of State revenue that partially supports county personnel in the Multi-Agency Drug Task Force in the amount of $84,447 per year.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
The Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) is fully funded with State and Federal Grant Funds. No additional General Funds will be used.

ATTACHMENTS:
JAG Proposal - Final (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hudson
Mary Hudson, Interim CAO 11/25/2014

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier