RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2017-541

MEETING: August 8, 2017

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

RE: Waiver of Owner Payment for Electrical Permits

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a Resolution to Waive the Owner Payment of Fees for an Electrical Power Permit (blue tag) for Applications Received July 16th, 2017 to June 30th, 2018 to Re-Establish Power Lost Due to the Detwiler Fire.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
On Sunday, July 16, 2017, the Detwiler Fire started within Mariposa County. Growing rapidly in size, the fire caused many evacuations to occur including the town of Mariposa proper. The fire still burns and, to date, has destroyed over 130 homes and outbuildings.

Waiving these fees, known to the industry as "blue tags", would assist the property owner in replacing structures lost during the fire. However, the Building Department is an enterprise fund and must receive payment for work completed. The Building Department, consequently, has a duty to collect fees when a permit is required. No utility company shall provide any electrical service until it has received final approval by the Building Department. In the past, the Board has reimbursed the Building Enterprise Fund for non-fee offset work such as fee waivers. The estimated cost of reimbursement is approximately $17,000.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
If the Board does not adopt the resolution, homeowners will be responsible for the costs of permits to replace electric poles on their properties if they choose to rebuild.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
Up to $17,000

ATTACHMENTS:
Resolution for Detwiler Fire (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended
RESULT:     ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:     Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER:  Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor
AYES:      Rosemarie Smallcombe, Marshall Long, Kevin Cann, Miles Menetrey
EXCUSED:   Merlin Jones
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION NUMBER 17-541

A RESOLUTION WAIVING OWNER PAYMENT OF FEES FOR AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT TO RE-ESTABLISH POWER LOST DUE TO THE DETWILER FIRE

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has the authority to waive owner payment of electrical permit fees for residents within the County of Mariposa; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors in the past has reimbursed waived electrical permit fees to the Mariposa County Building Department; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has always advocated and supported the right of property owners to rebuild after a disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors wishes to exercise this authority by allowing owner paid electrical permit fees to be waived and paid for by the Board of Supervisors to the extent not covered by the owner’s insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, as follows:

1. This Board finds all facts mentioned above to be true, and that it has jurisdiction to act on the subject of this Resolution.

2. This Board does hereby approve the establishment of a list of property owners who have lost their residences or outbuildings or power poles due to the Detwiler Fire for the waiver of electrical permit fees and payment of those fees to the Building Department by the Board of Supervisors to the extent not covered by the owner’s insurance.

3. This Board does hereby approve payment of fees for applications that are received between July 16, 2017 and June 30, 2018 to the extent not covered by the owner’s insurance.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors on the 8th day of August, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, LONG, CANN, MENETREY
NOES: NONE
EXCUSED: JONES
ABSTAIN: NONE

[Signature]
Marshall Long, Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:  
René LaRoche
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel
The following action was taken by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors on August 8, 2017:

7. Board of Supervisors   RES-2017-541

Adopt a Resolution Waiving Owner Payment of Fees for an Electrical Permit to Re-Establish Power Lost Due to the Detwiler Fire

Supervisor Long gave the staff report. No public input. Board discussion ensued about waivers in cases where insurance companies will pay. Supervisor Long agreed with the item being amended. Steven W. Dahlem/County Counsel requested that the item be delayed as he was having computer issues. Chair Long noted that he was moving the item to the end of the day to allow staff to make the necessary amendments to the resolution.

3:48 PM The Chair reopened this item and noted that an amended resolution was now available. The Board concurred with the amendments. No public input.

RESULT: ADOPTED AS AMENDED [4-0]
MOVER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor
AYES: Rosemarie Smallcombe, Marshall Long, Kevin Cann, Miles Menetrey
EXCUSED: Merlin Jones