RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2018-151

MEETING: April 3, 2018

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE: GovInvest Software Agreement

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve an Agreement with GovInvest for Pension and Post-Employment Benefit Cost Projection Software and GASB Actuarials; Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement.

Employee compensation is a difficult challenge for jurisdictions around California and the nation. In Mariposa County, we routinely face questions about how to attract and retain the highest quality employees to serve our county, how to best manage retirement salaries and benefits in a way that is fair to retirees and affordable for taxpayers, and how to meet union demands for increases.

In recent years, staff has also had to juggle new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) requirements and CalPERS decisions that will add $5 million to the annual cost of retaining the existing staff by Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (FY22). These are not simple challenges and the decisions made today can have long-lasting impacts on the County.

To help support the best quality decision making in this area, staff is requesting the County enter an agreement with GovInvest for access to customized, cloud-based software that will provide better data and projections for salaries, pensions and post-employment benefits. This software will allow staff to test retirement formula assumptions and project what would happen in hypothetical scenarios like a further change in the discount rate, an increase in a union agreement or the effect of prefunding a particular amount.

As reliable models are developed for potential paths forward, GovInvest software allows staff to quickly and easily generate visuals and graphs that will facilitate understanding and situational awareness for the Board and the public. GovInvest will also complete GASB-required actuarial studies at a fraction of the normal cost as a part of this agreement.
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The GovInvest software is a valuable tool with the ability to improve long-term decision making around compensation. Its use aligns with our strategic values including sustainability, transparency and excellence. Having reached a negotiated annual cost that is 33% less than the regular asking price, making this purchase more feasible for our small community and budget, staff is now recommending approval of this agreement.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
Funding for this item was included in the FY18 midyear report and adjustments.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the agreement. Staff will continue to make every effort to make effective and efficient long-term recommendations but may not have the ability to do so as thoroughly or relay findings as clearly as the software allows. GASB actuarials will be completed as required at a higher cost than proposed here.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
Sufficient dollars for FY18 are already included in the budget

ATTACHMENTS:
GovInvest Licensing Agreement (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey