RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2020-520

MEETING: August 25, 2020

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Eric Sergienko, Health Officer/Acting HHSA Director

RE: Third Amendment - Agreement with Berliner-Cohen Attorneys at Law

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve Third Amendment to Agreement with Berliner-Cohen Attorneys at Law, Increasing the Amount by $15,000 for a New Amount Not to Exceed $125,000; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Amendment.

In past years, County Counsel's office provided much of these services. Due to workload and availability, it was determined that a direct contract with Berliner-Cohen would benefit Health and Human Services. Berliner-Cohen will provide legal services in juvenile dependency and public guardian/conservatorship cases. County Counsel will determine when it is necessary for Berliner-Cohen to act for the Health and Human Services Agency in Child Welfare cases and any other matter County Counsel deems appropriate. During this current agreement, the amount of required services proved to be greater than anticipated.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
Mariposa County has an existing agreement with Berliner-Cohen, approved through Resolution No. 2019-396 on July 9, 2019.

Mariposa County approved the First Amendment to existing agreement with Berliner-Cohen through Resolution No. 2019-717 on December 17, 2019.

Mariposa County approved the Second Amendment to existing agreement with Berliner-Cohen through Resolution No. 2020-346 on June 23, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
If this amendment is not approved, the workload for the County Counsel's office may be such that it creates process delays.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
There is sufficient funding in the Human Services division budget to fund this Agreement. There is no impact to the County General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:
Resolution - Action Requested 2020-520

Berliner Cohen Agreement 2020 Wsignatures  (PDF)
1st Amendment - Berliner Cohen Agreement 2020 Wsignatures  (PDF)
Second Amendment - Berliner Cohen Agreement 2020 Wsignatures  (PDF)
Third Amendment - Berliner Cohen Agreement 2020 Wcsignature  (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey