RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-149

MEETING: March 23, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Shannon Gadd, Health and Human Services Agency Director

RE: Approve an MOU Between GovOps and the County for Vaccine Allocation and Distribution

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with California Government Operations Agency to Allow California Government Operations Agency (Agency) to Allocate and Distribute COVID-19 Vaccines to the County of Mariposa; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the MOU.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will allow for the California Government Operations Agency (Agency) to allocate and distribute COVID-19 vaccines to the County of Mariposa. This will allow for Mariposa County to continue to administer COVID-19 vaccines and reduce the burden of disease in the county and reduce transmission in the county and region.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Federal Government has procured vaccines effective in reducing the likelihood of acquiring and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. The Federal Government has been distributing vaccines to the states with onward distribution to those entities administering vaccines including Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs). In California, to date, the state has distributed vaccines through the California Department of Public Health to both LHJs and Multi-County Healthcare Delivery Entities (MCEs) such as Kaiser Permanente and Dignity Health.

In order to more effectively and efficiently distribute vaccines throughout the state, the Agency contracted with Blue Shield to function as a Third Party Administrator (TPA) to assist in these roles.

The Agency had originally requested that LHJs sign a contract with the TPA in order to provide vaccines to residents within their jurisdictions. Local governments were concerned that the public’s health was an inherently governmental function and that the contract was not appropriate.
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The Agency then developed a model MOU with a working group from the County Counsels Association. This MOU plus the clarifying memo from the Agency will allow the County to continue to vaccinate our residents as we currently are doing, pending a steady state or increasing amount of vaccines.

The Board has been briefed on the background of this previously, but there has been no prior Board action on this item.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

At present, there are likely no alternatives to ensure vaccine supply, but as negotiated, the MOU addresses the County's concerns.

Not approving this item and allowing the Board Chair to sign the MOU may result in no or inadequate supplies of vaccines coming to the County.

ATTACHMENTS:
Letter to CAOs Counsels of LHJs - MOU follow up - 3 16 21 (PDF)
County-MOU-031221-Mariposa (PDF)
GovOps MOU-follow-up---3-22-21 (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey
TO: SHANNON GADD/Health and Human Services Agency Director
FROM: RENÉ LaROCHE/Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with California Government Operations Agency to Allow California Government Operations Agency (Agency) to Allocate and Distribute COVID-19 Vaccines to the County of Mariposa; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the MOU

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The following action was taken by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors on March 23, 2021:

G.1. **HHS/Public Health RES-2021-149**

**Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with California Government Operations Agency to Allow California Government Operations Agency (Agency) to Allocate and Distribute COVID-19 Vaccines to the County of Mariposa; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the MOU**

Eric Sergienko gave the staff report. No public input. Board discussion ensued with Steven W. Dahlem/County Counsel noting that a second supplemental letter was distributed yesterday, and requesting that the MOU be approved with both supplemental letters.

**ACTION:**

*The Memorandum of Understanding was approved with the two supplemental letters.*

**RESULT:** ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor

**AYES:** Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey