RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: It is respectfully requested that your board approve Mariposa County Behavioral Health to 1) Adopt a resolution authorizing County’s participation in the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) in order to jointly develop, fund and administer mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, statewide, or other basis.  
2) Approve the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (as amended in 2010) that governs operations of the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA).  
3) Authorize the Director of the Department of Human Services to sign the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (amended in 2010) on behalf of Mariposa County.  
4) Authorize the Director of the Department of Human Services to act as the representative of the County on the Board of Directors of the California Mental Health Services Authority. and authorize the Director to appoint an alternate to represent the County on the CalMHSA Board.  
And 5) Authorize the Director of Human Services to expend the application fee to participate in California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA).

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: Approval of this item will allow the County’s Department of Mental/Behavioral Health to join the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined by CalMHSA Board on a regional, statewide, or other basis.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: 
Mariposa County would not be able to Join the CalMHSA in order to act jointly with other counties to develop, fund and administer mental health services and educational programs.
August 2, 2011

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors  
   Rick Benson, CAO  
FROM: James Rydingsword, Director
RE: Re-CalMHSA JPA

Recommendation
It is respectfully requested that your board approve Mariposa County Behavioral Health to 1) Adopt a resolution authorizing County’s participation in the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) in order to jointly develop, fund and administer mental health services and education programs as determined on a regional, statewide, or other basis.  
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And 5) Authorize the Director of Human Services to expend the application fee to participate in California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA).

Background/Current Situation
Approval of this item will allow the County’s Department of Mental/Behavioral Health to join the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) in order to jointly develop and fund mental health services and education programs as determined by CalMHSA Board on a regional, statewide, or other basis.

The California Government Code (the “Joint Exercise of Powers Act”, Section 6500 et seq.) permits two or more public agencies by agreement to jointly exercise powers common to the contracting parties. Six initial member Counties formed the California Mental Health Service Authority (CalMHSA) in 2009. In April 2010, CalMHSA entered into a contract with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to administer three statewide Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Projects on behalf of its member Counties. The Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement as amended in 2010 is attached as Attachment 1. Under the Agreement, each member County has a representative on CalMHSA’s Board of Directors who is entitled to vote regarding general JPA governance and to govern Programs in which the County is participating. As of May 2011, CalMHSA had 29 member Counties containing more than 85% of the state’s population.

The County Department of Human Services requests approval to join CalMHSA in order to act jointly with other counties to jointly develop, fund and administer mental health services and educational programs. CalMHSA does not deliver services itself, but facilitates efficient use of resources by multiple Counties by providing group purchasing power, joint development of RFPs.
CalMHSA also provides its member Counties with the ability to deal jointly with DMH, MHSOAC, and the legislature. CalMHSA MEMBER VOTING Representatives of Member Counties or Cities that have not participated in any Program of the Authority may attend and participate in board meetings, but may not vote or be a member of the Executive Committee until such time as their County or city takes all steps necessary to assign Statewide PEI funds or to participate in some other Program of the Authority resulting in funds being received by the Authority for or on behalf of Mariposa County.

Financial
There is no financial impact to the general fund. There is a one-time application fee of $250 to join CalMHSA. Otherwise, participation in the Authority will not impose any additional County costs except those the County voluntarily incurs by electing to participate in specific CalMHSA programs or by employing CalMHSA to provide administrative services for mental health projects.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES No direct effect on current County services will occur as a result of merely joining CalMHSA. The County may subsequently elect to have CalMHSA administer mental health projects or programs in lieu of their administration by the County, if doing so is deemed advantageous by the County. Joint administration of programs or projects by CalMHSA should result in more cost-effective rates for services, reduced demands on County administrative services, and increased efficiency in implementing services.