DEPARTMENT: Administration

BY: Rich Inman
PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the use of Title III funding from the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (HR 2389) to the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council allowing them to continue to conduct fire prevention education outreach and planning programs ($46,763.59); Authorize the Chairman to sign the Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement is from March 1, 2004, through December 31, 2004, with an option to extend the agreement for three one-year terms, contingent upon the availability of funds from HR 2389.

The Forest Reserve Fund (#345) received $93,266 this fiscal year from HR 2389 and can expect to receive a similar amount for the next three years. There is currently a balance of $244,591 available for expenditure, but of this amount the Board has committed a remaining $70,000 to the County-wide chipping program and $18,680 to the South West Interface Project (SWIFT). This leaves an unencumbered balance of $155,911 for new projects.

The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council’s proposal meets the criteria to receive Title III funding in that the money will be used for fire prevention and efforts to educate homeowners on the consequences of wildfires. A description of the proposal was published in the publication of record on December 17, 2003, and January 14, 2004. The 45-day comment period has ended and no public comment was received.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

On December 9, 2003, the Board tentatively approved the use of Title III funding for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council’s proposal pending the completion of the 45-day comment period.

On August 12, 2003, the Board adopted Resolution 03-297 designating that 100-percent of the available funding for local projects from HR 2389 be allocated to Title III projects.

On March 25, 2003, the Board adopted Resolution 03-81, approving the use of Title III funding for the County-wide chipping program ($80,000) and the SWIFT project ($29,270).

On April 23, 2002, the Board adopted Resolution 02-117 approving the use Title III funding for the planning phase of the construction of the Jordan Creek Bridge ($20,988).

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the use of Title III funding for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council’s proposal. Direct staff to solicit alternate project proposals that meet the requirements of Title III projects as detailed in HR 2389.
Financial Impact? (X) Yes ( ) No  Current FY Cost: $15,588
Budgeted In Current FY? (X) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: $244,591
Additional Funding Needed: $
Source:
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue
Transfer Between Funds
Contingency
( ) General  ( ) Other

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 94-73  Ord. No. ______
Vote – Ayes: 5  Noes: ______
Absent: ______
Approved
( ) Minute Order Attached  ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of
the original on file in this office.
Date: ________
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: ______________________
Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
( ) Requested Action Recommended
( ) No Opinion
Comments: _______