

DEPARTMENT: Human Services Dept. BY: Tom Archer
Social Services Division

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes___ No_x)

Authorization to negotiate Sole Source Contract for GAIN Employment Management System (GEMS) upgrade with Synergy Consulting Inc. Mariposa County is a member of the California GEMS Association (CGA), a consortium of counties who use, maintain and plan enhancements and modifications to the GEMS system. The GEMS software program is continually being updated to better meet our needs and those of new CGA counties. Mariposa County's current hardware however will no longer accommodate the newer software language in which GEMS is written. To stay with the current version of software, it is necessary to upgrade the computer as well.

Synergy Consulting, Inc. is the author of GEMS software which operates only on Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) equipment. As a "Value Added Retailer" of DEC equipment, Synergy Consulting Inc. will be selling us the equipment at a better price than we could get by going direct to the manufacturer. And, since Synergy Consulting Inc. has been providing software maintenance and data management over the years of our work with GEMS, they are the most knowledgeable and inexpensive source to do the data conversion while they are doing the software upgrade. This action will implement the GAIN program computer upgrade approved by the Board during the budget process. The entire GAIN program, including this upgrade and conversion is completely funded by the State through the GAIN allocation and realignment program funds and requires no additional local general fund match. The State has approved this request (attachment 1) and this request has been reviewed and recommended by the Mariposa County Technical Services Director (attachment 2).

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

During budget hearings for 1994/95 the Board approved upgrading the GAIN Employment Management System (GEMS). Resolution 89-243 approved purchase of original system. Resolutions 92-341, 93-332 & 94-226 approved on-going hardware maintenance of system. Resolutions 92-22 & 93-619 approved Mariposa County participation in consortium maintenance efforts.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

1. It would be impractical to switch from GEMS software and equipment prices would be higher direct from the manufacturer.
2. Do not purchase new equipment-continue to pay high maintenance costs on obsolete equipment, and lose compatibility with other CGA counties' software.

COSTS:		() Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY	\$ 24,000*	
B. Total anticipated costs	\$ 24,000	
C. Required additional funding	\$ 0	
D. Internal Transfers	\$ _____	
*Fixed Assets \$20,000 Service/Supplies \$4,000		
SOURCE:		() 4/5ths Vote Required
A. Unanticipated revenues	\$ _____	
B. Reserve for contingencies	\$ _____	
C. Source description:	_____	
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies,	_____	
if approved: \$	_____	

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

1. State letter of approval _____

2. Memo to County Counsel from Technical Services _____

Director date 11/17/94. _____

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 94-535

Vote - Ayes: 10

Absent: John

Approved

() Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

Ord. No. _____

Noes: _____

Abstained: Erickson

() Denied

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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

This item on agenda as:

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- For Policy Determination
- Submitted with Comment
- Returned for Further Action

Comment: _____

A.O. Initials: W

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, M.S. 19-53, Sacramento, CA 95814



November 16, 1994

Mr. Tom Archer, Director
Mariposa County Department
of Human Services
5186 Highway 49 North
P. O. Box 7
Mariposa, California 95338

Dear Mr. Archer:

This is to approve your request of October 31, 1994 to sole source the upgrade of the hardware and software required to operate the GAIN Employment and Management System (GEMS) to Synergy, Inc. The upgrade is required because changes to the GEMS operating system will not operate efficiently on current equipment. The sole source with Synergy, Inc. is justified because the owners developed GEMS and have a contract with the GEMS Association for system maintenance.

The total estimated cost of the hardware, software and installation for this project is \$24,429. The estimated annual maintenance, starting in year two, is \$2,734.

This approval is contingent upon the availability of state and federal funds.

Account Number 22-94-632-00-00 is assigned to this project for claiming purposes. For claiming instructions please refer to County Fiscal Letter 89/90-10 dated October 4, 1989, that provides counties with standardized instructions to be used when claiming costs for electronic data processing projects.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (916) 387-4445.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gino Maiolini".

GINO MAIOLINI, Manager
Project Approvals Unit
Statewide Automated Welfare System Branch

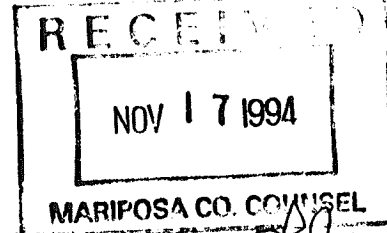
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ARTHUR G. BAGGETT, JR.
 District 2 DOUG BALMAIN
 District 3 ERIC J. ERICKSON
 District 4 GARRY R. PARKER
 District 5 GERTRUDE R. TABER



MARGIE WILLIAMS
 Clerk of the Board

P.O. Box 784
 MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA 95338
 (209) 966-3222



November 17, 1994

To: Jeff Green, County Counsel
 From: Richard Campbell, Technical Services Director
 Subject: Human Services Sole Source Purchase Request

I have reviewed the memorandum dated November 3, 1994 from Nancy Bell in Human Services requesting sole source approval for the upgrade to their GEMS system.

I believe the sole source request is valid for the following reasons: Synergy Consulting has the contract with the California GEMS Association so they would be the most familiar with the software. This is important for two reasons. First, Synergy would be the most qualified to install the new software. Secondly, and most importantly, Synergy would be the only company available that would have the knowledge and expertise to convert the existing data in the system.

The County has had the experience that data conversion can be the most challenging part of upgrading to a new system. Since protecting the integrity of the data is extremely important I believe that a sole source contract is justified.

Please let me know if I can provide any further help with this matter.

