

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:

Prepared on: December 17, 2005
Department Name: Planning & Development
Department No.: 053
Agenda Date: January 3, 2006
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: N/A
Continued Item: Yes
If Yes, date from: March 18, 2003
Document File Name: G:\group\energy\wp\policy\cref
\03\contract\SCWRCBOSAm3

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dianne Meester, Assistant Director
Planning & Development

STAFF CONTACT: Kathy McNeal Pfeifer, 568-2507

SUBJECT: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) – Grant Contract Amendment No. 3

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors executes the attached CREF Amendment No. 3 to contract (BC-03-178) with the Community Environmental Council to install various exhibits and improvements to the South Coast Watershed Resource Center.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation aligns with Goal No. 5. A High Quality of Life for All Residents.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In March of 2003, the Board of Supervisors entered into Contract No. BC-03-178 with the Community Environmental Council (CEC); this contract stipulated the County shall pay a \$19,861 CREF grant and CEC will:

- (a) fabricate two displays depicting the Steelhead life-cycle and its habitat;
- (b) install a marine-themed reading area for children,
- (c) purchase spotting scopes, and
- (d) make some improvements to the existing building (new shelving and tiled drainage area).

In June of 2004 and March of 2005, the Director of Planning & Development approved two amendments to the subject contract.¹

¹ The first amendment mainly moved money around between line-item budgets, and the second amendment extended the contract one year, since the project was having delays due to personnel changes.

CEC reports that it has completed the reading area for children and the improvements to the building, and it will complete one of the steelhead life-cycle displays by February of 2006. CEC has continued to experience personnel changes since the last amendment, and the new director requests the following changes in this third amendment:

- (a) eliminate the task of purchasing optical equipment (the new director states that there is no need for these purchases);
- (b) decrease the budget for the reading area for children (CEC secured \$820 from other sources to complete this task);
- (c) increase the budgets to both of the steelhead displays; and
- (d) extend the contract completion date by 6 months to complete.

The amount of the CREF grant remains the same. Staff recommends approval of this amendment because CEC has been making progress on the grant under the new director for the Watershed Resource Center.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Mitigation of impacts to coastal resources from offshore oil and gas development is required as a condition of permits on five projects located in Santa Barbara County. Mitigation funds are deposited in the Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF). Annually, the Board authorizes the distribution of CREF monies to specific projects approved by the Board. There are no changes in service level as a result of this agreement.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No fiscal and facilities impacts. The Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund is funded by mitigation fees paid by developers of offshore oil and gas reserves. Staff costs to prepare this amendment have been offset by interest accrued to the Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund. The County has already paid the \$19,861 grant to the Community Environmental Council. The CREF program is part of the mitigation program within the Energy Division Cost Center on page D-304 in the Planning & Development Department's section of the County's Budget F05/06.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board will forward a copy of the Amendment No.3 to Kathy McNeal Pfeifer of the Planning and Development Department, Energy Division, who will mail a copy of the amendment to the grantee.

Concurrence:

County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Risk Manager