



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Sheriff
Department No.: 032
For Agenda Of: 09/25/07
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sheriff's Dept Sheriff Bill Brown
Contact Info: Commander Sam Gross x4286

SUBJECT: **Request for a waiver of competitive bid to purchase COPLINK a regional justice information sharing system.**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Purchasing

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Authorize the Sheriff's Department through the County Purchasing Agent and the County Office of Emergency Services to utilize Knowledge Computing Corporation of Tucson, Arizona as the prime contractor to procure COPLINK, a regional justice information sharing system.

Summary Text:

The Sheriff's Department and most other law enforcement agencies within the County have met over the past year under the auspices of the "County Law Enforcement Chiefs" (CLEC) organization to discuss the concept of data sharing between all agencies. Active in these discussions are the District Attorney's Office, the Probation Department, the Santa Barbara Police Department, the Santa Maria Police Department, the Lompoc Police Department and the Sheriff's Department. Although data sharing is not new, the concept has been cost prohibitive as each sharing agency needed to develop an interface to the other agency to share data and no common computer language existed. Now the Department of Homeland Security has awarded Santa Barbara County \$500,000 to purchase a package to provide the data sharing capabilities desired. While a CLEC - guided project, the purchasing of the software would be done through the County as Homeland Security grants are processed through the Office of Emergency Services (OES).

Several vendors have developed specialty software programs that allow law enforcement agencies to share their records data relatively simply and securely without expensive interfaces. Through the auspices of CLEC, several demonstrations of data sharing vendors began in August 2006. These were conducted in order to ascertain whether the vendor could meet the needs of the law enforcement agencies of Santa Barbara County through integration of each of the requisite

agencies criminal records systems, warrants, jail information, probation data and criminal case status.

The following vendors and their data sharing projects presented demonstrations or multiple demonstrations of their products to the CLEC sub-committee:

- C.O.B.R.A. - Cody Systems.
- COPLINK – Knowledge Computing Corporation
- Level II - Level II, Inc.
- Thinkstream – Thinksteam, Inc.
- Visiphor – Visiphor Corporation as presented by Tiburon, Inc.

Each of the vendors was invited to respond to a series of questions about their product, integration to specific law enforcement agencies records management systems, the ability to store or transmit data to other agencies, their ability to provide query results to the officer in the street, then necessary hardware, and preliminary cost estimates. All of the vendors responded to this informal Request for Information (RFI) and through their responses could probably provide regional justice information sharing. Two of the systems proposed, Visiphor and Cody Systems, provided data in a real time format which could create problems in response times for several agencies depending on the nature of the query and the response. The presentation by Level II was conceptual in nature as they had not done any justice sharing projects. The Thinkstream response to the informal RFI was well over the available funds from Homeland Security for this project. COPLINK was the only response that met the defined needs of all of the member agencies represented by this sub-committee.

If the department were to complete a Request for Proposal (RFP) and the formal bid process, the results of the RFP and the bid would exceed the time where funding from Homeland Security would be available. A commitment of funding has been made by the Terrorism Working Group from Homeland Security for an amount not to exceed \$502,000. The funding is not currently a part of the FY2007-08 budget but according to the commitment, the funds will have to be expended by March 31, 2008 when received. Pursuant to the County of Santa Barbara Code 2-39, we are requesting your Board waive the requirements for a competitive bid for the purchase of COPLINK, a regional justice information sharing system and necessary computer hardware to operate that system.

Background:

This project for law enforcement countywide incorporates the sharing of criminal records data regionally. Those people who come into contact with law enforcement by committing crimes do not care about the political boundaries of a city or the unincorporated county. The ability of law enforcement agencies to share records data about people, locations, vehicles and property will greatly enhance their ability to solve crimes.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			\$ 502,000.00
Fiscal Analysis: Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 502,000.00

Narrative:

This project is not yet in the budget. A commitment of funding has been made by the Terrorism Working Group from Homeland Security for an amount not to exceed \$502,000. We will return to the Board with an update on this project once the contract has been finalized to appropriate the funds.

Special Instructions:

Please send a minute order to Commander Sam Gross, Sheriff's Department and Purchasing Manager John McMillin, General Services.

Attachments:

Authored by:

Commander Sam Gross, Ext. 4286