



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: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: August 27, 2019
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 5 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Van Do-Reynoso, Director, MPH, PhD
Director: Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dana Gamble, LCSW
(805) 681-5171
SUBJECT: Waiver of retirement exclusion for Valerie Monte, Occupational Therapist for the Santa Barbara County Medical Therapy Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

CEO, Human Resources:

Approved: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors considers the following:

- a) In accordance with California Government Code Section 7522.56(f)(1), certify that the appointment of retired County employee, Valerie Monte, Occupational Therapist, is necessary to fill a critical need in the Primary Care and Family Health Division of the Public Health Department (PHD), before 180 days have passed from the date of retirement; and
- b) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department to hire retired Occupational Therapist, Valerie Monte, as an Extra Help employee to provide direct occupational therapy services; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are organizational and administrative activities of government that are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request your Board to certify that there is a critical need to allow retired Occupational Therapist, Valerie Monte, be hired as an Extra Help employee to assist with patient therapy coverage until her replacement is identified. Valerie Monte retired on August 9, 2019 from her position as an Occupational Therapist at our Lompoc California Children's Services (CCS) Medical Therapy Unit where she had over 60 patients. She retired with over 17 years of service.

Background:

The Medical Therapy Units (MTUs) provide Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy services for children who have disabling conditions, generally due to neurological or musculoskeletal disorders. The County is required to provide these services for children who are eligible or otherwise must outsource therapy at a greater expense to the County in lieu of offering them directly.

Since Ms. Monte’s retirement, the Public Health Department has initiated the process of hiring a replacement therapist. Historically, it has taken months to find a replacement therapist. Therefore, it would be critical to temporarily allow Ms. Monte to return to work in an extra help capacity while we seek to fill the position with a permanent replacement. Ms. Monte is the only Occupational Therapist at the Lompoc Medical Therapy Unit. If the position is left unfilled, children’s rehabilitation needs would not be met which could lead to possible permanent or worsening disabilities. To maintain continuity of care for patients and to ensure that physician’s orders are followed, Ms. Monte has agreed to work 3 days a week (60%) until a replacement is identified.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Ongoing Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund	\$ 6,625.00		\$ 6,625.00
State	\$ 13,250.00		\$ 13,250.00
Federal			
Fees			
Other: 1991 Realignment	\$ 6,625.00		\$ 6,625.00
Total	\$ 26,500.00	\$ -	\$ 26,500.00

The cost for an Extra Help CCS Occupational/Physical Therapist II at a .60 FTE for 960 hours is estimated at \$26,500. Salary savings from the vacant position will be used for the cost of the extra help and is funded through the CCS program from sources that are 50% State and 25% each General Fund and 1991 Realignment.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please send an electronic copy of the minute order to: phdca@sbcphd.org

Attachments:

N/A

Authored by:

Dana Gamble, LCSW – Assistant Deputy Director, Primary Care and Family Health Division