



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: January 19, 2010  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Michele Mickiewicz, MPH, Interim Director  
Director Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Nancy Lapolla, MPH (681-5264)  
Emergency Medical Services Agency Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement with the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority for  
a grant to participate in the state-wide "CEMSIS" Data program

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve and authorize the Public Health Director to execute an Agreement with the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority to support the implementation costs associated with Santa Barbara County Emergency Medical Services Agency's participation in the State's CEMSIS data program for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 in an amount not to exceed \$25,666.

**Summary Text:**

The State EMS Authority received a federal grant from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to fund a statewide data collection system. The goal of this grant project is to implement a statewide data system incorporating both EMS (field) and trauma patient (trauma center) data. This goal will be met through the development of the California EMS Information System (CEMSIS) which is inclusive of EMS pre-hospital care data and trauma registry data.

Anticipating costs association with preparing local data for transmission to CEMSIS-EMS and/or CEMSIS-Trauma, the State EMS Authority is providing local assistance monies from the OTS grant to local EMS Agencies who have agreed to participate and submit local EMS and trauma data to the EMS Authority utilizing the CEMSIS program. The total appropriation for this project to Santa Barbara County EMS agency for our participation is \$25,666.

The EMS Agency anticipates the cost to update the trauma registry system to be approximately \$6,000. The additional \$19,666 will support the EMS Agency Trauma Nurse Coordinator extra-help position to coordinate the trauma registry system upgrades.

**Background:**

The State of California currently has no mechanism to collect standardized data to assist in policy development, system evaluation, prevention activities related to traffic safety, and quality improvement issues. Data reflecting emergency medical services (EMS) in California is currently captured locally by EMS provider agencies and trauma centers as required by CCR Title 22. In most cases, this data is then transferred to a central site at the local EMS agency (LEMSA). The LEMSA is responsible for developing the data collection policy and data elements for the data dictionary. Although these elements are standard within the local EMS agencies, the data set and record inclusion criteria may not be consistent from one LEMSA to another.

Santa Barbara County's EMS Agency has policies and procedures that include pre-hospital patient care documentation and data specific requirements. All EMS providers (advanced life support – paramedic) fire agencies and American Medical Response (AMR) are required to complete a patient care report for every patient contact. American Medical Response, as part of their advanced life support agreement with the County is required to provide an electronic patient care report system to all county EMS providers. All EMS providers have access to the system and complete electronic pre-hospital patient care reports which becomes part of the patient medical record. Santa Barbara County's electronic patient care report system is compliant with the California Emergency Medical Services Information System (CEMSIS) data system. Once the State's system is ready to receive data, the EMS Agency will ensure our EMS pre-hospital data is submitted to the CEMSIS EMS data system.

Participating in a state-wide EMS data system will allow system providers to compare against similar sized EMS providers in California and will improve patient care in our local system and throughout the State.

Santa Barbara County implemented a trauma registry system as part of our trauma system plan to collect trauma patient data. Hospitals are currently submitting trauma patient data to this trauma registry system. In order to participate in a state-wide CEMSIS trauma program, the current trauma registry system needs to be updated to meet the state trauma data requirements. Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital as a level II trauma center currently meets the state and national trauma data requirements but our other participating trauma registry hospitals, Lompoc Valley Medical Center and Marian Medical Center, utilize the county's web based trauma registry application which is currently not compliant with the new CEMSIS trauma system. By participating in the CEMSIS program we will be able to update our local trauma registry system. This update will allow Santa Barbara County to participate in the National Trauma Data base as well as the State's system and provide for collaboration with other EMS Agencies and trauma systems enhancing local and regional trauma system performance improvements efforts.

In anticipation of the trauma registry system upgrade the EMS Agency has begun work with the hospitals and the trauma registry system vendor, Lancet Technology.

**Performance Measure:**

1. Successfully complete the trauma data transmission in the CEMSIS-specified data transmission format by the required date of June 1, 2010.
2. Successfully complete the EMS pre-hospital patient care data transmission in the CEMSIS-specified data transmission format by the required date of June 1, 2010.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

The Board is requested to authorize the Public Health Director to execute this agreement with the State of California Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority in an amount not to exceed \$25,666. All of these funds are through a federal grant from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). Upon approval of this action, a budget revision request will follow. Thus, this amount will be included as part of the adjusted Public Health Department FY 2009-10 budget shown on page D-204 of the County's Operating Plan document.

There is no increase in the use of the County's General Fund resources as a result of executing this agreement.

**Staffing Impacts:**

This grant supports .3 FTE of a Extra Help Trauma Nurse Coordinator position.

This agreement will not result in any additional need for facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at [PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org](mailto:PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org)

**Attachments:**

EMS Authority CEMSIS Agreement EMS-9076

**Authored by:**

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