



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: May 17, 2022
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: Paige Batson, MA, PHN, RN
(805) 681-5446
SUBJECT: Waiver of retirement exclusion for Karen White and Sandra Isaacs for the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Community Health Services Division

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, Karen White, Supervising Public Health Nurse is necessary to fill a critical need in Disease Control & Prevention within the Community Health Division of the Public Health Department, before 180 days have passed from the date of retirement; and
- b) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department Director to enter into an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with retired Supervising Public Health Nurse, Karen White to provide direct services including communicable disease investigations, training, and specialized disease prevention projects limited to 960 hours for the period of May 23, 2022 through May 31, 2023; and
- c) In accordance with California Government Code Section 7522.56(f)(1), certify that the appointment of retired County employee, Sandra Isaacs, Public Health Nurse is necessary to fill a critical need in Disease Control & Prevention within the Community Health Division of the Public Health Department, before 180 days have passed from the date of retirement; and
- d) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department Director to appoint retired Public Health Nurse, Sandra Isaacs, as Extra Help to provide direct public health nursing investigation and related services limited to 960ours for the period of May 23, 2022 through May 31, 2023; and

- e) 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 because the actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to request your Board to certify that there is a critical need to allow two retired staff from the Public Health Department (PHD) to return and assist the Disease Control & Prevention Program with filling key positions necessary to meet program mandates. The first request is for Supervising Public Health Nurse (PHN), Karen White, be hired as an Independent Contractor to assist with the implementation of critical program operations to ensure the timely response to incoming communicable diseases that include COVID-19, TB, STDs, etc., and to assist with special projects related to the implementation of new program workflows related CDPH initiatives. Karen White retired on March 31, 2022 from her position as a Supervising PHN at our Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Community Health Division. She retired with over 24 years of service.

The second request is for PHN Sandra Isaacs, to return as extra help to assist with ensuring timely investigation and implementation of public health interventions related to incoming communicable disease referrals. Due to current vacancies and inability to fill public health nursing positions, Ms. Isaacs will provide direct public health nursing and case management support. Sandra Isaacs retired on March 31, 2022 from her position as PHN at our Santa Barbara County Public Health Department Community Health Division. She retired with over 16 years of service.

Background:

PHD’s Disease Control Program is responsible to prevent and control the spread of communicable diseases. This responsibility involves the responding to and investigating communicable diseases and outbreaks, including COVID-19 per California Code of Regulations, Title 17 (Section 2500). Controlling transmission of communicable diseases demands that the program has adequate and trained staff in order to institute public health interventions in a timely manner. Due to the retirement of long-term public health nurses and recruitment challenges, the program is encountering critical challenges in staffing and the ability to meet our mandate requirements. Further, as a result of new funding streams and programmatic changes initiated by the California Department of Public Health for specific programs, there are many new processes and workflows that have changed for which newer staff requires additional support and coaching from seasoned staff. It is expected that with the return of the retired public health nurses, they can provide support with mandatory disease investigations, orientation and mentoring of new staff, and facilitating the implementation of new program initiatives or projects.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>FY 2021-2022 Cost:</u>	<u>FY 2022-2023 Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 9,950.00	\$ 49,700.00	\$ 59,650.00
Federal	\$ 9,950.00	\$ 49,700.00	\$ 59,650.00
Fees			\$ -
Other:			\$ -
Total	\$ 19,900.00	\$ 99,400.00	\$ 119,300.00

It is anticipated that Ms. Isaacs will provide Extra Help Public Health Nurse services for approximately 960 hours at her extra help salary rate which does not exceed the maximum authorized in the County's salary tables in accordance with the California Government Code section 7522.56(d), estimated at \$57,000.00. It is anticipated that Ms. White will provide Supervising Public Health Nurse services up to 960 hours at the extra help salary rate which does not exceed the maximum authorized in the County's salary tables in accordance with California Government Code section 7522.56(d), estimated at \$62,300. The anticipated cost for FY 2021-2022 is estimated at \$19,900 and will be covered with salary savings from the vacant positions and the costs for FY 2022-23 estimated at \$99,400 (for a total of \$119,300) will be funded through a combination of 1991 Health Realignment and Federal grant funds for Communicable Disease Control, including Federal Stimulus Act funding for COVID-19 response activities.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A

Authored by:

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