



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: March 17, 2009
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer
Director Public Health Department
Contact Info: Nancy Lapolla, MPH (681-5264)
Emergency Medical Services Agency Director
SUBJECT: Agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials
(NACCHO) for Medical Reserve Corps

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes No N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes No N/A

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes No N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

Consider recommendations regarding the Agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials for Medical Reserve Corps as follows:

- a) Approve and authorize the Public Health Director to execute an agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials for a grant to support the Santa Barbara County Medical Reserve Corps for the period January 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009 in the amount of \$5,000.
- b) Approve and authorize the Public Health Director to execute future agreements with the National Association of County and City Officials, if funds are available, for the Santa Barbara Medical Reserve Corps as long as the award is within 10% of the annual \$5,000 amount.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County Medical Reserve Corps was established as part of the County's Pandemic Flu planning effort which began in 2006. It was one of the original 21 project teams created to prepare our County in the event of a disaster. This award will pay for some costs necessary for the development and ongoing needs of the Corps. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) currently has a medical director, steering committee, policies and procedures for operations and website for membership. There are currently 59 professional volunteers and it is anticipated to grow to as many as 100 volunteers in the next 12 months.

The National Association of County and City Officials (NACCHO) received a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to build the capacity of local MRC units. NACCHO has agreed to provide support to MRC units and to encourage these units to provide certain information to the Surgeon General's Office of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps.

The term "capacity building" is used by NACCHO to describe the initial startup and on going maintenance costs to establish a MRC. The effective time period for this grant is January 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009.

The Santa Barbara County MRC has on-going costs for recruitment, ID photo cards, background checks, uniforms, communications, brochures, etc. This is the third award from NACCHO for this purpose. On March 18, 2008 your board approved a capacity building award for \$5,000 and on June 19, 2007 the Board approved our first award of \$10,000. It is our hope that this maintenance award in the amount of \$5,000 will continue in future years.

Background:

The MRC consists of licensed medical professionals who are willing to volunteer and serve as emergency medical workers in a disaster or emergency. MRC volunteers may be doctors, nurses, veterinarians, dentists, social workers, pharmacists, chaplains, paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians.

The MRC volunteers would be called upon when regular emergency medical response systems are overwhelmed, such as during natural disasters or other major emergencies. With the creation of a local MRC, Santa Barbara County residents will be able to count on a group of volunteers to supplement emergency medical workers in the event of a public health emergency or disaster.

The MRC program was created after President Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. Currently there are 37 Medical Reserve Corps registered in California and 657 nationwide. The Santa Barbara County Medical Reserve Corps was approved and registered with the Office of the Surgeon General in August 2006.

Performance Measure:

A Public Health Department prepared to efficiently and effectively respond to public health emergencies and disasters.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

This agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials will provide \$5,000 to help offset the Santa Barbara County Medical Reserve Corps total program costs of \$13,071. The remaining costs of \$8,071 will be provided for as part of the County of Santa Barbara EMS Agency's General Fund contribution. The costs for the Medical Reserve Corps are included in the EMS cost center of the Community Health Division of the Public Health Department FY 08-09 adopted budget shown on page D-204 of the County's Operating Plan document.

There are no increases in facility or use of General Fund resources as a result of executing this agreement.

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Of County and city Health Officials for
Medical Reserve Corps
Agenda Date: February 17, 2009
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Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at
PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

National Association of County and City Health Officials Agreement

Authored by:

John Eaglesham, Contract & Compliance Coordinator, MRC Team Coordinator, Emergency Medical
Services Agency, 805-681-5394.