



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 11, 2014  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer  
Director(s) Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Lawrence D. Fay, Jr.  
Director, Environmental Health Services, 346-8463  
**SUBJECT:** Amendment 1 to Grant Agreement #12-048-250 for Ocean Water Quality  
Monitoring & Public Notification Services

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations regarding "Beach Monitoring":

- A) Approve and authorize the Public Health Department Director to execute and ratify the attached Amendment 1 to the existing Public Beach Safety Grant Program Agreement (Number 12-048-250) with the State of California to provide public beach water quality monitoring and public notification services extending the term of the Agreement to September 30, 2014 and adding \$115,111 to the grant amount.
- B) Approve and authorize the Budget Revision Request # BJE 0003179 reflecting \$67,311 of unanticipated revenue from the State Water Resources Control Board and increasing Services and Supplies for FY 2013-14 in the County's financial system.
- C) Determine that these activities are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), since the recommended actions are government fiscal activities which do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to authorize the Public Health Department Director to sign an Amendment to existing grant Agreement #12-048-250 with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). The California Health and Safety Code requires public beaches be sampled at least once a week during the

period of April 1 – October 31. As a mandated local program, the California Constitution requires that the State reimburse local jurisdictions for the cost of performing this water quality monitoring. The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (PHD) and the SWRCB seek to extend an existing grant Agreement, whereby the SWRCB will reimburse the County, up to the limits of this Agreement, for the cost of monitoring, cleanup, abatement activities and the reporting of water quality at public beaches. Funding under the existing contract expired September 30, 2013, but additional funding would be extended through September 30, 2014 under this Amendment 1.

**Background:**

In July 1999, Assembly Bill 411 revised the California Health & Safety Code to require that coastal jurisdictions monitor the quality of the water adjacent to public beaches. The statute, and the ensuing regulations developed pursuant to the statute, stipulated that public beaches, as defined, were to be sampled for bacteria at least weekly between April 1 and October 31. The results of the weekly monitoring were to be made available to the public by various methods. Beaches that did not meet the water quality standards specified in the regulations were to be posted with warning signs or closed if deemed necessary by the local Health Officer.

As a mandated program, the California Constitution requires that the State reimburse local jurisdictions for costs incurred while conducting ocean water monitoring and public notification during these months. As a result, the County of Santa Barbara and the SWRCB entered into Beach Monitoring Grant Agreement 12-048-250 in January 2013. This Agreement expired on September 30, 2013. Under this Amendment 1, the SWRCB extends the term of the Agreement to September 30, 2014 and adds an additional \$115,111 to the grant amount.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Approval and acceptance of this Amendment 1 between the SWRCB and Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services (EHS) will provide funds for beach water quality monitoring and public notification services for the period of September 30, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

The ocean water monitoring program was included in the PHD FY 2013-14 recommended budget for \$47,800 in State funding. This amendment increases State funding and adds Federal funding. The FY 2013-2014 program budget included 12 months of ocean water testing by using a combination of EHS staff, Public Health Laboratory and Channel Keepers. The amendment will allow the department to utilize EHS staff and the Public Health Laboratory for all twelve months.

Acceptance of these funds will not increase the need for additional General Fund contribution or result in the need for additional facilities.

**Special Instructions:**

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

**Attachments:**

State of California Funding Agreement 12-048-250, Amendment 1.

**Authored by:**

David Brummond, Supervising Environmental Health Specialist, Environmental Health Services