



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

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Fire
Department No.: 031
Agenda Date: June 24, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Mark A. Hartwig, Fire Chief/Fire Warden
Contact: Sergio Sanchez, Division Chief, Support Services
SUBJECT: Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor between the County of Santa Barbara and Tablet Command, Inc.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Directors for the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor (Attachment A) with Tablet Command for incident management software for the period of July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028 in the amount of \$645,300; and
- b) Authorize the County Fire Chief, with concurrence from Auditor-Controller and County Counsel, to execute amendments to the above agreement to purchase additional licenses as needed and provide services not to exceed 10% of the total three-year contract price; and
- c) Authorize the County Fire Chief to execute the Agreement for Reimbursement of Software Licenses between the Fire District and American Medical Response West (Attachment B), and between the Fire District and Vandenberg Fire Department (Attachment C); and
- d) Find that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(2) in that they involve continuing administrative or maintenance activities, and CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), in that they involve organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (Fire District) requests that the Board approve a three-year agreement with Tablet Command, Inc. (Tablet Command) for incident management software. This software

has been adopted by all local emergency response agencies in conjunction with the launch of the Regional Fire Communications Center (RFCC), allowing for optimized transmission of emergency response instructions to responding equipment from all partner agencies. The following agencies will reimburse the Fire District for their proportionate share of cost for the software:

- Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District
- American Medical Response
- City of Guadalupe Fire Department
- City of Lompoc Fire Department
- Montecito Fire Protection District
- Vandenberg Space Force Base Fire Department
- City of Santa Maria Fire Department
- City of Santa Barbara Fire Department

Approval of the recommended actions will authorize the Chair to execute the agreement with Tablet Command.

Discussion:

Tablet Command offers mobile incident management software designed to be deployed in fire and other emergency response vehicles. Tablet Command software integrates with the Fire District's existing Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, providing emergency responders with incident mapping and resource deployment visibility. By adopting the same incident management software across all local fire agencies, dispatch services will have better visibility into the deployment of resources allowing for optimized response times.

Background:

The Fire District has contracted for yearly licenses from Tablet Command via a Purchase Order since 2022. With the opening of the RFCC, the Fire District had the opportunity to consolidate all local Tablet Command licenses under one agreement, and to lock in pricing for three years. As a result, the contract with Tablet Command now exceeds the Board Contract threshold. Therefore, the Fire District is requesting Board approval of the contract with Tablet Command.

In May 2025, the Fire District received Executive Information Technology Committee (EITC) approval for opening the contract Tablet Command.

The Fire District has RFCC partner agreements in place with the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District, City of Guadalupe Fire Department, City of Lompoc Fire Department, Montecito Fire Protection District, City of Santa Maria Fire Department, and City of Santa Barbara Fire Department. In 2025, a first amendment to those agreements was signed, allowing the Fire District to contract with Tablet Command for licenses for partner agencies and maintain policy and administrative control of the Tablet Command application.

The Fire District did not have partner agreements in place with Vandenberg Space Force Base Fire Department and American Medical Response. As such, an Agreement for Reimbursement of Software Licenses was created to allow the Fire District to the ability provide licenses to these agencies. Vandenberg Space Force Base Fire Department's license cost will remain fixed for the duration of the agreement due to federal funding restrictions, and no increases in license fees will be permitted.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted:

Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

The total Fiscal Year 2025–26 cost is \$231,100, comprising \$207,100 in ongoing annual expenses and a one-time cost of \$24,000. The total contract amount over the three years shall not exceed \$645,300.

Fire will be reimbursed \$127,962 annually by the partner agencies. The remaining \$103,138, which includes Fire's share of the ongoing costs (\$79,138) and the one-time cost (\$24,000), is included in Fire's budget. The total costs were allocated based on the number of licenses requested by each partner agency. The table below represents the revenue expected from the partner agencies for the next three years for the ongoing costs.

Funding Source	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	Total
Fire Protection District Fund 2280	103,138	79,138	79,138	261,414
State				
Federal				
Fees				
<i>Partner Agencies</i>	127,962	127,962	127,962	383,886
Total	231,100	207,100	207,100	645,300

Staffing Impacts:

N/A

Special Instructions:

Upon Board approval and execution, the Clerk is asked to please return a copy of the Agreement and minute order to the Fire Department, attention: Chief Sergio Sanchez.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor between the County of Santa Barbara and Tablet Command, Inc.

Attachment B – Agreement for reimbursement of software licenses between the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District and American Medical Response.

Attachment C – Agreement for reimbursement of software licenses between the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District and Vandenberg Space Force Base Fire Department.

Contact Information:

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