



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: County Counsel
Department No.: 013
For Agenda Of: August 22, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Rachel Van Mullem, County Counsel (568-2950)
Director
Contact Info: Anne Rierson, Sr. Deputy County Counsel (568-2950)
SUBJECT: Amendment to Agreement with Outside Tax Counsel

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve, ratify and authorize the Chair to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Professional Legal Services with Ice Miller LLP, extending the term to August 21, 2024 and updating the hourly rates; and
- b. Determine that the above actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because they are administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This Amendment No. 2 extends the term of the County's agreement with Ice Miller LLP to August 21, 2024 and updates the hourly rates for services. The amendment does not add any funds to the not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000, of which approximately \$27,000 has been spent. Ice Miller provides federal tax law advice and legal services, including related to employee benefits, payroll, and the County Employees' Retirement Plan and 401(h) Retiree Health Plan. Ice Miller has served as the County's employee benefits outside tax counsel since 2006.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Key Contract Risks:

County Counsel views the contract risk as low because of the firm's specialized legal expertise and the County's experience with the firm.

Staffing Impacts:

None.

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the Minute Order and signed amendment to Anne Rierson in County Counsel.

Attachments:

- A. Amendment No. 2
- B. Agreement for Professional Legal Services
- C. Amendment No. 1

Authored by:

Anne Rierson, Sr. Deputy County Counsel