



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: CEO/Human  
Resources  
Department No.: 012  
For Agenda Of: January 13, 2015  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Time:  
Continued Item: Select\_Continued  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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TO: Select\_Board(s)  
FROM: Select\_From Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, 568-3404  
Contact Info: Jeri Muth, Human Resources Director, 568-2816  
SUBJECT: Appointment of Interim County Fire Chief and Fire Warden

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Select\_Other

As to form: Select\_Concurrence

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Select\_Concurrence

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Appoint Michael Dyer as the Interim Fire Chief and Fire Warden effective January 17, 2015 at an hourly rate of \$96.748 until such a time as a new Fire Chief/Warden is appointed and duties are transitioned; and
2. Determine that these actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review as it is not a project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378 (b) (2).

**Summary Text:**

The County is in the process of selecting a Fire Chief/Warden to replace retiring Fire Chief/Fire Warden, Michael Dyer. In order to ensure continuity of service and a smooth transition of duties to the new Fire Chief, the recommended actions will allow Chief Dyer to continue to lead the Fire Department in an interim capacity at his existing salary.

**Background:**

Fire Chief/Warden, Michael Dyer, is retiring from the County of Santa Barbara effective January 16, 2015 and, though the County is in the final stages of a recruitment for a new Fire Chief, it is anticipated that an Interim Fire Chief/Warden will be needed until a new Chief is

appointed. Continuing on in an interim capacity will provide for continuity of services including oversight of community safety and emergency response. In addition, it will benefit the organization and the community to provide a brief amount of time for Chief Dyer to transition duties to the new Chief. As Chief Dyer will continue in a Safety capacity, he is exempt from the 180-day sit-out period required of General employees under the Public Employee Pension Reform Act (PEPRA).

The Interim Fire Chief/Warden will head the County Fire Department and County Fire Protection District ("County Fire"). County Fire provides fire protection and emergency medical response to the unincorporated area of the County and to the Cities of Goleta and Buellton. Services are supported by 258.5 FTE positions and provided through 16 fire stations located throughout the County.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The exact fiscal impact is unknown as the length of the Interim assignment, hire date of the new Chief and period of overlap are uncertain. However, the impact of the Interim Chief position is expected to result in monthly savings of approximately \$11,000 (existing salary and benefit cost of the Fire Chief/Warden of \$26,500/month less interim Chief costs of \$15,500/month). No General Funds would be necessary as this position is funded from Fire District Funds.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

**FTEs:**

**cc:**

Michael Dyer, Fire Department