

# 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:** Clerk-Recorder-

Assessor

Department No.: 062

For Agenda Of: May 21, 2019
Placement: Administrative

**Estimated Time:** 

Continued Item:  $N_0$ 

If Yes, date from:

Vote Required: Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Joseph E. Holland, County Clerk, Recorder, and Assessor

Director(s)

Contact Info: Heather McCaslin, Elections Division Manager, 696-8953

**SUBJECT:** California Voting System Replacement Contract 2018

#### **County Counsel Concurrence**

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence** 

As to form: Yes As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

# **Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a resolution approving, ratifying, and authorizing the County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor to enter into an agreement with the California Secretary of State pursuant to Elections Code Section 19402 for reimbursement of funds used for voting system replacement and modernization, in the maximum amount of \$1,357,500.
- b) Determine pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4) that the above action is not a project subject to CEQA review because the action consists of the creation of government funding activities or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

# **Summary Text:**

Through AB 1824 Voting System Replacement Contract 2018, the California Secretary of State (SOS) allocated \$1,357,500 in funding to the County of Santa Barbara. The adoption of this resolution approves, ratifies, and authorizes the County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor to enter into a reimbursement contract with the SOS, pursuant to Elections Code Section 19402 (Attachment C).

Additionally, this resolution also authorizes the County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor to execute any further documents, contract extensions, or amendments, as necessary, to implement the reimbursement award, with the concurrence of the offices of County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller.

#### **Background:**

On June 27, 2018, Governor Brown approved AB 1824, regarding Voting System Replacement Contracts. California Elections Code Section 19402 requires the SOS to allocate funds for voting system replacement activities based on specified criteria and requires that the reimbursement match funds spent by a county on a dollar-for-dollar basis, up to the allocated amount. The Voting System Replacement Contract 2018 covers eligible purchases made after April 29, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

The department will use these funds to offset costs for eligible election purchases, all of which will benefit multiple election processes in addition to improving the voter's overall experience. Eligible purchases include the acquisition or leasing of new voting systems, electronic poll books, ballot on demand systems, vote by mail drop boxes, remote accessible vote by mail systems, telecommunication technologies facilitating electronic connection for voter registration between polling places, vote centers and the office of the elections official, and vote by mail ballot sorting and processing equipment.

Regarding matching funds, the department currently has \$2,005,313 in Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds and \$915,748 in Committed Elections Voting Equipment fund balance. Additionally, expenses already incurred for eligible purchases made after April 29, 2015 can count towards the required dollar-for-dollar match.

Since the Voting System Replacement Contract 2018 covers purchases dating back to April 29, 2015 and matching funds can derive from multiple sources, the department is still determining how to best utilize the grant and matching funds with the intent of minimizing any impact on the General Fund. Once it is determined which projects will be grant funded and where the matching funds will come from, the department will return with a Budget Revision Request.

#### **Performance Measure:**

N/A

#### **Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:**

N/A

# **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

#### **Fiscal Analysis:**

Funding Sources	Current FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	<u>Total One-Time</u> <u>Project Cost</u>	
General Fund				
State			\$	1,357,500.00
Federal				
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$	1,357,500.00

Narrative: The County is required to match Voting System Replacement Contract 2018 funds on eligible purchases on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Matching funds will come from existing Clerk-Recorder-Assessor General Fund Contribution, Committed Elections Voting Equipment fund balance, and/or federal HAVA grant funds.

# **Key Contract Risks:**

N/A

# **Staffing Impacts:**

Legal Positions: FTEs: N/A N/A

# **Special Instructions:**

Please forward a certified copy of the minute order and fully executed Resolution to the Santa Barbara County Elections Office.

# **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Resolution Approving, Ratifying, and Authorizing the County Clerk, Recorder and Assessor to Enter into an Agreement with the California Secretary of State Pursuant to Elections Code Section 19402 for Reimbursement of Funds Used for Voting System Replacement and Modernization

Attachment B: Standard Agreement

Attachment C: Assembly Bill No. 1824, including Elections Code Section 19402

# **Authored by:**

Heather McCaslin

#### cc:

Joe Holland Renee Bischof