

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 5, 2023

CATEGORY: Consent Calendar {{item.number}}

SUBJECT: Approve an amendment to the agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for administration of the Shasta County Fire Department which adds one Battalion Chief position and increases maximum compensation.

DEPARTMENT: County Fire

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT #: All

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Sean O'Hara, Fire Warden, (530) 225-2418

STAFF REPORT APPROVED BY: Sean O'Hara, County Fire Warden

<u>Vote Required?</u>	<u>General Fund Impact?</u>
Simple Majority Vote	No Additional General Fund Impact

RECOMMENDATION

Approve an amendment to the agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for administration of the Shasta County Fire Department (SCFD) which adds one Battalion Chief position to the contract and increases compensation by \$232,497 for a total amount not to exceed \$8,918,517 for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

DISCUSSION

On June 20, 2023, the Board of Supervisors approved agreement 2CA06248 with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for administration of the Shasta County Fire Department (SCFD) for a term of one year from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 with a total compensation of \$8,686,020. CAL FIRE and the County would now like to amend the agreement to increase one Battalion Chief position for the Vegetation Management Program.

In 2019 Shasta County adopted, “*An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta Adding Chapter 8.10, Defensible Space for Fire Protection, to the Shasta County Code, and Amending Section 12.12.050 and Section 16.04.130 of the Shasta County Code,*” to help create defensible space for structures by fire hazard reduction on property adjacent to structures and roadways. Over the past few years, the County has addressed defensible space complaints and concerns by education and at times citation; however, Shasta County does not currently fund any staff for defensible space code enforcement. Adding the Battalion Chief position to the CAL FIRE agreement will increase the Fiscal Year 2023-24 agreement by \$232,497. This position will oversee enforcement of Shasta County and State of California codes for defensible space and weed abatement, increasing fire prevention activities and fire safety throughout Shasta County.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board could request additional information about the agreement or amendment. The Board could choose not to approve the contract amendment. This is not recommended as the County would remain without dedicated personnel for County and State defensible space code enforcement.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

County Counsel has approved the amendment as to form. Risk Management has reviewed the amendment. The Recommendation has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office.

FISCAL IMPACT

The recommended amendment to the agreement will increase the total cost by \$232,497. This amount will be covered with existing appropriation in County Fire CSA #1 budget by the use of Zogg settlement funds. No additional general fund impact is expected as

a result of this increase.

ATTACHMENTS:

1: First Amendment to the Agreement between the County of Shasta and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection