

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Health	(2) MEETING DATE 12/17/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Penny Borenstein / 781-5519	
(4) SUBJECT Request to endorse the submission of a grant application to the National Association of County and City Health Officials in the amount of \$21,560 to help fund development of a Health Agency Strategic Plan.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board: 1) Endorse the submission of a grant application to the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) in the amount of \$21,560 to help fund development of a Health Agency Strategic Plan; and 2) Authorize the Health Officer to sign the contract if the grant is awarded.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW  Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director  
Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer

DATE: 12/17/2013

SUBJECT: Request to endorse the submission of a grant application to the National Association of County and City Health Officials in the amount of \$21,560 to help fund development of a Health Agency Strategic Plan.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1) Endorse the submission of a grant application to the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) in the amount of \$21,560 to help fund development of a Health Agency Strategic Plan; and
- 2) Authorize the Health Officer to sign the contract if the grant is awarded.

## **DISCUSSION**

On November 5, 2013 the Public Health Department received notice of a grant opportunity from NACCHO to help state and local health departments advance their pursuit of Public Health Accreditation. The grant application due date was November 13, 2013 and contained a requirement that the County governing body be notified of application for funds. An allowance was made to explain if this was not possible prior to grant submittal and to obtain, thereafter, the governing body's awareness of the application submittal. Given the application timing, it was indeed impossible to bring a request for approval to apply to your Board prior to submittal. The application submitted did report this circumstance and the intent of the Public Health Department to ask for Board endorsement of the funding request.

Public Health Accreditation began as a national initiative following the issuance of a 2003 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, *The Future of the Public's Health*, which called for the establishment of a national steering committee to examine the benefits of accrediting governmental public health departments. In 2007 a Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) was founded to advance the goals of a voluntary public health accreditation program. The goals are listed as follows:

- Promote high performance and continuous quality improvement
- Recognize high performers that meet nationally accepted standards of quality and improvement
- Illustrate health department accountability to the public and policymakers
- Increase the visibility and public awareness of governmental public health, leading to greater public trust and increased health department credibility, and ultimately a stronger constituency for public health funding and infrastructure
- Clarify the public's expectations of health departments

Prerequisites to applying for Public Health Accreditation include three foundational documents: a Community Health Assessment, a Community Health Improvement Plan, and a Strategic Plan. The grant required selection by applicants of only one of these three elements for which funds would be used. The Health Agency at large, which includes the Public Health Department, has simultaneously begun to set its sights on development of a strategic plan. Thus, the Public Health Department deemed it opportunistic to apply for funding for strategic plan development to align these similar goals.

The funds will be used to hire an outside contractor to help guide the Health Agency in developing core elements of the

Strategic Plan through facilitated information gathering by all appropriate stakeholders and project management to deliver an operational document to serve as the basis for this one pre-requisite for seeking public health accreditation.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

An effective strategic planning process will require the input of staff, as well as key stakeholders from other County agencies and community partners. Action for Healthy Communities collaborative members and other community partners will be approached to garner their participation.

The Office of County Counsel has approved the agreement as to form and legal effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A total of \$21,560 was applied for under the grant. If awarded, funds would be released upon completion of work items to reimburse the Public Health Department for expenditures. Notification of grantees will be by December 13, 2013 and all work under the grant must be completed by May 31, 2014.

### **RESULTS**

The expected results are as follows:

- Written guidelines for development of a strategic plan.
- A comprehensive assessment of “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges” to lend guidance for strategic plan development.
- Convening of a workgroup, made up of internal and external stakeholders, to formulate vision and mission statements, guiding principles, and goals and objectives for inclusion in the strategic plan.

The overall results from this initiative will assist the Health Agency in development of a strategic plan, as well as further the County’s vision of a healthy, well-governed community.