

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

(1) DEPARTMENT County Fire		(2) MEETING DATE 7/26/2016		(3) CONTACT/PHONE Scott M. Jalbert (805) 543-4244 Suzi Cain (805) 543-4244	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve the FY 2016-17 renewal agreement for cooperative fire protection services with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in the amount of \$17,935,764. All Districts.					
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chair to sign the FY 2016-17 annual agreement for cooperative fire protection services with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,935,764.					
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) General Fund \$14,691,803 Reimbursement Contracts \$3,243,961		(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$17,935,764.00		(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	
(9) BUDGETED? Yes					
(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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A					
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A				(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <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 type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: <u>07/21/15</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst					
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts					

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: County Fire / Scott M. Jalbert (805) 543-4244  
Suzi Cain (805) 543-4244

DATE: 8/9/2016

SUBJECT: Request to approve the FY 2016-17 renewal agreement for cooperative fire protection services with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in the amount of \$17,935,764.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board approve and direct the Chair to sign the FY 2016-17 annual agreement for cooperative fire protection services with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in the amount of \$17,935,764.

## **DISCUSSION**

CAL FIRE has provided fire protection and related services to the County of San Luis Obispo through a series of annual agreements since 1930. The services provided include emergency medical response, structural and vehicle fire suppression, hazardous materials spill mitigation, aircraft rescue and firefighting, and technical and confined space rescue. Sections 4142 and 4144 of the California Public Resources Code authorize this agreement between the State and the County.

Currently, the County Fire Department operates out of 16 fire stations providing service to an area of over 3,200 square miles. These fire stations include ten County-owned facilities and six State-owned facilities. Fourteen of the stations are staffed seven-days-per-week with full-time staff. Morro-Toro Station 14 and Oak Shores Station 34 remain volunteer stations, with Paid Call Firefighters (PCFs) responding to incidents, supported by full-time staff from other stations. Three stations (Cambria Station 10, San Luis Obispo Station 12, and Shandon Station 51) are staffed under what is known as an Amador Plan, where the State pays staffing costs during fire season and the County pays staffing costs during non-fire season.

Your Board is requested to approve a contract for Fiscal Year 2016-17 in the amount of \$17,935,764. This reflects a \$918,831 (5.4%) increase over the Fiscal Year 2015-16 contract. \$203,730 of the increase is due a budget augmentation request approved as part of the FY 2016-17 budget to increase Amador (winter) staffing at the fire station in Cambria. This increase is partially offset by a \$64,324 reduction in the contract amount as a result of reducing IT support costs with the approval of funding for a Departmental Automation Specialist dedicated to Fire in the County IT Department. In addition, Firefighter-I salaries increased last year due to the statewide minimum wage increase. Although the contract does not include any Firefighter-I positions, salary increases were negotiated at the state level for other firefighting classifications to alleviate compaction between salary levels. Additional increases to salaries are anticipated to be negotiated by the state in future years as the minimum wage continues to rise based on the statewide minimum wage law signed by the Governor in April 2016.

The total contract expense of \$17,935,764 for FY 2016-17 is divided into four service areas:

- Managing the Department \$841,495 or 4.7%
- Preventing Emergencies \$1,026,965 or 5.7%
- Preparing for Emergencies \$1,176,875 or 6.6%
- Responding to Emergencies \$14,890,519 or 83%

This contract is the product of ongoing cooperative fire protection and emergency response efforts between the County, the State, and numerous other emergency response agencies. It builds on the strengths of each agency, and effectively leverages the County's investment in protecting the lives and property of County residents and visitors, with the capabilities and resources of those agencies.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The attached agreement has been reviewed by County Counsel and County Risk Management.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The FY 2016-17 agreement for cooperative fire protection services is in the amount of \$17,935,764 and is included in the FY 2016-17 adopted budget. Of the total, \$3,243,961 is offset with revenue from existing cooperative fire protection service agreements. The remaining \$14,691,803 is funded by the County General Fund, grant proceeds, Prop 172 Sales Tax revenues, fees and other revenue sources.

This contract comprises approximately 83% of County Fire's FY 2016-17 budgeted expenditures. Other, non-contract expenditures include training, equipment, stipends for paid-call-firefighters, facility rent, maintenance and utilities, insurance and countywide overhead, totaling \$21,359,274.

As mentioned above, \$3,243,961 in contract costs are offset by revenues under fire protection and emergency response agreements between the County and the following agencies. The portion of the FY 2016-17 contract attributable to each agency is shown in the table below.

<b>Agreement</b>	<b>Offset amount</b>
Los Osos Community Services District	\$1,875,151
Topaz Solar, Inc.	\$489,669
San Luis Obispo County Municipal Airport	\$499,272
Avila Beach Fire Protection District	\$138,913
City of Morro Bay	\$120,478
Dispatch Agreements with San Miguel Fire, Santa Margarita Fire, Templeton Fire, Cambria Fire, Cayucos Fire and Camp Roberts (Total amount shown)	\$120,479
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,243,961</b>

**RESULTS**

This cooperative agreement between the County and CAL FIRE provides for the continued efficient and cost-effective delivery of fire and emergency services, and allows the Department to continue its efforts to meet performance measures included in the County Budget. It is an essential part of the department's efforts to provide a safe community, a healthy community and a well-governed community.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. San Luis Obispo County Agreement with CAL FIRE FY 2016-17