



**Health & Human Services
Agency
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three
EDDIE VALERO
District Four
DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: February 26, 2019 REVISED

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Nilsa Gonzalez PHONE: 559-624-8400

SUBJECT: Tulare County Public Health Laboratory Water Testing Certification

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:
Authorize expiration of the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation effective on May 31, 2019, and transition to the California Department of Food and Agriculture certification for the water quality testing program performed at the Tulare County Public Health Laboratory.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Public Health Laboratory (TCPHL) is proposing to discontinue Environmental Lab Accreditation Program (ELAP) certification due to an increase in regulatory burdens and increased fees. ELAP accreditation is needed only to provide non-dairy clients with water testing services and is not a mandated service. In order to avoid passing additional fees to these clients and still ensure services are available, clients requiring non-dairy water testing will be assisted by referrals to alternate ELAP water laboratories for their testing needs. TCPHL will be seeking water testing certification through the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to provide dairy water testing services, which account for the majority of tests performed through the lab, in lieu of using the ELAP accreditation. Certification will be obtained prior to the expiration of the accreditation in order to ensure that no lapse in water testing services for dairy water and regulated systems occurs.

In 2018 the Tulare County Public Health Laboratory provided 938 water tests to 161 clients: 31 water systems and 130 one-time sample individuals, at a fee of \$23 per test. The new ELAP fee would require the Lab to increase this fee to \$50 per test which would make this fee twice the average fee charged by private sector

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laboratories performing the same service. The Tulare County Public Health Laboratory has identified 10 alternative laboratories that can provide this testing, and four (4) of which have drop off locations in the cities of Visalia, Tulare, and Porterville.

The elimination of the ELAP accreditation will not impact the dairy water testing services. The Tulare County Public Health Laboratory will maintain its ability to perform dairy water quality testing by obtaining certification through the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Should the Board approve this request, the ELAP accreditation will expire May 31, 2019, and be replaced with CDFA certification. Water testing services that do not qualify for CDFA certification will be discontinued effective May 15, 2019. The Tulare County Public Health Laboratory will receive CDFA certification in March 2019.

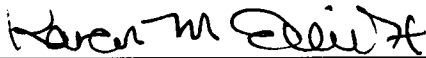
FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no cost associated with the California Department of Food and Agriculture certification, therefore; there is no additional cost to the County General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

This proposal links to Tulare County' Strategic Initiative of Organizational Performance, through continuously improving financial stability through the Public Health Laboratory's expenses and to the consumers of the service within Tulare County as water testing fees will not need to be increased.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Karen M. Elliott
Director of Public Health

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) Certification

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE TULARE) Resolution No. _____
COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY) Agreement No. _____
WATER CERTIFICATION)
)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

Authorized expiration of the California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation effective on May 31, 2019, and transition to the California Department of Food and Agriculture certification for the water quality testing program performed at the Tulare County Public Health Laboratory.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

CALIFORNIA STATE



ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACCREDITATION

Is hereby granted to

Tulare County Public Health Laboratory

1062 South K Street

Tulare, CA 93274

Scope of the certificate is limited to the
"Fields of Testing"
which accompany this Certificate.

Continued accredited status depends on successful completion of on-site inspection,
proficiency testing studies, and payment of applicable fees.

This Certificate is granted in accordance with provisions of
Section 100825, et seq. of the Health and Safety Code.

Certificate No.: **1285**

Expiration Date: **5/31/2019**

Effective Date: **6/1/2017**

Sacramento, California
subject to forfeiture or revocation

Christine Sotelo, Chief
Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program