



Health & Human Services Agency COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

KUYLER CROCKER
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND

District Five

AGENDA DATE:

March 17, 2020 REVISED

Public Hearing Required Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk Published Notice Required Advertised Published Notice Meet & Confer Required Electronic file(s) has been sent Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached Personnel Resolution attached Agreements are attached and signature tab(s)/flag(s) CONTACT PERSON: Nilsa Gonzales PHO	Yes ⊠ N/A □
CONTACT PERSON: Nilsa Gonzales PHO	HONE: 559-624-8000

SUBJECT:

Ratify the Capital Asset purchase of a Qiagen EZ1 Advanced XL

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Ratify the Capital Asset purchase of a Qiagen EZ1 Advanced XL needed to perforn essential laboratory tests in a amount not to exceed \$59,863.
- 2. Approve the necessary budget adjustments per the attached AUD 308 (4/5th vote required).

SUMMARY:

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness- Laboratory (PHEP) Program is requesting Board approval for the purchase of a Qiagen EZ1 Advanced XL nucleic acid extraction instrument. The PHEP Lab provides emergency preparedness through its use of specialized, high-complexity testing to detect, confirm, and report results in order to address actual or potential exposure to health and environmental hazards. The nucleic acid extraction instrument and biosafety enclosure will improve testing capacity to ensure the PHEP laboratory can maintain reliable 24/7 emergency testing services.

The Tulare County Public Health Laboratory was designated as a Laboratory Response Network reference laboratory by California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control in 2006. Our officially assigned catchment area for these services encompasses Tulare County, Kings County, and Kern County. The laboratory receives funding annually through the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant to maintain these services. Since 2015, while the

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Fresno County Public Health Laboratory has been out of operation, we have been covering their catchment area which encompasses Fresno County, Madera County, and Merced County.

Laboratory Response Network testing is high-complexity and requires specialized equipment, expertise, and Biosafety Level 3 facilities, which go beyond the typical requirements for medical laboratories and other public health laboratories in the region. As a result, the Tulare County Public Health Lab has established and maintained reference-lab capacity that has allowed our laboratory to participate in advanced public health laboratory detection and surveillance activities, including participation in statewide and national networks and testing for emerging and reemerging infectious diseases, like measles, Zika virus, and the coronavirus (COVID-19). As a result, we have also received additional supplemental grant funding for some of this work, including for Zika virus, for example, which has allowed us to continue to build upon our capacity. With the addition of this piece of equipment, the Public Health Lab will be able to double the number of tests that can be run in a twelve hour period.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Branch will maximize grant funds to purchase the capital asset estimated at \$59,863. Costs exceeding the grant allocation will be paid for utilizing health realignment funds. The purpose of the attached AUD 308 is to add the capital asset line to the PHEP Lab unit (001-142-6039-8317). There is no additional net cost to the County General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life- Promotes public health and welfare, educational opportunities, natural resources management and continued improvement of environmental quality. Upon approval this will allow the Public Health Branch to respond to issues effecting Public Health and responding to Public Health emergencies.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Karen M. Elliott

Director of Public Health

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) AUD 308

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

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SUPERVISOR	_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN O	FFICIAL MEETING HELD
, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:	
AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:	
ATTEST:	JASON T. BRITT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BY:	
51.	Deputy Clerk
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vote required).

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