



**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: September 15, 2020

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Staci Chastain PHONE: (559) 624-8000		

SUBJECT: Approve an agreement with Proteus, Inc.

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with Proteus, Inc. for Contact Tracing services in an amount not to exceed \$568,915, retroactive from September 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. This agreement is retroactive due to the time that was necessary to develop a scope of work that aligns with COVID-19 response. It was impracticable for the Board to take action prior to September 1, 2020 due to the time needed to process, prepare, and submit the agenda item.
2. Find that the Board had authority to enter the proposed agreement as of September 1, 2020 and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date.
3. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign one (1) copy of the agreement.

SUMMARY:

On March 19, 2020 a statewide stay-at-home order was issued to reduce the transmission of Sars-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The California Department of Public Health and the Office of the Governor released California's Pandemic Resilience Roadmap which outlined the requirements the state and each county would have to meet in order to gradually re-open different sectors of the economy.

Contact tracing was identified as one of the key metrics to enhance state and county preparedness for COVID-19 response. The California Department of Public

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Health and the Office of the Governor set a minimum number of 15 contact tracers per 100,000 residents. For Tulare County, there must be a minimum of 72 Full-Time Equivalent Contact Tracers in order to meet the requirement and adequately respond to the current pandemic.

Contact tracing is one of the tools used to prevent the spread of communicable and infectious disease outbreaks. For COVID-19, contact tracing involves obtaining a list of contacts from the individual for up to two days before they experienced symptoms. COVID-19 has been found to be transmissible, while patients are both symptomatic and asymptomatic. As a result, contact lists can be lengthy, especially if the individual attended a gathering or went to work while infectious. After the contact lists are generated, contact tracers must then inform each of the contacts of their possible exposure to the disease and their need to be tested and quarantine or isolate. It is an essential role to contain the spread of the disease.

Through this agreement, Proteus, Inc. will coordinate with Tulare County Public Health and provide oversight of the contact tracing project for their entity. Proteus, Inc. will onboard and maintain staffing to perform contact tracing and ensure that staff do an average of at least one interview per 40 minutes. To make this project successful, Proteus Inc. will provide staff the necessary equipment to conduct contact tracing, and assurance reviews of staff will be completed to ensure accurate data entry. On average, a contact tracer can complete seven (7) interviews per day or thirty-five (35) interviews per week. Given that Proteus, Inc. will hire, train, and oversee at least 15 contact tracers over a term of six (6) months, it is projected that their efforts will reach close to 13,500 individuals that will significantly enhance Tulare County contact tracing efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The total costs associated with this agreement is \$568,915, from September 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. This amount has been included in the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 budget. This agreement is funded with a combination of funds from the Public Health Branch's CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund allocation and the Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Enhancing Detection funding. There is no net County cost to the General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes efforts to reduce "Communicable/Infectious Diseases" as well as "Community Engagement and Outreach." This agreement with Proteus, Inc., a non-profit community based organization providing services in Tulare County is in line with our Strategic Plan as efforts will focus on contact tracing and reducing potential new COVID-19 cases as well as engaging our community partners.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/Robert Stewart OBO
Karen Elliott
Director of Public Health

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s): Agreement

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN)
AGREEMENT WITH PROTEUS, INC.) Resolution No. _____
) Agreement No. _____
)

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

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