

Child Support Services county of Tulare AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA District One

PETE VANDER POEL District Two

> PHILLIP A. COX District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS District Five

AGENDA DATE: February 9, 2010

SUBJECT:

Approve an Interagency Agreement with Contra Costa County's Department of Child Support Services to assist in the locate processes of customers

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an Interagency Agreement with Contra Costa County's Department of Child Support Services for services not to exceed \$47,053 beginning March 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010.

SUMMARY:

The State of California has directed all Child Support Agencies to focus on the Early Intervention Delinquency Prevention Program (DPP, also referred as EIP). Each local Child Support Agency is to commit resources that will directly address cases that are failing to meet child support monthly obligations as early as possible. By identifying early the case participants that are struggling to pay, and providing appropriate services quickly, children, and families, will benefit from receiving regular child support payments.

All child support agencies are directed by the State Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to use a portion of their existing allocation to address the EIP effort.

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of customers

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One very time consuming function relating to the EIP is the location of non-paying child support obligors. Many of these non-custodial parents are highly mobile. This contract will allow Maximus to run automated searches on delinquent obligors to quickly obtain their most recent address and/or employment to start collection activities. Stopping the accrual of arrearages on an obligors account benefits children, families, and non-custodial parents. If a customer has lost their employment their regular support payments stop, and we are unable to contact them and assist them. By intervening quickly the obligor may not accrue unpaid child support arrearages.

Contra Costa County's Department of Child Support Services is the lead agency in this Inter-county shared services project which is endorsed by the state DCSS. They currently have a contract with Maximus, Inc., a private company that has been approved by the state and has special access to actively participate on the Child Support's statewide computer system.

Due to the pricing structure that Contra Costa County's Department of Child Support Services has with Maximus, Inc., Tulare County, along with other counties who participate, will be able to recognize a savings through the economy of scale by submitting those cases that meet the defined qualification through Contra Costa. While the maximum estimate of this agreement is \$47,053, there is the savings potential of more than \$23,000 depending on the combined participation of other counties.

It should be noted that this agreement deviates from the County Contract Protocol as it requires the County to indemnify Contra Costa County and includes that the County will reimburse for any expenditures, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

As the Department of Child Support Services is a fully subvented department there will be no impact on the County General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes a Quality of Life component. The Department of Child Support Services is required to establish parentage and to establish and enforce child support obligations. Locating customers allows the Department of Child Support Services to meet its obligation to the citizens of Tulare County to get support for children.

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ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could require a different option that might cause a reduction of successful locate efforts.

INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES:

The Tulare County Counsel has reviewed the agreement and has approved to form.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Peggy Anderson Department Head

Cc: Auditor/Controller

County Counsel

County Administrative Office (3) Human Resources and Development

Attachment

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

| IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT WITH CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES TO ASSIST IN THE LOCATE PROCESSES OF CUSTOMERS |) AGREEMENT NO |
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| UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISO | PR, SECONDED BY |
| SUPERVISOR | , THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE |
| BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OF | FICIAL MEETING HELD |
| , BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE: | |
| AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: | |
| ATTEST: | JEAN M. ROUSSEAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS |
| BY: | Deputy Clerk |
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