

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

ALLEN ISHIDA

PETE VANDER POEL

PHILLIP A. COX District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY District Four

> MIKE ENNIS District Five

# Health & Human Services Agency COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: June 29, 2010 REVISED

### SUBJECT:

Approval of agreement with Twenty First Century Communications, Inc.

# REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Approve an agreement with Twenty First Century Communications, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$333,240 to provide a three-year service agreement for the Universal Communications Emergency Notification System, for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013; and
- 2. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign three (3) copies of the agreement.

### **SUMMARY:**

The Universal Communications System is a fully-hosted, web-based system that rapidly delivers a large volume of interactive messages via multiple modes of communication, including landline and cellular telephones, TDD/TTY, fax, SMS (text messaging), and email. This system will replace Connect-CTY, the current Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS) vendor, to power the County's branded AlertTC service. There will be no service interruption as a result of this transition.

The County has selected the Universal Communications System for its advanced features and architecture, including

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Nationwide system redundancy

Automatic detection of and delivery to TDD/TTY devices

• Extensive support for interpretation and translation services

• Capacity to handle large volumes of inbound calls typical in disasters that might otherwise overwhelm local services and infrastructure.

The County and each of the eight incorporated cities will be given separate access to the Universal Communication System for conducting disaster notifications to constituents within their jurisdiction, in the same manner as was provided by the previously-utilized Connect-CTY system.

We would like to bring to the Board's attention the following items that deviate from County Contract Protocol: this agreement provides for limitations on damages and this is a three (3) year agreement terminating on June 30, 2013.

### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The maximum reimbursement for this three (3) year Agreement to purchase the Universal Communications System is \$333,240. \$111,080 will be included in the Fiscal Year 2010/2011 proposed budget; \$111,080 will be included in the Fiscal Year 2011/2012 proposed budget; and \$111,080 will be included in the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 proposed budget. No Net County Cost.

### **LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security to plan and provide coordinated emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation capabilities for both natural and man-made disasters. The purchase of the Universal Communications System to continue the AlertTC service will enable Tulare County to improve its preparedness and response to disasters and provide residents with early notification of life-threatening and other public safety incidents.

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### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The Board could choose to renew the existing contract with Connect-CTY, but this is not recommended as it would forego a significant annual cost savings and could lead to the withdrawal of many participating cities. The Board could also choose not to approve the purchase of the Universal Communications System, but this is not recommended as the County would lose the capability to disseminate timely notifications in the event of a disaster once the existing agreement expires on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

## **INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS OR AGENCIES:**

County Counsel, Risk Management, County Administrative Office, and the following cities:

City of Dinuba

City of Exeter

City of Farmersville

City of Lindsay

City of Porterville

City of Tulare

City of Visalia

City of Woodlake

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Kevin Marks

**Director Administration** 

Cc:

Auditor/Controller

**County Counsel** 

County Administrative Office (3)

Agreement

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

IN THE MATTER OF: Approval of agreement with Twenty First Century Communications, Inc.	) RESOLUTION NO ) AGREEMENT NO
UPON MOTION OF SUPERVIS	SOR, SECONDED
SUPERVISOR	, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY T
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN O	OFFICIAL 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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