

From: John Sakowicz <sako4@comcast.net>
To: <cob@mendocinocounty.org>
CC: <williamst@mendocinocounty.org>, <haschakj@mendocinocounty.org>, Dan Gjerde <gjerde@co.mendocino.ca.us>, Carre Brown <browncj@co.mendocino.ca.us>, John McCowen <mccowen@co.mendocino.ca.us>, themaj <themaj@pacific.net>, Bruce Anderson <friscobruce@gmail.com>, udjkm <udjkm@ukiahdj.com>
Date: 10/22/2019 12:45 AM
Subject: Communications Recieved -- The CAAC, Agenda Item 6a

SUBJECT: 6a) Discussion and Possible Action Including Approval of Request to the Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC) to Consider Funding/Staffing Models for the CAAC and Make a Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors (Sponsor: Supervisors McCowen and Williams/Climate Action Ad Hoc)

Dear Supervisors:

Supervisor John McCowen brings back the CAAC as Agenda Item 6a for Tuesday's, October 22, Board of Supervisors meeting.

No one in their right mind disputes global warming and climate change are real. But the fact remains that any meaningful mitigation must be national or international in scope.

Also, for many years the State of California's Climate Action Registry has had in place a program called the "Climate Action Reserve" which is committed to solving climate change through emissions accounting and reduction. It was created by the State of California in 2001 to promote and protect businesses' early actions to manage and reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

And, since the passage of AB 32 in 2006, California has been involved in groundbreaking climate action, setting our state's greenhouse gas reduction targets to 1990 levels by 2020, and forming partnerships with other states and nations around the world to enact policy that can address climate change.

Other state initiatives are found at California's Climate Change Portal at: <https://www.climatechange.ca.gov/>

Therefore, Mendocino County's CAAC is redundant and unnecessary.

Moreover, the activities of meetings, public outreach, and travel for the proposed CAAC Program Manager, added to the activities of the 15 members of the CAAC Committee, will probably be carbon positive for carbon dioxide emissions -- meaning the CAAC Program Manager and the CAAC Committee will probably add more greenhouse gases than remove or reduce greenhouse gases from Earth's atmosphere.

It's absurd to think the CAAC can do anything that the state isn't already doing. It's equally absurd to think the proposed CAAC Program Manager could do anything that the County CEO couldn't do at the direction of the Board of Supervisors.

Both the *Ukiah Daily Journal* and the *Anderson Valley Advertiser* have agreed with this assessment in their own respective editorial comments about the CAAC.

The CAAC's funding level should remain at \$7,500. It should not be funded at \$110,000, as initially proposed.

If Mendocino County has that kind of money to throw away on a political patronage job -- McCowen is the landlord of the Mendocino Environmental Center and by many accounts has earmarked the job for a "friend" -- then the county should take that money and add it to the county's annual contributions to the Mendocino County Employee Retirement Association (MCERA) to help defray a looming solvency crisis at MCERA.

Please be aware that MCERA has a negative monthly negative cash flow of \$600,000-\$700,000 due to the fact we have 1,400 retirees and only 1,150 current employees.

In other words, our county pension system is "upside down". We have more people taking money out of the system than we have people putting money into the system.

MCERA also has an unfunded pension liability of approximately \$210 million.

Honoring the promises made to county retirees is far more important than a gesture of political grandstanding. The \$110,000 proposed for the CAAC is the equivalent what 3-4 retirees get, on average, in annual benefits.

Honoring our promises to retirees is a sacred pledge. Nothing is more important.

It's time for the Board of Supervisors to make smart financial decisions.

Respectfully,

John Sakowicz, Candidate, 1st District Supervisor.

6a). DEFINITION OF SERVICES

CONTRACTOR shall provide the following services:

Background The Mendocino County Board of Supervisor ("BOS") shall appoint a Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee ("Committee") to make recommendations regarding the implementation of a Mendocino County Sustainability and Climate Action Program ("Program"). The Program shall be based on "Mendocino County's Commitment and Mission to Fight Climate Change" (Exhibit E), which the BOS has adopted in principle. The Program's main objectives are to initiate County-wide goals, policies, and actions that will reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, increase carbon storage throughout the County, prepare Mendocino County residents to reduce, prevent, and/or recover from climate caused natural disasters. The Committee and Program will serve as a model, partner, and source of inspiration to other jurisdictions to address the challenge of confronting the demands of climate change. The agreement will be for one-year from the last BOS signature on the contract.

Purpose The purpose of this contract is for Mendocino County ("County") to fund the Program in cooperation with the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD). A member of the Committee is encouraged to serve as an Associate Director of the MCRCD Board to provide connectivity between the MCRCD and the Committee, thereby ensuring a complementary alignment and progress towards the implementation of the Committee's vision.

The MCRCD will hire a Program Manager who will work in direct support of the Program and the Committee Chair and work consistent with this Description of Services. MCRCD's hiring process (job description, qualifications, evaluations) will include one representative of the Committee. The funding from this contract will cover the costs for the new Program Manager and some MCRCD staff time to collaborate on the Program, and ancillary Program costs. (See Exhibit B for detailed budget). The Program Manager will be an employee of the MCRCD and subject to the roles, responsibilities, and limitations of the MCRCD organization and its mission. The mission of the MCRCD is to conserve, protect and restore wild and working landscapes to enhance the health of the water, soil, and forests of Mendocino County. The MCRCD is a Special District under Division 9 of the California Public Resource Code. At the start-up of the Program, the Program Manager, in support of the Committee, may have incidental involvement with focus areas that are broader than those of the MCRCD. After this initial period, the Focus Groups will thereafter operate independently in coordinating with the Committee, such as conducting public outreach, gathering information, and researching and developing proposals for the Committee to consider.

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The Program will focus on the areas identified and prioritized by the Committee, which may include, but are not limited to:

□ GHG emissions reduction □ Energy □ Transportation □ Land use □ Existing and new development □ Solid waste □ Carbon Storage □ Agricultural land □ Forests □ Rangelands □ Ocean, coastal and near shore ecosystems □ Water courses, riparian and wetlands □ Land uses □ Community climate change preparedness □ Climate hazard reduction, and disaster recovery preparation solutions; □ Coordination with relevant agencies to develop climate hazard preparedness.

The MCRCD, through the Program, shall provide the following services for the County, and the Program Manager shall distribute work tasks according to these approximate percentages:

Program Development 25% Grant Writing 25% Meeting Attendance 15% Administrative Support 20% Public Outreach and Social Media 10% Administration 5%

The Program goals include, but are not necessarily limited to, the bulleted items listed below. Successful Program implementation is contingent on BOS approval of Committee recommendations and identification of funding. Evaluation criteria for the Program Manager will be defined in a formal employee performance plan, which can be developed in collaboration with the Committee Chair, or Committee delegate. The Chair, or delegate, may participate in the evaluation of employee performance prior to the end of the contract.

The Program manager may be expected to engage in the following activities:

Program Development (25%) □ Establish the Program for the County at MCRCD, including overarching vision, mission, goals, and organizational structure.

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□ Develop plan for establishing a current GHG emissions and carbon storage assessment "baseline" for Mendocino County. □ Facilitate priority projects to lower GHG emissions and increase carbon storage based on the assessment. □ Set short-term and long-term targets for GHG emissions reduction and carbon storage. □ Develop and implement monitoring protocols. □ Support

the County's development of climate caused disaster preparedness plans. o Estimate costs and talent needed to assess and implement the priority projects and tasks of the Program. o Invite businesses, schools, agencies, Tribes, non-profits, communities, neighborhoods, and individuals to participate in the assessments, monitoring and review of project proposals and actions. o Prepare reports and documentations as required by grants, regulations, MCRCD and the County.

☐ Grant Writing (25%) o Research, prioritize and submit grant applications to fund key projects. ☐ Meeting Attendance (15%) o Attend Committee meetings and collaborate with the Chair to facilitate meeting requirements and help ensure efficient and effective meetings, and relevant and timely deliverables. o Attend MCRCD Board and Staff meetings to coordinate MCRCD staff support for the Program and help develop funding strategies for the comprehensive and long-term sustainability of the Program.

☐ Administrative Support (20%) o Support the on-going operation of the Committee and support the Chair with administrative tasks. o Develop, in cooperation with the Chair, the Committee meeting agendas and postings, as required by the Brown Act. o Capture and distribute Action Minutes of the Committee. o Retain and archive public records generated by or presented to the Committee. o Support initiation of Subcommittees and Focus Groups which shall become self-sustaining without ongoing support from the Program Manager.

☐ Public Outreach, Education, and Social Media (10%) o Serve as the point of contact for the Chair o Develop Program materials to communicate to the Public on goals and activities of the Program committee and what Mendocino County residents and businesses can do to contribute. o Develop and maintain the Program's and Committee's websites.

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o Network throughout the state and region with organizations (governments, agencies, NGOs) for information sharing.

☐ Administration (5%) o Communicate and collaborate with MCRCD employees on Climate activities in all programs. Prepare and account for Program budget, timesheets, monthly progress reports, attend mandatory trainings, and other responsibilities of an MCRCD employee and accountable contractor to the County. o Attend MCRCD Board and Staff meetings to help develop a comprehensive and long-term sustainment of the Program