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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Kevin Kelley, Interim Chief Probation Officer  
Brina Blanton, Deputy County Counsel *BAB*

**DATE:** September 12, 2017

**SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Approval of Amendment to Agreement No. 15-100 with Northern California Construction Training Inc. ("NCCT") in the Amount of \$64,585, for a Total Agreement Amount of \$240,494.15; Extending the Termination Date from December 31, 2016 to June 2, 2017**

Honorable Board Members,

When the contract with NCCT was previously before this Board on June 20, 2017, direction was given to staff to investigate whether the services contracted for were in fact performed. Also, direction was given to provide this Board with additional information about what services were performed. This memo provides a description of the services provided by NCCT and a recommendation that the Board approve the contract.

**Services Provided by NCCT**

The purpose of the NCCT contract was to reduce recidivism by providing inmates and probationers with certificates and licenses that could help them become more employable and assist them with finding jobs, internships or apprenticeships. This goal was accomplished, only not for as many people as the Probation Department and the Sheriff's Office had hoped.

During the time period at issue, the work done by the contractor was done pursuant to the terms of the contract. During this time period, students built playhouses, benches, tables and did mockups. Students also obtained certificates; unfortunately, not as many as the County had hoped for due to small class sizes.

More specifically, work completed by NCCT students during this time period included:

- Several playhouses for local fire departments
- Mock sheds

- Mock bathroom
- Mock foundation
- Dual landing staircase
- Octagonal table with benches
- Adirondack chairs and a table using salvaged wood pallets

Additionally, students completed classroom work each month related to construction. Students also received CPR, first aid and nail gun certifications and a 10 hour OSHA jobsite safety certification course and attended a career fair. NCCT also assisted probationers and inmates, post-release, in securing employment. In June, NCCT graduated 152 students, 11 of which were from the Ukiah program.

### **Recommendation**

The NCCT contract was an experiment. The County was trying a new program to decrease recidivism. Unfortunately, the specific program turned out to be a poor fit for Mendocino County. NCCT has more successfully provided services in other counties; however, those counties were larger and closer to Sacramento where NCCT is located.

Although the contractor continued work after the expiration of the previous contract and before a new contract was executed, the Chief Probation Officer had given direction to the contractor to continue to provide services while the parties drafted the new contract. Further, the contract period before the Board today is January 2017 through June 2017. Based on a review of records documenting the work done by the contractor, it appears that the activities for which concern was raised, specifically work on a house at the fairgrounds, were done during the previous contract period. All work done during the time period for which NCCT is now asking for payment was done pursuant to the terms of the contract.

Ultimately, a service was provided and it is recommended that the contract be approved so that NCCT may be compensated for their services.