



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 21-1033, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Social Services

Meeting Date: September 28, 2021

Department Contact: Bekkie Emery

Phone: 463-7761

Department Contact: Stephen White

Phone: 467-5868

Item Type: Consent Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: N/A

Agenda Title:

Approval of Retroactive Second Amendment with Eversole Mortuary in the Amount of \$7,500 for a New Total of \$77,500 to Provide the Handling and Disposition of Last Remains of Decedents of Mendocino County Who have no Relatives or Other Person Legally Empowered to Authorize Cremation and Disposition, Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Recommended Action/Motion:

Approve retroactive second Amendment with Eversole Mortuary in the amount of \$7,500 for a new total of \$77,500 to provide the handling and disposition of last remains of decedents of Mendocino County who have no relatives or other person legally empowered to authorize cremation and disposition, Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; authorize the Social Services Director to sign any future amendments to the Agreement that does not increase the maximum amount; and authorize Chair to sign same.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

June 22, 2021, Item No. 4(ag), BOS Agreement No. 21-129.

Summary of Request:

Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) issued a Request for Proposal (SS-19-007 RFP) for indigent cremations. Eversole Mortuary was awarded the contract in September 2019 to provide these services for all of Mendocino County, and in July 2020 a contract renewal was completed for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The coverage area for Eversole Mortuary for these services is significant, requiring extensive travel to provide services to the whole county. The original fund amount for this contract was established based on this anticipated coverage area and historical utilization.

Since early 2020, Mendocino County has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is being experienced locally, nationally, and globally. Impacts of the virus have been to physical as well as emotional health, and have caused significant financial decline in our community. These impacts have led to an increase in utilization of indigent cremation and burial services. The need for these services has exceeded the originally allocated contract amount and additional funds are necessary to cover these expenses through the end of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. For the period of July 2020 through June 2021, the County has processed claims for 69 County Cremations through Mendocino County Public Authority and General Assistance Services. In 2019-2020, a total of 49 County Cremation claims were processed during the entire

Fiscal Year.

In June 2021, an agreement amendment was requested and approved to add an additional \$20,000 to the original contract amount in order to ensure sufficient funds were available to cover expenses for the contracted services. Invoices received in May 2021 and June 2021 included charges for 9 decedents in each of those months, substantially higher than the customary 4 per month under normal circumstances. Due to this unexpected increase in utilization, the amended amount for the contract was exceeded and an additional amendment is required. The County received the invoices on July 14, 2021, and started the process to request an amendment; the late invoice necessitates a retroactive amendment.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Return to staff for alternative handling.

How Does This Item Support the General Plan? Yes, Mendocino County will strive to promote community health for all neighborhoods, with attention to disadvantaged communities and those that have been identified as lacking in amenities.

Supervisory District: All

vote requirement: Majority

Supplemental Information Available Online At: N/A

Fiscal Details:

source of funding: GR 5190

current f/y cost: \$77,500

annual recurring cost: \$50,000

budget clarification:

budgeted in current f/y: Yes

if no, please describe:

revenue agreement: No

Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel: Yes

CEO Liaison: Darcie Antle, Assistant CEO

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

Date: September 29, 2021

Final Status: **Approved**

Executed Item Type: **Agreement** **Number:** 21-129-A1

Note to Department Number of Original Agreements
Returned to Dept: 0 Original Agreement Delivered to Auditor?
No

