

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Sheriff

BOARD AGENDA #: \*B-6

AGENDA DATE: January 31, 2017

**SUBJECT:**

Approval to Authorize the Repair, Maintenance, and Improvements on the Sheriff's Department 1979 Bell Long Ranger Helicopter and Purchase of Related Equipment

**BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:**

No. 2017-47

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Withrow, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Chiesa

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Olsen

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1)  Approved as recommended

2)  Denied

3)  Approved as amended

4)  Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: Elizabeth A. King  
ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Sheriff

Urgent

Routine

*RM*

BOARD AGENDA #: \*B-6

AGENDA DATE: January 31, 2017

CEO CONCURRENCE:



4/5 Vote Required: Yes  No

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**SUBJECT:**

Approval to Authorize the Repair, Maintenance, and Improvements on the Sheriff's Department 1979 Bell Long Ranger Helicopter and Purchase of Related Equipment

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Authorize the repair of the Sheriff's Department 1979 Bell Long Ranger helicopter.
2. Authorize the expedited maintenance of the helicopter to coincide with repairs.
3. Authorize the improvements to avionics and communications systems on the helicopter to coincide with repairs.
4. Authorize the purchase of an additional heliwagon to support the second helicopter utilized by the Department.
5. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to make the necessary adjustments to increase appropriations in the Sheriff's Cal-MMET Legal Budget Unit using fund balance, as presented on the attached budget journal.
6. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Rotorcraft Support Inc. in the amount of \$589,109 for the repair, maintenance, and improvements on the helicopter and a purchase order to Heliwagon in the amount of \$30,000 for the purchase of the second heliwagon.

**DISCUSSION:**

In October 2002, the Board of Supervisors authorized the purchase of a 1979 Bell 206L-1 Long Ranger Helicopter using California Multi-Jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team (Cal-MMET) funding (Board Resolution 2002-836). The helicopter is used for aerial support for patrol deputies and other law enforcement agencies in the County as well as surveillance support for the Stanislaus County Drug Enforcement Agency (SDEA), Cal-MMET and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) programs.

On July 30, 2016, the Long Ranger helicopter sustained substantial damage due to a hard landing. The helicopter is covered by an insurance policy with Alliant Insurance Services, who identified Rotorcraft Support, Inc. (RSI) in Van Nuys, California, as the maintenance facility where the helicopter would be inspected and repaired. Alliant Insurance Services has agreed to cover \$256,878 in repairs. This amount will be paid directly to RSI by Alliant Insurance

## Approval to Authorize the Repair, Maintenance, and Improvements on the Sheriff's Department 1979 Bell Long Ranger Helicopter and Purchase of Related Equipment

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Services. An additional \$8,530 will be paid by the Sheriff's Department to cover the insurance policy deductible.

During the inspection, RSI identified additional repairs unrelated to the damage caused by the hard landing. These additional items are referred to as betterment of the helicopter and required regular maintenance. Betterment of a helicopter is based upon certain dynamic systems that have timed out or need replacement based on normal flight operations. The betterment maintenance would have occurred during normal maintenance cycles; however, it is more cost effective to complete the maintenance while the helicopter is already disassembled for repair.

In addition to damage repair and mandatory betterment maintenance, other improvements would be optimally timed while the helicopter is disassembled. The current avionics and communications systems in the helicopter are outdated and in need of replacement. This includes the following components: glass and night vision goggle certified cockpit, transponder, radio communications, nose mount for the MX-10 camera system, search light, and helicopter modernization components. These improvements will increase the helicopter's overall value, flight mission capabilities, and the overall safety of the Air Support Program.

The Sheriff's Office is also requesting \$30,000 for the purchase of an additional heliwagon. The heliwagon is a remote-controlled landing pad on wheels. The pilot lands the helicopter on the heliwagon so that the flight crew then has the ability to move the helicopter inside the hanger. The purchase of a second heliwagon is necessary to accommodate both helicopters in operation. The Sheriff's Department has previously purchased a heliwagon from Heliwagon, Inc., an approved sole source vendor.

### **POLICY ISSUE:**

In accordance with the County Purchasing Policy and Board Resolution 2006-58, all contracts or agreements where the total cumulative compensation exceeds \$100,000 must be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, any adjustment to budgeted appropriations requires Board approval.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The helicopter repairs associated with the hard landing that occurred in July 2016 are largely covered by insurance. Alliant Insurance Services has agreed to cover \$256,878 in estimated repair costs, with the County covering \$8,530 in its policy deductible. Rotorcraft Support, Inc. (RSI) has identified \$25,212 in repairs not covered by insurance. Additionally, maintenance, or betterment, costs are estimated at \$66,701 and improvements to avionics and communications systems are projected to cost \$488,666. Total repair, maintenance, and improvement costs to be paid by the Sheriff's Department amount to \$589,109.

The purchase of a second heliwagon would cost \$30,000, bringing the total amount needed to fund the costs of the recommended action to \$619,109.

The Sheriff's Department has identified fund balance in the Cal-MMET Legal Budget Unit of \$619,109 to fund the repair, maintenance, and improvements to the Sheriff's Department 1979 Bell Long Ranger Helicopter.

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These unanticipated costs were not included in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget. The necessary adjustments to increase appropriations using fund balance are presented on the attached budget journal.

<b>Cost of recommended action:</b>		\$ 619,109
<b>Source(s) of Funding:</b>		
Fund 1780 - CalMMET	619,109	
<b>Funding Total:</b>		\$ 619,109
<b>Net Cost to County General Fund</b>		\$ -

<b>Fiscal Year:</b>	2016-2017
<b>Budget Adjustment/Appropriations needed:</b>	Yes

**Fund Balance as of 12/31/16:** 759,235

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:**

The recommended action supports the Board of Supervisors' priority of a Safe Community by repairing and maintaining the Department helicopter for return to service in a condition that will improve mission capabilities and ensure the overall safety of the Air Support Program.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

Existing Department and County staff will oversee the procurement process required for repairs and maintenance to the aircraft.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Sheriff Adam Christianson, (209) 525-7216

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1 – Budget Journal

