

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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA:5.B.12
AGENDA DATE: December 19, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval of Community Services Agency Temporary Staff Assignment Extension to Support the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System Project

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-0717

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

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

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:


ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA:5.B.12
AGENDA DATE: December 19, 2017

CEO CONCURRENCE: YES

4/5 Vote Required: No

SUBJECT:

Approval of Community Services Agency Temporary Staff Assignment Extension to Support the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System Project

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve a thirty-two month extension of the Community Services Agency Temporary Staff Assignment to support the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System Project scheduled to end December 31, 2017 to August 30, 2020.
2. Approve the extension of the provisional appointment of the Community Services Agency Staff member's temporary assignment to the California Automated Consortium Eligibility System Project to August 30, 2020 effective January 8, 2018.

DISCUSSION:

In California, the counties have mandated responsibilities for administering many Federal, State and local assistance programs. These programs include California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), Child Care, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, Foster Care, Adoption Assistance Program, Refugee Assistance, Cal-Learn and CalFresh Employment and Training.

Chapter 303 of the Budget Act of 1995 mandated the development of a Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS), and authorized the development of a Multiple County Consortium Strategy as the foundation of the SAWS effort. This mandate authorized the automation of the Eligibility and Case Management functions of the various welfare programs. There were three consortiums in existence when this Budget Act was passed: LEADER, CalWIN, and Integrated Statewide Automated System (ISAWS). The Counties of Merced, Riverside, San Bernardino and Stanislaus had to affiliate themselves with one of the three consortiums but due to technical, policy and business considerations, agreed to partner as the fourth consortium; known as SAWS Consortium IV (C-IV).

On April 10, 2001, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Community Services Agency (CSA) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the C-IV Joint Powers Authority and Merced, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties for the oversight of project development, implementation, maintenance and operation for the C-IV system. In April 2004, the C-IV system was implemented at CSA.

On February 13, 2007 the Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved the Amendment One of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement that added thirty-five (35) Integrated Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (ISAWS) counties to the current C-IV Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The benefit of the increase in C-IV counties membership base was an opportunity to expand and improve the C-IV system as it existed. At that time, the BOS formalized our commitment to continuing staffing support of three Family Services Specialist Supervisor positions dedicated to the project.

Managing a project of this magnitude and complexity requires a significant commitment of human resources. CSA continues to commit staff as required by the MOU and approved by the Board of Supervisors in February 2001 with responsibilities ranging from development and implementation to project maintenance and operations. Staff dedicated to CIV are permanently located in other locations such as Sacramento. The staff assigned to these long-term assignments have actively participated in implementation, maintenance, and the operations of this system. Both the County and the CIV Project benefit from providing the most talented staff to ensure the on-going success of this project.

In 2011 a proposal was submitted to the State to replace Los Angeles County's automated system, LEADER, in view of the upcoming changes driven by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). LEADER's functionality was past it's useful life. In addition, an upgrade was the directive given under Assembly Bill 47, the statute that authorized the development of a statewide eligibility process by the Food and Nutrition Service of United States Department of Agriculture. As a result, Los Angeles (LA) County developed a new welfare automation system. Rather than having a 'from scratch' development, Los Angeles County chose to use a baseline application starting with the current C-IV system used by Stanislaus and 38 other counties to issue welfare benefits. C-IV was modified to meet their needs and the system is temporarily called the Leader Replacement System (LRS.) Beginning in 2018, C-IV Counties and Los Angeles County will begin migration activities to move to the new combined LRS and C-IV automated platform. The new system which will serve all 40 counties is called California Automated Consortium Eligibility System (CalACES). The Board of Supervisors approved the new Joint Powers Agreement for the CalACES consortium on June 13, 2017. History has shown statewide County staff are an important part of the development and operations of the projects.

In preparation for the merger of C-IV with LRS, on October 5, 2012 C-IV opened a recruitment for long-term developmental assignments for JPA county employees to apply and if selected participate on the LRS project. Selected county staff was tasked to work full-time at the Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation and Reporting (LEADER) Replacement Solution (LRS) Project site located in Norwalk, CA. Selected staff represented C-IV in activities related to the development of LRS and possible impacts to the C-IV System in preparation for the merger of C-IV and LRS. Selected staff gained experience and knowledge and provided input, into the operation of the current LRS System and what the CalACES System will be in the future. Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors supported one Stanislaus County employee to be part of this critical task.

To assist with the development and migration to the CalACES Consortium, on October 4, 2017 the CalACES Consortium opened a recruitment for twenty two positions to assist with the development of and migration to the CalACES System. The recruitment was open to JPA County employees of the forty counties currently participating in the JPA. This is the same process which occurred with the migration of Los Angeles County from LEADER to LRS. This migration was very successful with limited setbacks. The CalACES consortium is planning to build upon the success of this process and continue to utilize county staff in these positions. The positions are scheduled to begin January 8, 2018 and end on August 30, 2020. Consistent with current practice, assignments are considered temporary and selected County employees remain regular County employees with regard to rights and benefits.

Stanislaus County employee, Araceli Gallardo, started her temporary long-term work assignment on the LRS System beginning January 12, 2013 with a scheduled end date of February 28, 2017. On December 13, 2016 the Board of Supervisors extended Ms. Gallardo's temporary assignment to June 30, 2017. As June 30, 2017 neared it was clear that the LRS Project was not going to be complete and she would be needed another six months to help support Los Angeles County staff during their migration to this new system. On June 13, 2017 the Board of Supervisors approved a six month extension of her assignment with a new end date of December 31, 2017. When the positions opened for the CalACES Project, she applied for the position through the CalACES Consortium and went through a competitive interview process. She was selected for the position out of more than a hundred other candidates. All salaries, benefits and travel costs have been and will be covered by the CalAces project in accordance with the Office of System Integration's Travel Policy.

The Department will consider the employee's regular work site to be the CalACES project office in Rancho Cordova during this assignment.

The Department, with approval from the Chief Executive Office, has placed the employee who has been working on the LRS position beginning in 2013 in a Provisional Appointment into the Family Services Supervisor position. The Department would like to continue the Provisional Appointment as a Family Services Supervisor for the employee Araceli Gallardo through the duration of this assignment. This classification's pay is consistent with the other county analysts who are working on this project and who have worked on similar projects in the past. The Department will return the employee to her previously held Family Service Specialist II position at the end of the assignment.

POLICY ISSUE:

Approval of this agenda item supports continuity in the Community Services Agency's commitment to providing staff participation in developmental projects that enhance statewide automation that streamlines communication between Counties for timely issuance of temporary economic assistance to members of the community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

C-IV Counties will begin migration activities to move to the new combined LRS and C-IV automated platform known as C-IV California Automated Consortium Eligibility System (CalACES) to allow for a new statewide approach to the issuance of welfare benefits. C-IV has recruited county consortium staff to work on the development of CalACES.

C-IV has committed to reimburse 100% of all staffing and travel costs associated with all County approved staff assigned to the CalACES developmental project. CalACES Joint Developmental Consortium Personnel costs are estimated at \$289,770 for salary/benefits and travel costs of \$64,000 for a total cost of \$353,770 for the period of January 1, 2018 through August 30, 2020. For current Fiscal Year 2017/2018 the estimated cost is \$66,332 for the period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018. Community Services Agency will monitor the existing budget appropriation and revenues and adjustments will be included in future budget submissions. There is no additional cost to the General Fund associated with this agenda item.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

Approval of the 32 month extension of the Community Services Agency Temporary Staff Assignment to the CalACES Project and the extension of the provisional appointment of the Community Services Agency Staff member's temporary assignment to the CalACES Project supports the Board's priorities of A Healthy Community, A Strong Local Economy and Efficient Delivery of Public Services by continuing to commit Stanislaus County staff participation of developmental projects that enhance Statewide automation that streamlines communication between Counties for timely issuance of temporary economic assistance to members of the community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

The existing staff member currently holding the position of a Family Services Specialist Supervisor (position #2134) assigned to the LRS Developmental Project has agreed to work on the Project through August 30, 2020 and has accepted the provisional appointment and will continue working as a Family Services Specialist Supervisor effective January 8, 2018. There are no other staffing impacts associated with this request.

CONTACT PERSON:

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