



**SAN BENITO COUNTY
AGENDA ITEM
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger
District No. 1
Vice-Chair

Kollin Kosmicki
District No. 2
Chair

Mindy Sotelo
District No. 3

Angela Curro
District No. 4

Ignacio Velazquez
District No. 5

Item Number: 2.1

MEETING DATE: 04/22/2025

DEPARTMENT: COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Henie Ring

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Henie Ring

SUBJECT:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - H. RING, INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Discussion on the County's Fire Protection Services and provide direction to staff if desired.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 119

AGENDA SECTION:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

On March 25, 2025, the County received a 270-day termination notice from the City of Hollister ending fire services on December 20, 2025.

Due to the tight time frame associated with the 270-day termination notice with fire services ending on December 20, 2025, it is necessary for County staff to begin the process of creating its own fire department. As previously approved by the Board, a new County Fire Department Ad hoc would begin facilitating the process. County staff recommends moving forward with scheduling a meeting with the County Fire Department Ad hoc to proceed and initiate recommendations with the assistance of the consultants with the creation of a new fire department, and further discuss prospects for a fire protection partnership with San Juan Bautista.

In addition, staff is recommending that the County pause its participation in the Fire Feasibility Study until

a later date to be determined so the County can redirect its portion of the cost to its own fire protection services.

RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

N/A

CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:

N/A

RFP AND BID HISTORY:

N/A

LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:

N/A

CONTRACT HISTORY (Describe all amendments and previous contracts):

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology

No

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement

Yes

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community

Yes

BUDGETED:

N/A

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:

N/A

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

UNFUNDED MANDATE:

N/A

SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:

119

CURRENT FY COST:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Further discussion and direction are needed for the following:

- Direct staff to schedule a meeting for the new County Fire Department Ad hoc to begin working with Municipal Resource Group (MRG) consultants and staff with the creation of a fire department and prospects for a fire protection partnership with San Juan Bautista;
- Consideration of pausing the Feasibility study until a later date to be determined;
- Discussion and direction on any other relevant matters related to future fire protection services.

BOARD ACTION RESULTS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS: