

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Environmental Health Division

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Wesley Nicks, R.E.H.S., Director of Environmental Health, Public Health, and Animal Services

DATE: November 12, 2013

SUBJECT: Environmental Health Public Water Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Approve a Delegation Agreement with the California Department of Public Health delegating enforcement of the California Safe Drinking Water Act for small public water systems to the Environmental Health Division.
2. Approve a one-year Grant Funding Agreement with the California Department of Public Health in the amount of \$207,500 whereby the State will make grant payments to augment the operation of the small drinking water program.
3. Approve a Fiscal Services Agreement to manage the grant account for the County of Placer and the State.
4. Authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the Delegation Agreement, Grant Funding Agreement, and Fiscal Services Agreement and to designate a Fiscal Agent and Grant Administrator to manage expenditure of grant funds including training, equipment, and services for the Environmental Health Division's small public water program.

BACKGROUND:

In 1992, the State Health and Human Services Department entered into a Delegation Agreement in which Placer County's Environmental Health Division became responsible for small public water systems with up to 200 service connections. The State remained responsible for large water systems with more than 200 connections. By approving the Delegation Agreement in 1992, the Environmental Health Division, through the Health Officer, became the responsible authority in Placer County for the small system public water program. For the past 21 years the Environmental Health program has provided local oversight to the owner and operators of 130 water systems ensuring that the communities they serve receive safe drinking water for the visitors and residents of Placer County. Environmental Health has built and nurtured effective relationships and partnerships with the system operators over the past 21 years by providing technical expertise and public health resources to protect the community we collaboratively serve.

This Delegation Agreement between the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Placer County will allow the Environmental Health Division to continue to serve as the Local Primacy Agency providing the oversight for the County water program. With this agreement, the State will provide grant funds to the Environmental Health Division to help enhance the local program and ensure compliance with Federal and State Safe Drinking Water requirements.

This action includes three components:

1. The Fiscal Services Agreement – CDPH requires the County to appoint a fiscal agent to assist in holding and managing the grant amount in trust.
2. The Grant Funding Agreement – Outlines the grant funding requirements under provisions of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Law of 1997.
3. Local Primacy Delegation Agreement – This agreement delegates to the County Health Officer the authority to enforce State laws and regulations applicable to the delivery of safe drinking water to consumers.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The \$207,500 grant amount is calculated from the total number of water systems and the type of small public water systems currently in the water system inventory. No County General Fund match required.

These agreements are on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.