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Contra Costa County

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Sharon L. Anderson, County Counsel

Date: January 15, 2013

Subject: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE the County Counsel, or designee, to execute, on behalf of County, an amendment to a contract with Baker & O'Brien, Inc., effective January 1, 2013, to increase the compensation rates for refining industry consultants who provide services in connection with refinery property tax appeals and extend the term of the contract until December 31, 2013.

FISCAL IMPACT:

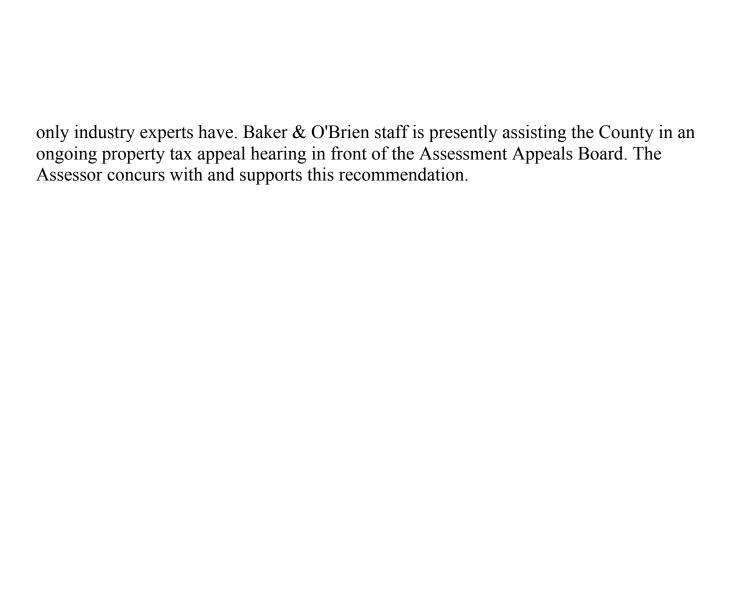
The cost of this contract is paid through property tax administration fees, approximately half of which come from the general fund.

BACKGROUND:

Baker & O'Brien, Inc. is a consultant for refinery industry analyses, and has been providing the County with specialized consulting services with respect to the refining industry and refineries in defending actual and anticipated assessment appeals, which challenge the valuations of the taxable property of refineries in Contra Costa County. These annual appeals typically place several billion dollars of valuation in issue. Assistance is required because valuations of refineries are highly technical, requiring specialized knowledge that

✓ APPROVE	OTHER
▼ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR	
Action of Board On: 01/15/2013 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER	
Clerks Notes:	
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS	
AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, District III Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor Contact: Rebecca Hooley,	I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown. ATTESTED: January 15, 2013 David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors By: Carrie Del Bonta, Deputy
335-1800	

cc: David Twa, County Administrator, Robert Campbell, Auditor-Controller, Lori Koch, County Assessor's Office, Baker & O'Brien, Inc. via County Counsel



CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the contract amendment is not approved, Baker & O'Brien, Inc. will not continue to consult for the County under the current contract and there is an increased possibility of significant but presently unquantifiable impacts due to adverse decisions by the Assessment Appeals Board on large refinery valuation disputes.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

None.