



Contra
Costa
County

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Kathy Gallagher, Employment & Human Services Director
Date: January 6, 2015

Subject: Add 1 full-time Social Service Appeals Officer position in Employment & Human Services Department

RECOMMENDATION(S):

ADOPT Position Adjustment Resolution No. 21553 to add one Social Services Appeals Officer (X4SG) (represented) position, and allocate to salary schedule ZB5 1670 (\$5,646 - \$6,863) in the Administration Services Bureau of the Employment and Human Services Department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Upon approval of this position the net county cost will increase by \$6,350 during the current fiscal year. This additional County costs are included in the EHSD 2014-15 budget. This position is funded by: Federal 45%, State 45%, County 10%. The annual pension cost is \$45,505.

BACKGROUND:

In order to meet the state mandated due process needs of applicants and recipients of the Affordable Care Act/Covered California (ACA), and the additional responsibilities pertaining to Relative Assessment hearings and Administrative Disqualification hearings, the Employment and Human Services Department is requesting to add one (1) Social Services Appeals Officer position. The additional responsibilities have greatly impacted the

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **01/06/2015** ☒ 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

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 6, 2015

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Chris Heck, Deputy

Contact: Michelle Cabrera
925.313.1510

Appeals Officers workload. Recent ACA

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

regulatory changes provide strict guidelines on whether a case will be heard or not, and will require Appeals Officer to conduct for each family member a separate Medi-Cal hearing; previous regulation allowed for the review of the family's circumstances as one budget unit. In addition, the Harris vs Wagner lawsuit settlement requires the Appeals Officers to represent the department at state-level hearings related to Children Family Services Relative Assessment hearings. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) requires the Appeals Officer to present the county's case at the pre-hearing conference, and the follow-up hearing. The Relative Assessment hearings require that the Appeals Officers have an in-depth knowledge of the regulations, due process rights and the ability to interpret the Department of Justice criminal records. In addition, in accordance to CDSS, all counties are mandated to commence Administrative Disqualification Hearings as soon as reasonably possible. The Appeals Officers will be responsible for Administrative Disqualification Hearings. The Appeals Unit also has experienced an increase in the number of Civil Rights complaints and investigations, including the recently assigned civil rights issues for programs funded by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for CalWORKs recipients.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the SS Appeals Officer position is not added there will be insufficient staff to assume the additional caseload and adhere to the mandated regulatory changes required by the Affordable Care Act/Covered California, as well as investigate civil rights issues filed by CalWORKS recipients. The County and Department will run the risk of violating client's due process rights.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

NA

ATTACHMENTS

P-300 #21553