



**Contra  
Costa  
County**

To: Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Board of Directors  
 From: Jeff Carman, Chief, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District  
 Date: February 10, 2015

Subject: Add one (1) Fire District Telecommunications Specialist (PESC) position in the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

ADOPT Position Adjustment Resolution No. 21608 to add one (1) Fire District Telecommunications Specialist (PESC) (represented) position at salary plan and grade QS5 1632 (\$5,438 - \$6,610) in the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The estimated cost to fill this position for the remainder of the current fiscal year is \$45,700, \$11,800 of which is attributable to the employer's contribution towards pension. This cost will be offset by funded, vacant positions. Upon approval of the Board, this position will be permanently funded in 2015-2016 and thereafter.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (District) currently has two filled Telecommunications Specialist positions. These positions support the telephone, radio, and data communications needs of the District, as well as supporting the subscriber agencies of the Contra Costa Regional Fire Communications Center (CCRFCC) including the Pinole Fire Department, the Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District, Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District, East Contra Costa Fire Protection District, and Crockett-Carquinez Fire

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **02/10/2015** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

**VOTE OF SUPERVISORS**

AYE: Candace Andersen, Director  
 Mary N. Piepho, Director  
 Karen Mitchoff, Director  
 Federal D. Glover, Director

ABSENT: John Gioia, Director

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: February 10, 2015

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

Contact: Denise Cannon,  
 925-941-3311

By: June McHuen, Deputy

Protection District. These positions also

## BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

support and play a critical role in the coordination with the El Cerrito Fire Department and Richmond Fire Department as part of the fire protection cooperative arrangement and telecommunication structure in West County.

The specialized nature of fire rescue telecommunications and the importance of providing 24/7 operational support to our emergency response personnel requires the District to maintain adequate, trained staff to repair, replace, and perform preventative maintenance and training to fire suppression personnel on the electronic systems used by the District and the subscriber agencies of the CCRFCC. In the last three years the telephone, radio, and data communications needs of the District and the subscriber agencies of the CCRFCC have changed dramatically. Total emergency incident dispatches for the CCRFCC exceed 75,000 calls per year – every one relying on a failsafe radio and data communications system.

Additionally, the implementation of the East Bay Regional Communications System (EBRCS) has brought with it a multitude of systems integration issues and the need for highly trained and specialized technical experts to program radios, identify and troubleshoot problems, provide guidance to policy makers and department heads, and support emergency operations as users of this new technology. The addition of this position will allow the District to maintain the level of service required to support the District and the subscriber agencies of the CCRFCC.

## CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

It should be noted that “communications” was identified in the Michele Drive Line of Duty Deaths Investigation Report (LODD Investigation Report) as being one of the deficiencies leading to the deaths of two of the District’s firefighters in July 2007. The LODD Investigation Report identified several recommendations that dealt with communications and the operation of the CCRFCC. The integration of a highly complex radio system (EBRCS) into the operations of the District requires the commitment of technical resources to assure a safe and efficient transition onto the system and continued support of emergency responders. Failure to add this position will have a negative impact on firefighter and emergency responder safety, as well as District and subscriber agency operations.

## CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

No impact.

## ATTACHMENTS

P300 No. 21608