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Contra Costa County

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Sharon L. Anderson, County Counsel

Date: July 19, 2016

Subject: Amendment to Contract with Greenan, Peffer, Sallander & Lally

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the County Counsel, or her designee, to execute, on behalf of Contra Costa County, an amendment to a contract for specialized professional services with Greenan, Peffer, Sallander & Lally, effective November 1, 2015.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Eminent domain and real property matters will be charged to pertinent project accounts. The amendment adds hourly billing rates for paralegals that perform services under the contract. Legal services will be billed at a rate of \$265 per hour for attorneys, and \$110 per hour for paralegals.

BACKGROUND:

On August 1, 2011, the County entered into a new contract with Greenan, Peffer, Sallander & Lally for specialized legal services, including eminent domain services, as requested by the County Counsel. The contract specifies hourly billing rates for partners and associate attorneys.

The firm has recently added paralegal staff to perform certain services at an hourly rate that

✓ API	PROVE	OTHER
▼ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR		
Action of Board On: 07/19/2016 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER		
Clerks Notes:		
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS		
AYE:	John Gioia, District I Supervisor	
	Candace Andersen, District II	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.
	Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, District III Supervisor Federal D. Glover, District V	
		ATTESTED: July 19, 2016
		David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
	Supervisor	David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
ABSENT:	Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor	By: Chris Heck, Deputy
Contact: Stephen M. Siptroth, (925)		
335-1817		

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is significantly lower than the hourly rate for attorneys. Recently, the Auditor's office was unable to process bills in several cases because the contract did not include hourly rates for paralegals. The County and the firm desire to amend the contract, effective November 1, 2015, to add hourly billing rates for paralegals to allow invoices to be paid when work is performed by paralegals at the firm.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Payment for work performed by the firm may continue to be delayed or withheld.