



Contra
Costa
County

To: Board of Supervisors

From: LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Date: December 10, 2019

Subject: State Legislative Advocacy Contract

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the County Administrator, or designee, to execute a contract with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP in an amount not to exceed \$540,000 to provide state legislative and regulatory advocacy services for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, subject to approval as to form by County Counsel.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The annual cost of the contract is \$180,000. The total cost of the three-year contract is \$540,000. Funding for these services is appropriated in the County Administrator's Office budget, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND:

At the October 3, 2019 meeting of the Legislation Committee, Chair Burgis and Vice Chair Mitchoff considered the matter of the state advocacy services contract and recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize a contract with Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni LLP ("Nielsen Merksamer") for a three-year period, as specified in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) issued on March 27, 2019.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **12/10/2019** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Diane Burgis, 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: December 10, 2019

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

By: June McHuen, Deputy

Contact: L. DeLaney,
925-335-1097

cc:

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

Nielsen Merksamer is currently in contract to provide advocacy services through December 31, 2019 at a rate of \$15,000 per month. This contract was offered on an interim basis, pending the resolution of the matters regarding advocacy contractor performance measures and Delta/water expertise. These matters have been resolved to the satisfaction of the Committee members. The Committee recommends, therefore, by unanimous vote, that the Board award and authorize a contract to Nielsen Merksamer for the three-year period specified in the RFQ. (Note, the RFQ anticipated that a contract would commence at the start of the fiscal year and could be extended for two (2) additional one-year terms at agreed prices with all other terms and conditions remaining the same, by mutual agreement.)