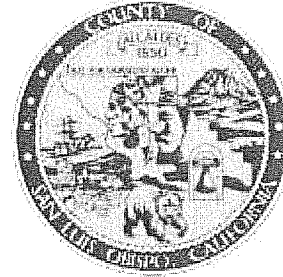


**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Administrative Office	(2) MEETING DATE 7/9/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Geoff O'Quest, 805-781-5011	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve recommended responses from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems."			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board: (1) Accept and file recommended responses from the Sheriff-Coroner to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems"; (2) Approve recommended responses from Cal Fire/County Fire to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems"; and Forward the approved response from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire to the Presiding Judge and the Grand Jury by July 29, 2013.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT ☒ Consent ☐ Presentation ☐ Hearing (Time Est. ____) ☐ Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS ☐ Resolutions ☐ Contracts ☐ Ordinances ☒ N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: ☐ 4/5th's Vote Required ☒ N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY ☒ N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW This item was prepared by the County Administrative Office			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) - All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst / 805-781-5011

DATE: 7/9/2013

SUBJECT: Request to approve recommended responses from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems."

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board:

- (1) Accept and file recommended responses from the Sheriff-Coroner to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems";
- (2) Approve recommended responses from Cal Fire/County Fire to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems"; and
- (3) Forward the approved response from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire to the Presiding Judge and the Grand Jury by July 29, 2013.

DISCUSSION

On June 4, 2013, the Grand Jury issued a report on "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems." This report presents the 2012-13 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury's investigation of the feasibility of consolidating public safety dispatch services in the cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach. The report contains six findings and three recommendations. The report requires responses from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire to its findings and recommendations as identified below. The response from each department is attached to this staff report. The report does not require a response from the Board of Supervisors.

Sheriff-Coroner:

Finding #5. "The County Sheriff's Office is prepared to handle both police and fire dispatches for Cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach."

Recommendation #2. "All city law enforcement, city managers, Sheriff, Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE should join in meeting with an independent facilitator to finalize consolidation of dispatch by contracting dispatch services with the Sheriff's Department."

CAL FIRE/County Fire:

Finding #4. "Five Cities Fire Authority does not want CAL FIRE's involvement with the use and allocation of the Five Cities Fire Authority equipment."

Finding #6. "The reluctance to consolidate dispatch by Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE has brought action to a stalemate in finding answers to the dispatch issue."

Recommendation #2. "All city law enforcement, city managers, Sheriff, Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE should join in meeting with an independent facilitator to finalize consolidation of dispatch by contracting dispatch services with the Sheriff's Department."

Recommendation #3. "Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE should work with an independent facilitator to develop a written contract defining fire service to be performed and the use of each department's assets."

Responses from the Sheriff and Cal Fire/County Fire are due to the Presiding Judge by July 29, 2013. No response is required from the Board of Supervisors. The County Administrative Office procedures include coordinating the departmental responses to Grand Jury reports and preparing recommended responses on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. The departmental responses to this Grand Jury report are attached and, where appropriate, incorporated as the Board's response.

OTHER DEPARTMENT INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The Grand Jury met with city, county and state officials as part of its inquiry, including the Sheriff-Coroner, the Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach Chiefs of Police, the City Managers of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach, the Chief of the Five Cities Fire Authority, and the Cal Fire/County Fire Chief. The County Administrative Office reviewed the responses to the Grand Jury report prepared by the Sheriff and the Cal Fire/County Fire in the development of the recommended Board response to this report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial considerations associated with this item.

RESULTS

This response will meet the legal requirements and time frames for responding to a Grand Jury report with findings and recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Sheriff's response to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems."
3. Cal Fire/County Fire's response to the Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems."
2. Grand Jury's 2012-13 report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems."

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLIC DISPATCH
SYSTEMS

Report Date: MAY 20, 2013

Authorized Responder and Agency IAN PARKINSON SHERIFF-CORONER

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: _____
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: 5
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed;
include an explanation of the reasons.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered _____ have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented,
but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered 2 require further analysis.

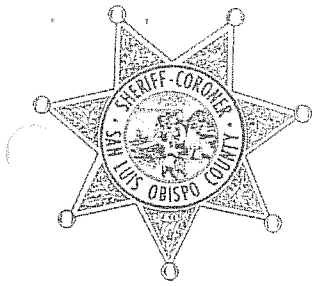
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study,
and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or
director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including
the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall
not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)

- Recommendations numbered _____ will not be implemented
because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 6-11-13 Signed: 

Number of pages attached 2



San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office

1585 Kansas Avenue • San Luis Obispo • California • 93405
www.slosheriff.org

Ian S. Parkinson
Sheriff - Coroner

June 13, 2013

The Honorable Barry LaBarbera
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of California
1050 Monterey Street
San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408

RE: Grand Jury 2012-2013 Report

Dear Judge LaBarbera:

I have reviewed the 2012-2013 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury Report regarding "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems." My response to their findings and recommendations are as follows:

Finding

5. *"The County Sheriff's Office is prepared to handle both police and fire dispatches for the Cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach."*

The respondent partially agrees with this finding. Upon their request, the respondent is prepared to provide police dispatching for both Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach. However, the Sheriff's Office is not prepared or inclined to provide fire dispatching. The Sheriff's Office has never provided fire dispatching. Fire dispatching is the responsibility of County Fire / Cal Fire. Currently County Fire / Cal Fire has several fire dispatching contracts, including the City of Pismo Beach.

The Sheriff's Office, Cal Fire and County Administration are in the early planning stages of building a Co-located dispatch center. A Co-located dispatch center would allow both law enforcement and fire to be dispatched from one location providing more timely communications and a stronger partnership that will allow us to deliver even better services to the citizens of the County.

Recommendation

1. *"All city, city managers, Sheriff, Five Cities Fire Authority and Cal Fire should join in meeting with an independent facilitator to finalize*

Administration (805) 781-4540 • 24-hour Dispatch (805) 781-4550

consolidation of dispatch by contracting dispatch services with the Sheriff's Office."

The respondent partially agrees with this recommendation. The Sheriff's Office agrees with the value in having an independent facilitator to assist in formal discussions. However, the Cities must first decide consolidation is something that they want to pursue.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ian S. Parkinson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ian S. Parkinson
Sheriff-Coroner



CAL FIRE
San Luis Obispo
County Fire Department

635 N. Santa Rosa • San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
Phone: 805-543-4244 • Fax: 805-543-4248
www.calfireslo.org

Robert Lewin, Fire Chief

TO: Geoff O'Quest, County Administrative Analyst

FROM: Robert Lewin, Fire Chief

DATE: June 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Response to the Grand Jury Report "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch Systems"

This memo is in response to the FY 2012-13 Grand Jury report titled "Consolidation of Public Safety Dispatch System," released on May 28, 2013. The report includes six findings and three recommendations, of which CAL FIRE/County Fire is required to respond to Findings 4 and 6, and Recommendations 2 and 3. CAL FIRE's responses are discussed below.

Background - CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire

Under a cooperative agreement CAL FIRE has served as the San Luis Obispo County Fire Department for over 83 years. In San Luis Obispo County, CAL FIRE provides contract fire protection services from 21 fire stations and five support facilities to the County of San Luis Obispo, the Avila Beach Community Services District, the City of Pismo Beach, the Los Osos Community Services District and the Cayucos Fire Protection District. This service is a key component of CAL FIRE's mission, as directed and authorized by the State Legislature and statutes, to provide contractual emergency services throughout California when requested by local agencies. CAL FIRE has cooperative agreements with over 145 local government agencies in 35 of the State's 58 counties, 25 cities, 31 fire districts and 34 other special districts.

CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire provides dispatch services to a total of nine fire departments within San Luis Obispo County. These programs are mutually beneficial and provide for the level of service that each agency desires and can afford. CAL FIRE is a modern, full service fire protection and emergency management agency that provides all-risk emergency services. We are committed to providing Consolidated Fire Protection solutions that make the most effective use of limited emergency protection resources by efficiently sharing valuable personnel and equipment.

CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire, Fire Protection Contracts in San Luis Obispo County

- County of San Luis Obispo
- City of Pismo Beach
- Los Osos Community Services District
- Avila Beach Community Services District
- Cayucos Fire Protection District

Fire Department Dispatch Contracts

- Cambria CSD Fire Department
- Cayucos Fire Protection District
- San Miguel CSD Fire Department
- Santa Margarita Fire Protection District
- Templeton CSD Fire Department

Response to Grand Jury Findings

The CAL FIRE – San Luis Obispo Unit is required by the Grand Jury to respond to Findings 4 and 6.

Finding 4 “Five Cities Fire Authority does not want CAL FIRE’s involvement with the use and allocation of the Five Cities Fire Authority equipment.”

CAL FIRE AGREES WITH THE FINDING 4

Comments: To date we have not been requested by the City of Arroyo Grande, the City of Grover Beach or the Five Cities Fire Authority to discuss CAL FIRE/County Fire as a dispatch option. It is CAL FIRE’s policy not to solicit contracts for service; we must be requested by the entity interested in the service before we may engage in a discussion. If CAL FIRE were to dispatch Five Cities Fire Authority we would dispatch the specific equipment the Authority directed us to. All dispatch contracts are customized to meet the requirements of the agency contracting us.

Finding 6 “The reluctance to consolidate dispatch by Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE has brought action to a stalemate in finding answers to the dispatch issue.”

CAL FIRE AGREES WITH THE FINDING 6

Comments: CAL FIRE is not reluctant to engage in finding answers to the dispatch issue. However it is CAL FIRE’s policy not to solicit contracts for service; we must be requested by the entity interested in the service before we may engage in a discussion. To date we have not been requested by the City of Arroyo Grande, the City of Grover

Beach or the Five Cities Fire Authority to discuss CAL FIRE/County Fire as a dispatch option. If they do, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss all options.

Response to Grand Jury Recommendations

The CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire is required by the Grand Jury to respond to Recommendations 2 and 3.

Recommendation 2 "All city law enforcement, city managers, Sheriff, Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE should join in meeting with an independent facilitator to finalize consolidation of dispatch by contracting dispatch services with the Sheriff Department."

CAL FIRE AGREES WITH RECOMMENDATION 2

Comments: We are prepared to enter discussions with or without an independent facilitator in order to better serve the public. While our agency is supportive of this, we do not have the authority to take the lead in convening such a meeting.

Recommendation 3 "Five Cities Fire Authority and CAL FIRE should work with an independent facilitator to develop a written contract defining fire services to be performed and the use of each department's assets."

CAL FIRE AGREES WITH RECOMMENDATION 3

Comments: CAL FIRE is willing to work with the Five Cities Fire Authority with or without an independent facilitator if requested by the Five Cities Fire Authority to do so. We are able to provide written contract templates used by other agencies that contract with us. In all cases the Five Cities Fire Authority would determine what services are to be performed and how the Authority's assets are used.

Summary

CAL FIRE appreciates the Grand Jury's efforts in identifying deficiencies in the dispatch system and the need for agencies including CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire to make improvements. Like all agencies involved in emergency response, we are committed to providing the very best service possible to the residents and visitors throughout the County. We support the Grand Jury's recommendations because they will improve emergency response and save reduce costs. CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire is prepared to work with all of the agencies and entities in the County to make these improvements.