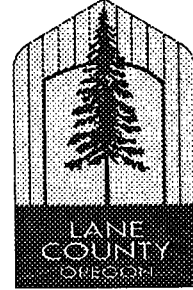


T10 C2

AGENDA COVER MEMO

AGENDA DATE: August 15, 2006
TO: Board of County Commissioners
DEPARTMENT: Health & Human Services
PRESENTED BY: Rob Rockstroh



AGENDA TITLE: ORDER / _____ IN THE MATTER OF APPLYING FOR AND ACCEPTING STATE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$122,858 TO CONTINUE EXPANSION OF COUNTY VETERAN SERVICES PURSUANT TO SENATE BILLS 5629-A AND 1100.

I. MOTION

Order / _____ In the matter of applying for and accepting State funding in the amount of \$122,858 to continue the expansion of County Veteran Services pursuant to Senate Bills 5629-A and 1100.

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

The Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) is accepting applications for funding to expand and enhance County Veteran Services pursuant to Senate Bills 5629-A and 1100. The Lane County Department of Health & Human Services is seeking approval of the Board of Commissioners for Lane County to apply for and accept these funds.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background/Analysis

With the passage of Senate Bill 1100, the 2005 State Legislature established a County Veterans Services Expansion program. Along with Senate Bill 5629-A which allocated funding, these measures provide for direct disbursements to expand each County Veteran Services Office (CVSO). Based on the funding formula developed by the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA), Lane County will be allocated \$122,858 per annum for fiscal years 2005-06 and 2006-07. This money is to be used to expand the Lane CVSO and although no match requirement was established, the funding may not be used to supplant current county funding for that office, except in certain circumstances (See, SB 1100, Section 6). Please recall that this Board wrote

a letter to the Lane County Legislative Delegation during the past Legislative Session objecting to any "Maintenance of Effort" requirement. While the language originally objected to was modified, the basic concept remains. By this Board's Order dated February 8, 2006 (Order #06-2-8-2), Lane County accepted funding pursuant to this program for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and authorized expenditure. With that authorization, the Veteran Services Program has been able to increase the Office Assistant II position by .5 FTE, add a second full-time Assistant Veteran Services Coordinator, increase outreach trips to Florence to once per week and add outreach trips to Junction City and Blue River. Furthermore, the Program has added computer capabilities and developed a portable workstation to effectively and more efficiently process veteran benefit claims during outreach appointments.

Funding under this legislation is dedicated to the expansion and enhancement of County Veteran Services and may only be used for that end. There are no requirements concerning the timing of its use in relation to the use of County funding, nor is there any limitation regarding the use of these funds for Veteran Services administrative activities. The only additional limitation is that the money not be used for capital improvements (purchases over \$5,000). No technology issues are raised by this funding program, nor is it for a computer or software application project.

ODVA has instituted reporting obligations associated with this program which will be satisfied by the Veteran Services Coordinator. These reporting obligations are nearly identical to those required by ODVA under previous funding programs. There is no prohibition to use funds received pursuant to this program to cover staff time to satisfy these reporting obligations.

There are no grant stakeholders in the traditional sense of other entities which will receive funding from the County pursuant to the funding received under this program. This program may only fund County staff and activities.

ODVA requires that the County apply for continued funding from this program for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. As the implementing legislation provided funding for the 2005-2007 Biennium, these funds were included in the Veteran Services Program budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007. In order to receive these funds from ODVA and continue the expansion efforts started during the previous fiscal year, authority to apply for funds for these efforts must be delegated to the County Administrator.

B. Alternatives/Options

1. To accept the motion, adopt the order and approve the grant application.
2. Not to accept the motion. This will result in the loss of funds set forth in the Veteran Service Program budget and result in staff layoffs and limitation of veteran services.

C. Recommendation

To approve Option #1, above.

D. Timing

August 15, 2006 – Application due (Extension granted by ODVA)

July 1, 2006 – Retroactive application of funding

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Upon action by the Board, the funding application will be processed for signature and submitted to ODVA.

V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER:) IN THE MATTER OF APPLYING FOR AND ACCEPTING STATE
) FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$122,858 TO CONTINUE
) EXPANSION OF COUNTY VETERAN SERVICES PURSUANT
) TO SENATE BILLS 5629-A AND 1100

WHEREAS, Lane County Department of Health and Human Services, Human Services Commission, funds and administers a veteran services program; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature has made available \$2,600,000 to provide for the expansion and enhancement of county veteran service offices; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs has developed a program to distribute those funds to the several counties and requires that interested counties apply for those funds; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funding allocated to Lane County for the expansion and enhancement of its County Veteran Service Program is \$122,858 pursuant to this program; and

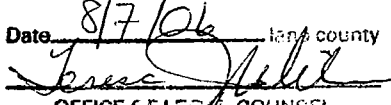
WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 budget for the County Veteran Services program includes this State funding;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED that Lane County shall apply for State funding for veteran services and shall accept State funding in the amount of \$122,858 for Fiscal Year 2006-2007, and it is

FURTHER ORDERED that the County Administrator be delegated authority to execute application and acceptance documents for these services.

DATED this ____ day of August, 2006.

Bill Dwyer, Chair
Lane County Board Of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 8/7/06 Lane County

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL