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Agenda Date: June 16, 2010

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To: Lane County Board of Commissioners  
Department: Youth Services  
Presented By: Lynne Schroeder  
Title: MOTION/ORDER: IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING THE  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS  
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND THE U.S. FOREST  
SERVICE AND AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE  
RESULTING AWARDS

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**I. MOTION:**

Move approval of Board Order \_\_\_\_\_ \ IN THE MATTER OF ratifying the county administrator's submission of applications to the Department of Interior and the U.S. Forest Service and authorizing the acceptance of the resulting awards.

**II. ISSUE:**

Should Lane County ratify the County Administrator's decision to authorize applications to the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service, authorize acceptance of the resulting awards and appropriate the funds to Fund 260 of the Department of Youth Services?

**III. DISCUSSION:**

a. Background

In the Emergency Stabilization Act of 2008, which is the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, Congress authorized work on Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service property that would be a benefit to Oregon and California lands. The process for making determination regarding who will perform the work and be paid is through applications made to Regional Action Committees. Lane County Department of Youth Services MLK Education Center and Juvenile Forest Work Team (JFWT) have made application and received funding every year since 2001. During 2009-2010, the RACS approved \$205,750 for JFWT projects on BLM lands and \$132,000 on Forest Service Lands in the Willamette Forest.

JFWT works on projects that target forest health improvement, invasive removal and overall stewardship of our shared public lands. In addition to these ecological benefits, the JFWT is an integral part of MLK Ed Center's vocational programming as it supports

our goal to reduce recidivism through job growth, career planning and environmental education opportunity.

In 2008-2009, the MLK Ed Center provided educational and vocational services for over 200 youth. Most of these youth earned a paid stipend and many went on to part-time employment with the County, outside placements in our community and other educational training programs. In 2009-2010, Youth Services has continued to provide these opportunities.

Youth employment reduces recidivism in our community, reduces the costs of crime, and increases positive youth engagement in the community. Our targeted goal to be accomplished through our MLK Ed Center programming is a 68% reduction in delinquent behavior. This results in a cost avoidance of \$20,000 per youth. In 2008-2009 we met our goal. We are meeting this goal in 2009-2010.

The BLM funding pays for staff to supervise and train youth, materials and services needed to perform the jobs and youth stipends or wages.

All project requests have been delayed by the Department of the Interior during this fiscal year. The high volume of ARRA funded projects took precedent over all other expenditure and approvals. The Department of Interior is now ready to process our application, which will have top priority.

Budget: The BLM award will be for \$205,750. The Forest Service award for the Willamette Forest will be for \$132,000.

b. Analysis

On May 20, 2010, the BLM and Forest Service informed Youth Services that before they can award the funding which has been allocated, a specific form (SF424 Application) must be completed. In order to ensure that the funds are received as soon as possible during this fiscal year, the County Administrator signed the SF424 Applications and they were forwarded to the Department of Interior and Forest Service. A delay of two weeks to obtain Board approval for the signature would have jeopardized the BLM's ability to process the application prior to the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2010. Thus, the County Administrator's decision to submit the SF424 Application needs to be ratified.

There are no disadvantages to the County or Youth Services in receiving these funds. On the other hand, there are multiple advantages to receiving this funding. It helps maintain a vocational program that educates our students, provides job opportunities for high-risk youth in our community and helps accomplish our goal of producing positive citizens and reduced crime.

c. Alternatives

1. Approve the request to ratify the County Administrator's decision authorizing the applications and delegate authority to the County Administrator to accept any awards resulting from the applications.
2. Reject the request to ratify the County Administrator's decision authorizing the applications.

d. Impact of Each Alternative

1. Approval allows Youth Services to fund vocational training services for youth and to provide environmental benefits to our forest lands.
2. Rejection omits Youth Services from the opportunity to provide these services.

e. Recommendation

Approve alternative 1.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

If the Order is signed, the signatures will be ratified and the resulting awards accepted.

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed board order.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON**

ORDER 10-\_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE MATTER OF RATIFYING THE  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S  
SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND THE  
U.S. FOREST SERVICE AND  
AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE  
RESULTING AWARDS**

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service authorizes Regional Action Committee's (RACs) to allocate federal funding for work on BLM and US Forest Service land;

**WHEREAS**, Lane County Department of Youth Services Juvenile Forest Work Team has performed ecological and forest health improvement projects on Forest Lands and the performance of these projects provides vocational training opportunities for high-risk youth that reduces recidivism;

**WHEREAS**, Lane Manual 21.137 sets forth policy regarding grant applications and requires Board approval of the preliminary application and acceptance of any grant award greater than \$100,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the timeline from when the BLM and the Forest Service requested the SF424 Applications and the Applications needed to be processed precluded Board of Commissioners concurrence prior to submission; and

**WHEREAS**, the total funding to be awarded through these applications, \$205,750 and \$132,000, exceeds the signatory authority of the County Administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, applications to the BLM and the US Forest Service have been prepared and submitted,

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Board of County Commissioners ratify the signatures on the applications by the County Administrator for funding from the Department of the Interior and the US Forest Service and delegate authority to the County Administrator to execute the award documents; and

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June 2010.

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Bill Fleenor, Chair  
BOARD OF LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS