



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

C-8

For the meeting of: May 13, 2014

Date: April 15, 2014

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Phillip R. Crandall, Director *S. Buckley*
Department of Health and Human Services - Public Health

Subject: Letter of Support for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health Accreditation

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the letter of support to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return the signed letter to Public Health for submission to PHAB.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Public Health Fund

DISCUSSION: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identified accreditation as a key strategy for strengthening public health infrastructure. PHAB was formed in 2007 as the non-profit entity to implement and oversee the national accreditation process of approximately 2,800 state, tribal and local public health jurisdictions. The goals of public health accreditation are:

- Promote high performance and continuous quality improvement
- Recognize high performers that meet nationally accepted standards of quality and improvement
- Illustrate health department accountability to the public and policymakers
- Increase the visibility and public awareness of governmental public health, leading to greater public trust and increased health department credibility, and ultimately a stronger constituency for public health funding and infrastructure

Prepared by Karyn Davis, AAI

CAO Approval

Amy Nissen

REVIEW:

Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:

Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. C-8

Meeting of: Feb. 11, 2014

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

Upon motion of Supervisor *Bass* Seconded by Supervisor *Sundberg*

Ayes *Sundberg, Lovelace, Bohn, Fennell, Bass*
Nays _____
Abstain _____
Absent _____

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: *May 13, 2014*
By: *Anna Henthall*
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

- Clarify the public's expectations of health departments

DHHS Public Health began preparation to apply for accreditation in May, 2012. Prior to applying for accreditation, DHHS Public Health developed, along with community partners, three required documents: A Community Health Assessment, a Community Health Improvement Plan and an Internal Operations Plan, and began the process of meeting over 100 performance standards and measures.

Public Health Accreditation is currently voluntary. Benefits to public health agencies include:

- Demonstrated accountability and improved quality
- Performance feedback and quality improvement
- Accountability and credibility
- Improved ability to compete successfully for additional funding resources.

Once the application is received by PHAB, DHHS Public Health has one year to demonstrate that it meets all of the required performance standards and measures and undergo a site visit by PHAB.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The application for accreditation includes a fee of \$27,030. On February 11, 2013 your Board approved a grant award from National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) in the amount of \$22,000. This grant award included funds for 50% of the application fee (\$13,515). The remainder of the application fee \$13,515 will be funded through Public Health Realignment in Fund 1175, Budget Unit 400 – Administration and is included in the fiscal year 2013-14 approved county budget. The request before your board today will have no additional impact on the Public Health or County General Fund.

The proposed letter of support supports the Board's Strategic Framework by creating opportunities for improved safety and health.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Your Board could choose not to approve the recommendations; however this will prohibit DHHS Public Health from applying for national accreditation.

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter of Support to PHAB



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

825 5th Street, Suite 111, Eureka, CA 95501-1153
Telephone (707) 476-2390 Fax (707) 445-7299

Public Health Accreditation Board
1600 Duke Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22314

May 13, 2014

Dear PHAB Members,

The Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services Public Health is committed to meeting and maintaining the high standards of performance and practice which have been established by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB).

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is pleased to support the efforts of the Department of Health and Human Services Public Health to seek and attain national public health accreditation.

Sincerely,

Rex Bohn, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors