



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 4/6/2021

File #: 21-323

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Sheriff

Agenda Section: Consent

SUBJECT:

Acceptance of Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid 2021-2022 Program Agreement

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the Chair to sign the Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid Program Agreement with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 (Attachment 1);
2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to certify the amount of prior year vessel taxes received by the county;
3. Authorize the Sheriff, Undersheriff, and Deputy Director of Sheriff's Administration to execute all the necessary reimbursement claims, applications, contracts, and agreements and amendments thereto, in the name of the County of Humboldt, and all other documents required by the California Department of Parks and Recreation for participation in the Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid Program following review and approval by County Counsel and Risk Management; and
4. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return a certified signed copy of the agreement to the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), Attention: Tammi Gilbert for submittal to funding agency.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways

DISCUSSION:

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Boating Safety and Enforcement Program (BS&E) focuses mainly on boating safety through education and outreach. This is achieved through vessel inspections for safety equipment and current registrations. Inspections are most often done during field contacts at local marinas and boat ramps, as well as boat patrols on the waterways. In addition, the BS&E program assists with search and rescue operations for over 500 miles of freshwater river systems and over 400 square miles of saltwater along the Humboldt Bay.

HCSO's application for continued participation in the California Department of Parks and Recreation,

Division of Boating and Waterways Financial Aid Program for Boating Safety has been accepted, and an award of \$121,530 was granted. The financial aid program enables HCSO to assign the appropriate level of staffing to effectively provide safety services outlined in BS&E regulations.

Pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code, Section 663.7 (e) The department shall not allocate funds to any county or a public agency within a county unless the department receives a resolution adopted annually by the Board of Supervisors authorizing the county to participate in the program and certifying that the county will expend for boating safety programs during that year not less than an amount equal to 100% of the amount received by the county from personal property taxes on vessels. The money allocated to a county pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be used only for boating safety and enforcement programs, as specified in subdivision (a), that are conducted in that county.

Therefore, based on the award, it is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the attached agreement; authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the FY 2021-22 agreement, authorize the Auditor-Controller to certify the amount of prior year vessel taxes received by the county and delegate signatory authority to the Sheriff, Undersheriff, and Deputy Director of Sheriff's Administration for all necessary applications, contracts, reimbursements, claims and agreements and amendments, and all other documents required for participation in the program following review and approval by County Counsel and Risk Management.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Boating and Waterways Division awarded Humboldt County continued support in the Financial Aid Program in the amount of \$121,530 for Fiscal Year 2021-22. These funds, combined with the General Fund allocation of approximately \$48,529 for next fiscal year, which is equal to the amount of personal property taxes on vessels, constitute an estimated BS&E program budget of \$170,059.

The BS&E program (Budget Unit 1100-221900) funds one full-time Deputy Sheriff whose primary duties will be enforcement of state and local laws and regulations for boating activities, inspection of vessels for compliance, supervision of organized on-the-water boating activities and search and rescue operations originating from on-the-water activities. The funding also covers extra-help and overtime of other Sheriff Deputies providing services specific to enforcing boating laws.

The budget for this grant award will be included as part of the Sheriff's Department budget submission for fiscal year 2021-22 in budget unit 1100-221900.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by enforcing laws and regulations to protect residents, creating opportunities for improved safety and health, and seeking outside funding sources to benefit Humboldt County needs.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways

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ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could deny the authorization to accept the Boating and Waterways Financial Aid Program funds, however this is not recommended as these funds cover expenses related to the county's boating safety and enforcement activities. Without this funding HCSO would be forced to curtail or terminate the program.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid 2021-2022 Program Agreement

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: March 17, 2020

File No.: 20-311