



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Oregon Health Authority grant agreement #180009-2 and Resolution No. 2023-060 converting 1.0 limited duration FTE to regular and increasing appropriations in the Health Services Fund

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

- 1) Move approval of Chair signature of Document No. 2023-902, Oregon Health Authority agreement #180009-2.
- 2) Move approval of Resolution No.2023-060 to convert 1.0 limited duration FTE to a regular FTE position and increase appropriations within the Health Services Fund and the 2023-24 Deschutes County Budget.
- 3) Move approval to extend the end date to use ARPA funding earmarked for Health Services through December 2026 to be used for the original purposes set forth by the Board of County Commissioners.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) intergovernmental agreement (IGA) #180009, approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 28, 2023, outlined program descriptions and reporting requirements for Deschutes County, the Local Public Health Authority (LPHA), for fiscal year (FY) 2024 and 2025, and provided funding for most Program Elements (PEs) for FY 2024.

This amendment #2 modifies program element descriptions for three PEs: PE 12 - Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR), PE 44 - School Based Health Centers (SBHC), and PE 51 - Public Health Modernization. Additionally, the amendment awards anticipated funding totaling \$922,746 for the following Program Elements:

- \$197,456 for PE 01-01 State Support for Public Health
- \$83,935 for PE 12-01 Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response
- -\$10,928 for PE 44-02 SBHC – Mental Health Expansion
- \$652,283 for PE 51-01 LPHA Leadership, Governance and Program Implementation (Public Health Modernization)

Health Services is requesting to convert one Public Health Program Manager from limited duration to regular FTE position effective January 1, 2024. As Public Health continues to move

toward implementation of PH Modernization, our next step is to focus on the foundational capabilities of Emergency Preparedness, Community Partnership Development, and Risk Communications. Currently, the limited duration Emergency Preparedness and COVID Recovery Manager position has been implementing and overseeing much of this work and we want to sustain this core capacity and expertise. The Public Health Program Manager will continue to provide leadership and oversight of public health emergency preparedness and response activities, community based organization partnerships and engagement, assessment of community need and services as well as strategic and risk communication, and epidemiology of emerging public health threats. This position would be funded through additional PE 51-01 PH Modernization funds received in this biennium. Should funding no longer support the position, DCHS will consider the future of this position within the budgeting process.

Currently the Public Health Manager position is funded through December 31, 2024 by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. As this position will now be funded by OHA for this time period, DCHS is requesting the end date to use these ARPA funds be extended through December 2026, for use by DCHS and used according to the original purpose—community-wide Emergency Preparedness activities, supporting emerging community health issues, and community outreach related to COVID-19 and other public health threats.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

Recognizing State grant revenue of \$922,746, and increasing appropriations within Program Expense in the amount of \$88,264 in the 2023-24 Health Services budget to fund the Public Health Manager for fiscal year 2024, which was formerly funded by the ARPA fund.

ATTENDANCE:

Heather Kaisner, Public Health Director
Cheryl Smallman, Health Services Business Officer
Dan Emerson, Budget & Financial Planning Manager