



# Health & Human Services Agency

## COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI  
District One

PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three

EDDIE VALERO  
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** May 9, 2023

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Andrew Lockman PHONE: 559-624-8000

**SUBJECT:** Ratify an Agreement with Witt O'Brien's, LLC for Post-Disaster Management Services

### **REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Ratify and approve an agreement with Witt O'Brien's, LLC, for Post-Disaster Management Services, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 per fiscal year, retroactive to April 21, 2023 through June 30, 2026. This agreement is retroactive due to the quick turnaround required to implement these services.
2. Ratify the Chair's signature on the agreement.
3. Find that the Board of Supervisors had the authority to enter into the agreement on April 21, 2023, and that it was in the County's best interest to do so.

### **SUMMARY:**

Tulare County has experienced significant damages as a result of the recent Major Disasters, covering an incident period beginning in December 2022 and ongoing as of this writing. Tulare County's collective damages from the multiple disasters are estimated at over \$60 million, exclusive of impending costs for debris programs and future response actions due to snowmelt flooding. Additionally, tens of millions of dollars of costs and damages have been incurred by other entities within the boundaries of Tulare County that are not included in these figures.

Due to the identified need from previous disasters, a Request for Proposal (RFP) process was underway by the Office of Emergency Services in February, 2023. After a review of the submitted proposals, Witt O'Brien's, a nationally recognized disaster consulting firm, was selected to provide these services, which include management of Public Assistance

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funding, project management of permanent infrastructure repairs, and optionally debris management and Individual Assistance case management for affected populations.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The initial budget of \$500,000 per fiscal year will be budgeted out of the Disaster Management Unit (001-012-2100). Funding for this agreement will be derived from a combination of sources. Expenses associated with open recovery projects such as road and bridge repair and/or replacement will be reimbursed at 93.75%, with a local cost share of 6.25%. Any agreement expenses not associated with a recovery project will be included under the FEMA 5% administrative allowance. The Net County Cost is not known at this time.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security element, with an initiative to provide coordinated emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation capabilities for both natural and man-made disasters. The Post-Disaster Management Services agreement with Witt O'Brien's, LLC supports this goal by maximizing reimbursement to return the community to a safe and healthy pre-disaster state.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

/s/ Anita Ortiz

Anita Ortiz

Associate Agency Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Agreement