## **COUNTY OF NEVADA**

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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January 10, 2016

Honorable Board of Supervisors Eric Rood Administrative Center 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959

**DATE OF MEETING:** January 26, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving Addendum #1 to the Stationary Engineers, Local 39 General Unit Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) covering all employees in the General Employee Bargaining Unit amending certain provisions in the MOU and authorizing the County Executive Officer to execute this Addendum.

**<u>FUNDING</u>**: Funding for any costs associated with these changes are included in the 2015-2016 Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached resolution.

**BACKGROUND:** The County and Local 39 have an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) representing General Unit employees which went into effect in July of 2015 and continues until June 30, 2018. A few months after this MOU went into effect it was noticed by both the County and Local 39 that three single-incumbent Wasterwater position classifications were inadvertently not included in a provision for specialty certification pay. One amendment in the attached Addendum #1 corrects this minor oversight.

The balance of the amendments to the MOU contained in the Addendum are to support a County initiative to no longer be governed by the State of California "Merit System" as it pertains to certain positions in our Social Services and Child Support Services departments. The County successfully petitioned the State of California to leave the Merit System and be designated an "Approved Local Merit System" allowing the County the flexibility to use its own position descriptions and its own recruitment and selection methods. Additionally, and significantly, the County will have the ability to develop new positions in the Social Services and Child Support Services departments which can be responsive to our organizational needs and create increased job mobility for our employees. The State system does not provide this flexibility.

To successfully be allowed out of the State-governed Merit System the County must still adhere to civil service guidelines and comply with any deficiencies identified by routine audit. The County is very confident that by following the civil service procedures in our Personnel Code that we will be in adherence with these guidelines; the State agreed in granting our petition.

Leaving the State Merit System could impact certain employees covered by the Local 39 MOU in the circumstances of layoff and in advancement after completing a probationary period of employment. The State of California rules for these subjects are not the same as County rules. The County wants to assure Local 39 that it does not desire to disadvantage any employees that it represents should any of these circumstances arise, so the additional amendments to the MOU referenced in the Addendum address these subjects. The bulk of the suggested changes are with regard to the impacts should the County have to layoff certain positions in Social Services and Child Support Services. The detailed provisions address the calculation of seniority in the event of a layoff situation so that employees currently covered by the State system will preserve seniority as they convert to County policies on seniority. Representatives of the County and Local 39 met and conferred over many sessions to compose an Addendum to all parties' mutual agreement, with an effective date of January 31, 2016.

Your consideration of this matter is appreciated and approval of the resolution is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Wilson

Human Resources Director

Richard A. Haffey

County Executive Officer