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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** May 14, 2024

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Craig Griesbach – Office of Emergency Services

**SUBJECT:** Resolution approving acceptance of the California Fire Safe Council 2022 Wildfire CAL FIRE County Coordinator Program – Northern for the Nevada County Wildfire Coordinator Grant 22-CAL-FIRE-467704 in an amount of \$186,076.80 with no required match during the period April 15, 2024 to December 31, 2024 and authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant on behalf of the County of Nevada.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** The \$186,076.80 grant includes funding for County Coordinator Salary and Benefits for the grant period (April 14, 2024 – December 31, 2024), Contractual and Supplies costs to support wildfire mitigation outreach and engagement, and Indirect Costs at 12%. Grant funds will be received into the OES budget. A budget amendment is not needed at this time.

**BACKGROUND:** The Office of Emergency Services (OES) applied for the California Fire Safe Council County Coordinator Grant on September 30, 2021 and on November 15, 2021 was awarded the County Coordinator Grant (Grant #370779 CFSC) in the amount of \$175,000 (Resolution No. 21-531).

The objective of this Grant Program was to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups operating within counties containing State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands.

The funds were used to hire a County Coordinator to help advance the mission of OES, provide administration and facilitation support, lead public communication and stakeholder engagement, help secure and develop the County Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) updates, as well as continue to participate in countywide coordination efforts.

Major accomplishments under the 2021 Grant #370779 CFSC included:

- Centralizing Wildfire Outreach and Engagement
- Fostering collaboration in East Nevada County.
- Establishing a robust stakeholder forum with the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meeting.
- Diversifying wildfire mitigation efforts to bring in non-profit partners, Firewise Communities, and natural resource managers.
- Facilitating, supporting, or administering 117 outreach events in 2022 and 192 in 2023.
- Launching new outreach and engagement initiatives such as Virtual Office Hours.
- Managing the development of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and the Roadmap to Resilience.
- Administering the CWPP survey which collected 2,267 responses County-wide.
- Developing the Nevada County Wildfire Risk Assessment.

As a recipient of a County Coordinator Grant in the original round of funding, County of Nevada was invited to submit a renewal application to the program for the period April 15, 2024 – December 31, 2024 (Resolution No. 24-150). This renewal application was approved on April 15, 2024. The Nevada County Wildfire Coordinator grant (22-CAL-FIRE-467704) will support Nevada County in maintaining the momentum built under the original project, furthering county-wide wildfire mitigation initiatives, and advancing community resilience in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

**Item Initiated by:** Alex Keeble-Toll, Senior Administrative Analyst

**Approved by:** Craig Griesbach, Director of Emergency Services