



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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March 26, 2013

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, public hearing to consider a Resolution revising laboratory services fees effective April 1, 2013.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize President to adopt a Resolution establishing a revised Fee Schedule for laboratory services effective April 1, 2013.

SUMMARY: On February 26, 2013, your Board approved Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Amendment No. 6 establishing the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory effective July 1, 2013. As part of the preparation for joining this regional effort, the Department compared its current laboratory services fee schedule with the fee schedule of the regional public health laboratory.

Twenty fees on the Department's laboratory fee schedule are higher than the fees charged by the regional laboratory. As State law prohibits charges greater than costs and the regional public health laboratory fees will soon become our cost of providing these services, the Department proposes to lower these twenty fees to match the fees charged by the regional laboratory. These proposed reductions are an example of the economies of scale advantage of joining the larger regional laboratory and are changes that benefit the individuals and agencies receiving these services.

The twenty fees the Department proposes to reduce include water testing fees. The Department proposes to make these fee reductions effective April 1, 2013 so water agencies are able to benefit from the reduced fees for the 2013 water testing season.

When Marin joins the regional laboratory in July, the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory will be able to perform all of the laboratory tests currently performed by our Department's laboratory as well as other tests that our public health laboratory does not offer. The regional laboratory has one fee schedule for ease of administration. However, the JPA Amendment includes language

permitting the respective governing boards of supervisors for Napa, Solano, Yolo and Marin Counties to set forth a policy or fee schedule that collects fees lower than that of the regional laboratory fee schedule, provided that the county electing to do so compensates the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin Public Health Laboratory for its costs. Thus for those laboratory tests currently offered by our local public health laboratory, the proposed Marin fee schedule for laboratory services will be used. For other laboratory tests not performed by the Marin Public Health Laboratory and not on the proposed fee schedule but available at the regional laboratory, the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin Public Health Laboratory fee schedule will be used.

Your Board previously approved Resolution 2010-94, establishing both a laboratory services fee schedule and a fee schedule for clinic services. This proposed Resolution repeals and replaces that portion of Resolution 2010-94 establishing the laboratory services fee schedule, and any other previous fee schedule for laboratory services.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS: The proposed fee schedule reduces twenty fees, including water testing fees. The other fees for tests currently performed by the Marin County Public Health Laboratory remain the same.

FISCAL IMPACT: The impact of implementing these proposed fee reductions is negligible in FY 12/13 and there is no need to make a budgetary adjustment. In FY 13/14 revenue for laboratory services provided by the Napa-Solano-Yolo-Marin County Public Health Laboratory will be collected by Solano County. The revenue generated from Marin tests is applied at the end of the fiscal year towards Marin's annual contribution for laboratory operations. There is no need to make a FY 13/14 baseline budgetary adjustment.

REVIEWED BY:

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Department of Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |

Sincerely,

Larry Meredith, Ph.D.
Director

SAP Document Number: No SAP document required