

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Fire Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
September 21, 2006

SUBJECT: Containment of the Lawson Dump Fire Utilizing California Department of Forestry (CDF) Awarded Vendors

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board authorize the Purchasing Agent to contract with State approved vendors under contract with CDF to provide goods and service for the containment of the Lawson Dump Fire utilizing State approved rates.

BACKGROUND: On 3/10/2003 (Item 3.36) the Board entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern California Agency to provide wildland fire suppression services on Indian Trust Lands.

On Tuesday, September 5, 2006, Riverside County Fire resources responded to a report of smoke on the Lawson Dump. Arriving units found a small fire at the mid-point in the "wall" of rubble remaining after the August incident. Crews began attacking the fire with water and foam from the engines, two water tenders and a hired excavator, eventually reducing the smoke emanating from the source. The material included buried green waste, construction demolition and debris, as well as household trash and farm debris. The site is entirely on BIA controlled Trust Lands.

(Continued)

John R. Hawkins, County Fire Chief

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$645,000	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Bureau of Indian Affairs Contract Reimbursement	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

- Consent
- Policy
- Dept's Recomm.:
- Consent
- Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District:

Agenda Number:

3 . 12

RECEIVED
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
SEP 26 2006 10:51 AM

Departmental Concurrence

Purchasing: Assistant Director

The next day fire crews re-responded and began digging using the excavator and discovered the fire had become subterranean in location. It had progressed to about 8 to 10 feet below the surface but continued to burn. This posed a very real threat to 20 acres of green waste stored on the surface in the path of the fire and could not be contained utilizing standard fire suppression equipment.

In consultation with the BIA it was decided the best option to extinguish the fire completely would be to expose all the hot material and suppress it with large volumes of water. The size, complexity and location of the fire required highly specialized equipment and fire suppression techniques; some of the equipment is so large it must be transported unassembled and reassembled on site. It also required specialized personnel with experience in dealing with these types of conditions. The equipment included very large excavators and earth moving equipment, water tenders that carry 10,000 gallons in capacity, as well as a water delivery system that would traverse 1.5 miles in volumes reaching 8000 gallons per minute to a storage site holding 100,000 that would have to be constructed. The use of CDF/County fire engines, bulldozers and water tenders was not a viable option and required utilization of heavy equipment suppliers and operators currently under contract with CDF.

As part of standard CDF operating procedure and per the direction of the County Fire Chief, fire officials assigned to incident immediately entered into agreements with the state approved vendors and mobilization began on Sunday, September 10. Water system installation began on Monday, September 11 and was fully functional Wednesday morning, September 13.

It is estimated the fire would take approximately 10 to 14 days of effort to fully suppress. To date we have moved approximately 100,000 cubic yards of material from over 1.5 acres 20 to 25 feet deep, of which more than 50 percent requires suppression. Cost to contain the fire is estimated at \$45,000 to \$65,000 per day. Required budget adjustments, if necessary, will be requested at a future date once the total cost package is completed and submitted to the BIA for reimbursement.

The total costs of containment will be reimbursed and funds will be via electronic transfer within thirty (30) days after receipt and acceptance of the invoice by the Bureau.