

AGENDA: January 8, 2002



### **County of Santa Cruz**

### HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

Cecilia Espinola, Administrator 1000 Emeline Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (831) 454-4130 or 454-4045 FAX: (831) 454-4642

December 12, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA. 95060

APPROVE CONTRACT WITH ERISS TO PROVIDE JOB MARKET AND BUSINESS SERVICES FOR THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Dear Members of the Board:

As you may know, the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) conducts periodic job market surveys and surveys of the business climate to assess local workforce development, training, education, and employment issues. ERISS provides job market surveys and data analysis services to Workforce Investment Boards to produce information tools that are available in an internet interactive format that is accessible to employers, job seekers, and workforce development professionals. On September 19, 2001, the WIB approved the purchase of the ERISS service. The purpose of this letter is to request your Board's approval of a contract with ERISS to provide these services for the Santa Cruz WIB and to authorize the Human Resources Agency Administrator to sign the contract. Funding for the ERISS services are included in the Human Resources Agency Fiscal Year 2001-02 budget using Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds. The service is 100% Federally funded and there are No County costs.

The ERISS services will provide the WIB with information on the changing job market in Santa Cruz County since the slowing of the U.S. economy and business layoffs in the dot.com industry in Silicon Beach and Silicon Valley. A projected 3500 business with five or more employees will be surveyed by telephone. The survey report will be presented to the WIB and will be used to examine

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current Workforce Investment Act (WIA) service priorities and policies of the Workforce Santa Cruz County system.

ERISS is a turnkey service which delivers a completed survey report within 16 weeks in an interactive web format at the Santa Cruz WIB and Workforce Santa Cruz County web sites. The contract includes a one-year licensing agreement, which begins when the survey report is completed and displayed at the web sites for access to the USWORKS suite of ERISS services. The report products will display the WIB and Workforce Santa Cruz County partner logos. The information can be accessed by businesses, job seekers, employment counselors, and the public. Included in the information will be charts on 120-130 occupations with the number of new hires, the pay range, job openings, short and medium term hiring needs, work qualifications and job benefits. Employers, training providers and career counselors can access critical wage information for Santa Cruz County. Employers will also be offered a personalized web site link to list open positions for job seekers. services include pre and post survey marketing to businesses, training for staff, a WIB presentation, and upon request, additional data analysis.

ERISS, headquartered in San Diego, has been serving workforce organizations since 1992. The experience ERISS has gained in engaging local employers with information will be very valuable to the efforts of the WIB, Careerworks, and partners in Workforce Santa Cruz County to expand the number of employers using the three Career Centers services. The contract will be managed by WIB staff in coordination with Careerworks, with oversight by the WIB Budget and Certification and Career Center Committees. The total cost for this project is \$100,000 of WIA funds for Fiscal Year 2001-02.

The Termination language differs from the usual County Early Termination language and was required under the circumstances to operate the service. County Counsel has reviewed and approved the language change. The 30-day written notice requirement was not changed. A copy of the contract is on file with the Clerk of the Board.

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IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board:

- 1. Approve the Agreement for ERISS to provide the job market survey web based information services for a one year period in the amount of \$100,000 for Year 1 with a possible six month extension;
- 2. Authorize the Human Resources Agency Administrator to sign the contract; and
- 3. Authorize the Human Resources Agency Administrator to act on behalf of the County in all matters pertaining to the contract and to execute any minor modifications to the Scope of Work that do not change the term, cost or overall purpose; and sign all necessary documents as appropriate.

Very truly yours,

CECILIA ESPINOLA

Administrator

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RECOMMENDED:

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO

County Administrative Officer

Cecilia Espinola

CC: HRA

HRA-Fiscal HRA-WIB

# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT

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