



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Health · (209) 966-3689



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-538**

MEETING: October 11, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Eric Sergienko, Health Officer

RE: Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response  
(CASPER)

*§ Approve Board Action*

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### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Approve the General Contract Agreement with the Council of the State and Territorial Epidemiologist (CSTE) to Implement a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) Survey to Assess the Impacts of Drought on Our Community; Authorize the Health Officer to Sign the Contract; and Approve a Budget Action Increasing Revenue and Appropriations in the Health Budget to Account for Grant Funding Related to the CASPER Program (\$16,000).

Mariposa County has been invited by the Centers For Disease Control (CDC) as part of a White House initiative to collect follow-up information related to the medical and health impact of ongoing drought in the West. The last successful drought-related Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) Survey was completed in November 2015. That survey recognized the value of CASPER Surveys which yield baseline data on the mental health and financial impact of drought, changed use water habits, and the financial burden as it relates to falling and removing dead trees secondary to tree mortality. The results of the survey will better position the County and its citizens for financial reimbursement for drought-related costs.

The survey technique is based on a proven CDC survey model and provides Mariposa County with a better understanding of our community's medical and health needs related to drought. During the survey, teams of two will be sent out to approximately twenty-six separate geographical areas that are randomly generated via the CASPER survey process (see attached). Each team will collect seven household surveys in their assigned area. Our last CASPER survey yielded a successful 75% cooperation rate - meaning, of all the households approached, 75% agreed to take the 30-45 minute, in person survey. 25% were either not home or chose not to participate.

Safety measures are implemented to assure our teams are protected. Measures include equipping all team members with a highly visible vest, a whistle, and a small first aid kit. Area supervisors will be assigned to assure rapid response in the event of an emergency. Additionally, constant and consistent communication via cell phone or radio is paramount to safety and will include volunteer service by the local Mariposa

Amateur Radio Organization. From our previous experience, we will also incorporate animal safety information in a special effort to deter paper-eating goats.

The survey questions are standardized, drought-related questions applicable to all areas that are or will be drought surveyed. Questions asked in Mariposa County have also been asked in Tulare County and will be asked in Oregon State. Additionally, Mariposa County Health Department will add questions related to tree mortality, food security, and overall health (see attached example).

Funding for the CASPER Survey will come from a grant related to the CASPER program.

**BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

On November 3, 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved the CASPER survey to assess the impacts of the drought on our community with Resolution 2015-523.

November 2015 the Health Department conducted a CASPER survey to assess the impacts of the drought on our community, the survey was successful and provided data for use in grant applications, improved drought and greywater outreach activities. Publication of the data is under review for the American journal of Public Health.

**ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

Do not authorize the Health Officer to implement the Community-Wide Survey. The affects of the drought on the residents of Mariposa County may not be fully known or documented.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

**Revenue and appriations in the Health Budget will be increased by \$16,000 to offset the costs of conducting the survey.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1617 CASPER Funding Availability Memo (PDF)
- CSTE - Mariposa CASPER Contract Agreement (DOC)
- Budget Action Form (PDF)
- Drought Questionnaire\_DRAFT\_9.29.16\_mariposa (DOCX)

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**

Requested Action Recommended

  
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Mary Hodson, CAO 10/6/2016

**RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier

