



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 10, 2020

DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2020
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Wayne Yarbrough, Undersheriff
775-328-3005, email: wyarbrough@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Darin Balaam, Sheriff

SUBJECT: Discussion and possible action to terminate the Agreement for Dispatch and Forensic Services Between the City of Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office dated September 25, 1990, such termination to be effective 90 days after the City of Reno is provided notice of the termination as required by Article VII of the Agreement; authorize and direct the County Manager to provide written notice of the Board's action to terminate the Agreement at least 90 days prior to the effective date of termination, and to take all other actions consistent with termination of the Agreement. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

Washoe County would like to terminate the 1990 Agreement for Dispatch and Forensic Services Between the City of Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and health communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None.

BACKGROUND

Staff recommends termination of the 1990 exchange for services agreement between the City of Reno and Washoe County whereas the City of Reno handled emergency services for call taking for Washoe County. Washoe County conducted Crime Lab services on behalf of the City of Reno.

The City of Reno is the largest user of Crime Lab services. Since signing the agreement in 1990, Crime Lab services has expanded – especially with the addition of DNA services that were not available in 1990. The County has added more of its own dispatch services,

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creating a situation where the City does not provide the range of services delineated in the 1990 contract. This has caused an uneven trade for services with Reno.

By terminating this agreement, this would result in the need for the County to expand County dispatch services to include 6 call takers. Reno would have to pay for Crime Lab services currently valued for FY 20/21 at \$1,987,697 million. Subsequent years of service will be re-evaluated based upon 3-year usage

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY21 adopted budget includes \$600,840 in funding for 6 Communications Call-Takers and 1 Communication Center Manager. Per BCC direction on FY21 Above Base funding requests, the budgeted offset for the FY21 adopted expense increase is commensurate revenue (\$600,840) from the City of Reno. Should the City of Reno not pay for crime lab services, or no longer use crime lab services, other offsets, including ongoing general fund support, will need to be identified and potentially brought back to the Board.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners terminate the Agreement for Dispatch and Forensic Services Between the City of Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office dated September 25, 1990, such termination to be effective 90 days after the City of Reno is provided notice of the termination as required by Article VII of the Agreement; authorize and direct the County Manager to provide written notice of the Board's action to terminate the Agreement at least 90 days prior to the effective date of termination, and to take all other actions consistent with termination of the Agreement.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board approve the Staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to terminate the Agreement for Dispatch and Forensic Services Between the City of Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office dated September 25, 1990, such termination to be effective 90 days after the City of Reno is provided notice of the termination as required by Article VII of the Agreement; authorize and direct the County Manager to provide written notice of the Board's action to terminate the Agreement at least 90 days prior to the effective date of termination, and to take all other actions consistent with termination of the Agreement.”