Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC011 Public Health to Recognize \$212,893 from NC DHSS Division of Public Health for the Prevention of Communicable Diseases

Background/Justification

The Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) framework defines minimum core public health service areas that no jurisdiction can be without. These foundational services are 1) preventing the spread of communicable disease, 2) ensuring food, air, and water quality are safe, 3) supporting maternal and child health, 4) improving access and linkages to clinical care services, and 5) preventing chronic disease and injury. To ensure that local health departments (LHD) are prepared and capable to provide foundational services, respond to the community's unique health needs, and emerging health threats, they must invest in their workforce. The LHD shall invest in one or more of the following areas: a. Recruit and Hire Staff, b. Retain Staff, c. Support & Sustain Staff, d. Train Staff, e. Strengthen Workforce Planning, Systems, Processes, and Policies.

These funds will allow the Department of Public Health to recruit new and invest in existing workforce by providing an avenue for additional financial support of staff which will lead to improved retention rates and reduced recruitment needs. Recruitment and retention of highly qualified, experienced, and satisfied staff is critical to the department's ability to provide foundational services and respond to emerging threats such as COVID-19.

Policy Impact

Recognition of these funds are in line with current Board policy and do not require an exception.

Procurement Background

Not Applicable

Fiscal Impact

Recognizing these revenues for the current fiscal year will provide additional funding for high recruitment and retention through creative compensation measures without tapping into taxed based revenues. It will reduce costs associated with excessive recruitment as retention rates should rise. Highly skilled and experienced staff will result in increased capabilities and high-quality response to public health needs. 100% of the funding will come from AA 117.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board approve
Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 26BCC011 Public Health to Recognize \$212,893 from NC
DHSS Division of Public Health for the Prevention of Communicable Diseases