

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

August 27, 2002

On March 26, the Board on my motion instructed the Executive Office, working with the Chief Administrative Office and the Internal Services Department, to develop a cost estimate to implement a project to put an official transcript and corresponding video segments of Board of Supervisors meetings on the Internet within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meetings.

This project would allow the public to go to any portion of the Board meeting and read only the transcript of that item, or watch and hear the actual discussion. The staff study found that the project would be a complex one requiring careful integration of services by both the Internal Services Department, which maintains the County's Internet website, and Network Television Time Inc., the contractor that televises our Board meetings. The estimated cost of the project is \$83,545 for start-up (\$48,545 ISD; \$35,000 NTT) and \$90,847 (\$36,847 ISD; \$54,000 NTT) in annual ongoing expenses.

There are several important benefits that a video-transcript would provide: a verbatim transcript, certified and notarized by a California court reporter; a broadcast which can be reviewed by the public at any time; timely access to actions taken by the Board; a search capability to allow the public to easily find information by topic; and an on-line archive of Board meetings, serving both as a valuable research tool and as an

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important historical reference. As such, this is another significant step forward in this Board's continuing effort to further open up County government to public scrutiny and participation.

Having ready access to an official transcript would also be valuable to County Counsel and the Executive Office, and would offset the substantial costs now incurred in providing such transcripts on a customized premium basis.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Administrative Office to work with County Counsel to amend the contract with Network Television Time, Inc. to provide the technical assistance to implement the video-transcript project; and further, that the Board direct the Internal Services Department to provide the equipment, maintenance and support to develop and maintain the project.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Board designate the Cable Television Franchise Fund as the source of funding for the project.

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