MEETING DATE: June 25, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM:** **F**

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Jessica Fernandez, Field Representative, Jessica.Fernandez@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program: Appointment of Chair and Establishment of an Executive Steering Committee: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests approval to establish an Executive Steering Committee (ESC) to oversee the development of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Cohort 5 of the federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program. Staff also requests that the Board approve the appointment of a Chair for the ESC; grant the Chair the authority to oversee ESC establishment and the grant development process; and delegate authority to the Chair to subsequently modify the ESC membership, if needed.

Background

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) is the Designated State Administrative Agency for the RSAT Program, federally funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The RSAT Program assists states and local governments in developing and implementing substance abuse treatment programs in state, local, and tribal correctional and detention facilities, and supports efforts to create and maintain community-based aftercare services for offenders. Historically, the California RSAT Program has funded local detention facilities to provide in-custody treatment services with an aftercare component requirement placed on the grantees. Federal awards are made in the federal fiscal year (FFY) of the appropriation and may be expended during the following three years. The BSCC has applied for the FFY 2025-26 federal award and anticipates notification of the grant award by November 2026.

BSCC staff anticipate that approximately $7 million in RSAT funding will be available to award to subrecipients through a competitive RFP process for Cohort 5. BSCC staff are seeking approval to establish an ESC so the RFP process can move forward as soon as a formal award notification is received from BJA.

Proposed Activities

In consultation with the appointed Chair, staff will establish and convene an ESC of relevant subject matter experts from both the public and private sectors, representing diverse professional and lived experience, geographic regions, and demographics. The BSCC will reach out to known experts and invite any interested person to submit a statement of interest. A request for statements of interest will also be posted on the BSCC website, shared via BSCC's social

media pages, and sent out through BSCC's email distribution lists. From these statements of interest, membership will be developed taking into consideration subject-matter expertise, geography, and diversity.

The ESC will meet to develop the RFP in accordance with federal requirements, attend a Rater Training session, read and rate proposals, and develop funding recommendations for the Board's approval.

The proposed activities and a corresponding tentative timeline for the development of the Cohort 5 RSAT Program is shown in the following table:

Tentative Timeline	Activity
June 25, 2026	Appoint Chair and request ESC formation
July to September 2026	Establish the RSAT Program ESC membership
September to October 2026	RFP development by ESC
November 19, 2026	Present the RFP for BSCC Board approval
December 2026	Release the RFP to the field
Late January 2027	Prospective Applicant Grant Information Session
March 2027	Proposals due to BSCC
March or April 2027	ESC Rater Training
April to May 2027	ESC rating of proposals complete
May 2027	Present funding recommendations to the BSCC Board
July 1, 2027	Grants begin

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

1. Appoint a Chair for the establishment of RSAT Executive Steering Committee (ESC).

2. Delegate authority to the Chair to work with BSCC staff to establish a diverse ESC membership with relevant subject-matter expertise and to modify membership, if needed.

3. Authorize the ESC to oversee development of the RSAT Request for Proposals, according to the tentative timeline listed above.