Contra Costa expands web access

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Contra Costa County

EXPANDS TRANSPARENCY: Contra Costa County Tuesday took a giant step into the 21st Century and hired an online document manager to post videos, agendas, reports, correspondence and other materials associated with its nearly 70 boards and commissions.

The board of supervisors authorized a three-year, $307,600 contract with Granicus, a company that provides similar services for a host of area agencies including Alameda and Napa counties, and the cities of Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek.

Some of the county's material is already online or available in paper form. But finding what you want on the dozens of different county websites or locating the hard copy is often a frustrating process.

Supervisor John Gioia began pushing last year for a countywide online posting requirement. County Administrator David Twa, however, predicted reduced staffing and limited in-house technological capacity would make compliance difficult. The private contractor provides both.

The county's new single web portal should be up and running within a few months.