

DRAFT

BUDGET MEETING OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2009, AT 9:18 A.M.

Roll Call

Present: Supervisor Adams; Supervisor Kinsey; Supervisor McGlashan; Supervisor Arnold
Supervisor Brown

The Board reconvened the Special Meeting at 9:18 a.m. to conduct a Budget Planning Workshop to discuss FY 2009-10 Departmental Budgets and Performance Plans.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A representative of Ambassadors of Hope and Opportunity briefly described the organization's goals and requested support for an April 17, 2009, "Youth Homeless Connect" event.

A representative of Marin County Mediation Services expressed opposition to the proposed relocation of their offices.

Two members of the Kent Woodlands Homeowners Association emphasized the need for County road maintenance and repairs and opposed funding cuts in this area.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Farhad Mansourian acknowledged his staff and gave a brief presentation regarding the Department's budget reduction scenarios, key accomplishments, goals and initiatives and challenges for the coming year. Mr. Mansourian briefly commented on the funding shortfall for infrastructure projects for roads, building maintenance and flood control.

Mr. Mansourian also commented on the new challenges created by recent Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood hazard map changes and the County's response efforts.

Board members and Mr. Mansourian discussed concerns regarding budget shortfalls for road maintenance projects, accessibility of Federal stimulus package funds for use on County projects, and specific impacts of the proposed contract service reductions.

Mr. Hymel acknowledged Mr. Mansourian for his leadership in identifying countywide savings options.

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS

Fire

County Fire Chief Ken Massucco acknowledged his staff, County Administrator Matthew Hymel and Chief Assistant County Administrator Mona Miyasato. Chief Massucco presented a brief overview of the Fire Department's key accomplishments, challenges, and initiatives including the use of performance measures to improve department efficiency.

Chief Massucco commented on Department goals, highlighting work on a facilities visioning plan for future infrastructure improvement, career development and training, and cost containment measures.

Board members and Chief Massucco discussed several issues including property owner assistance with vegetation management, Fire Safe Marin accomplishments, and partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area ("GGNRA") to manage eucalyptus trees.

Sheriff

Sheriff Robert Doyle introduced Captain Rick Navarro, acknowledged Sheriff's Department staff, and requested that the Board adjourn tomorrow's regular meeting in memory of former Marin County Sheriff Charles Prandi.

(Supervisor McGlashan absent at 10:12 a.m.)

Sheriff Doyle commented on several issues including cost reduction measures, department budget cuts, the potential impact of future budget reductions, and the availability of Federal stimulus funds and competitive grants.

(Supervisor McGlashan present at 10:14 a.m.)

Board members and staff discussed programs to prepare inmates for release from incarceration, Disaster Council subcommittees, and Major Crimes Task Force drug activity estimates.

Public Defender

(Supervisor Brown absent at 10:19 a.m.)

Public Defender Joe Spaeth acknowledged the County Administrator's staff and gave a brief overview of the Department's challenges, key accomplishments and goals.

Mr. Spaeth commented on several issues including staffing concerns, continued efforts to improve efficiency by collaborating with related Criminal Justice agencies, implementation of a pilot project for out-of-custody arraignments, and department reorganization.

(Supervisor Brown present at 10:28 a.m.)

Mr. Spaeth thanked Assistant Public Defender Jose Varela, Administrative Services Officer Rose Spikes and staff for their work and the Board for their support.

Board members and Mr. Spaeth briefly discussed the early disposition of cases and the potential benefits of restorative programs.

Probation

County Administrator Matthew Hymel briefly commented on the proposed recommendation for the relocation of Mediation Services and suggested additional changes for future consideration.

(Supervisor Arnold absent at 10:34 a.m.)

(Supervisor Arnold present at 10:35 a.m.)

Chief Probation Officer Bill Burke gave a brief presentation regarding Departmental goals and accomplishments, baseline adjustment recommendations, challenges and opportunities. Mr. Burke highlighted several issues including completion of a divisional workload analysis to assist with longterm department restructuring, evidence-based practices, Juvenile Hall improvements, and the impacts of funding reductions.

Board members and staff discussed several issues including the proposed location for Mediation Services, Juvenile Hall operations, the workload analysis, and State funding.

District Attorney

District Attorney Ed Berbarian expressed gratitude to his staff and briefly commented on Department priorities, challenges, initiatives, and budget reductions.

Board members and Mr. Berbarian discussed several issues including case management, staffing and impacted programs.

The Board took a brief recess at 11:18 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:32 a.m. Supervisor Adams was absent.

Coroner

County Administrator Matthew Hymel advised that Coroner Ken Holmes is not present at today's meeting and no budget reductions are recommended for this department at this time.

Child Support Services

County Administrator Matthew Hymel advised that Child Support Services Director Keith Pepper is not present at today's meeting and noted that as the budget for this Department relies on State and Federal funding, no reductions are recommended at this time.

(Supervisor Adams present at 11:33 a.m.)

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

Cultural Services

Cultural and Visitors Services Director Jim Farley presented a brief overview of the Department's performance plan, key initiatives, budget reductions and key challenges.

Mr. Farley briefly commented on the accomplishments of the Marin County Fair and features of the 2009 event, highlighted the versatility of the Department's services and affordability to the community, and thanked County staff, non-profit organizations and agencies that contribute to the Department's success.

Board members individually acknowledged the accomplishments of the Marin County Fair and the quality of the services at Marin Center. Board members also commented on several issues including a personal rapid transit demonstration project at the Fair, increased promotion through the G-Channel, and energy related projects.

Farm Advisor

Farm Advisor Ellie Rilla presented a brief overview of the Department's priorities, accomplishments, key initiatives and goals, and budget reductions. Ms. Rilla commented on several initiatives including water quality improvement and monitoring at Tomales Bay, and the continuation of water conservation, carbon sequestration, and the College Of Marin Indian Valley Campus organic farm and garden projects.

Ms. Rilla concluded her remarks by reviewing the departmental Budget Change Proposal ("BCP") for \$20,000 to continue the Agricultural Ombudsman program and the reduction in lease expenditures achieved through office remodeling.

Board members commented on the value of the ombudsman, the development and management of agriculture in Pt. Reyes Seashore, progress in addressing Sudden Oak Death ("SOD"), and attendance at the Countywide Water Infrastructure Summit.

Agriculture, Weights and Measures

Agriculture Commissioner/Weights and Measures Director Stacy Carlsen acknowledged the Board and County Administrator Matthew Hymel for their support. Mr. Carlsen also acknowledged Public Works Director Farhad Mansourian for assisting with the office remodeling that has provided substantial lease cost savings. Mr. Carlsen presented a brief overview of the Department's performance plan and goals, recognized the budget reduction suggestions offered by staff, commented on the efforts to revise the Integrated Pest Management ("IPM") Ordinance and the increased workload from State mandated regulatory programs for pest control.

Board members and staff discussed the efforts to reclassify the Light Brown Apple Moth ("LBAM") and the implementation of an IPM informational website.

The Board recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:37 p.m. All Supervisors were present.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Marin County Free Library

Director of County Library Services Gail Haar acknowledged County Administrator Matthew Hymel and staff, the Library staff, the Library Commission, and members of the public for their input and assistance.

Ms. Haar gave a brief overview regarding the Department's performance plan, budget reductions, accomplishments, goals, key initiatives, and challenges. Ms. Haar commented on the increased involvement of volunteers, briefly discussed the proposal to close the San Geronimo facility, and concluded her report by thanking staff and the Board.

Board members and staff discussed several issues including using the G-Channel to expand library services, possible future additional sources of funding, and considerations regarding the possible closure of the San Geronimo Valley Library.

Parks and Open Space

Parks and Open Space Director Sharon McNamee thanked the County Administrator and Parks and Open Space staff for their help in preparing this year's budget and gave a brief overview regarding the Department's accomplishments, budget reductions and impacts, performance plan, goals and initiatives, and key challenges.

Board members and staff commented on Board members and staff commented on the Department's effective use of volunteers, the development of the Vegetation and Biodiversity Management Plan, the Department's effective land management, and potential collaborative community projects.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DEPARTMENTS

Assessor-Recorder

Assessor-Recorder Joan Thayer briefly commented on an increase in the Department's workload this year and gave a brief overview of the Department's performance plan, accomplishments, goals, and key initiatives and challenges. Ms. Thayer commented on the impact of the depressed housing market, staffing and computer related issues, and State mandates. Ms. Thayer concluded her remarks and expressed appreciation to County Administrative staff for their help with the budget.

Board members and staff discussed several issues including the process for review of property assessments, facility modernization, and preservation of historic maps.

Auditor-Controller

County Administrator Matthew Hymel advised that no reductions are recommended for the Auditor-Controller's budget; however a BCP will be presented in July to restructure the budget to be less reliant on consultants.

Deputy Auditor Controller Gary Burroughs gave a brief presentation regarding the Department's accomplishments, goals and initiatives, and key challenges and issues. Mr. Burroughs commented on several issues including the reconfiguration of the payroll system, the preparation of financial statements, the conversion of the property tax system, and implementation of the voter approved County Finance Department.

Board members and staff discussed the progress made in customizing the components of the SAP financial system for County use and future system expectations.

County Counsel

County Counsel Patrick Faulkner thanked the County Administrator Matthew Hymel and his staff for their support and work on the budget. Mr. Faulkner spoke briefly regarding proposed budget reductions including the elimination of two extra hire part-time attorneys and potential staffing impacts of further reductions.

Human Resources

Human Resources Director Laura Armor introduced Human Resources Administrative Services Officer Solange McGirr and thanked the Board and the County Administrator's staff.

(Supervisor Brown absent at 2:43 p.m.)

Ms. Armor gave a brief overview of the Department's key accomplishments, goals and challenges, and commented on the Department's Mission Statement.

(Supervisor Brown present at 2:55 p.m.)

Board members and staff briefly commented on initiating further discussions regarding County medical benefit packages, the County's pension obligations, and restructuring challenges and opportunities.

Information Services and Technology

Information Services and Technology ("IST") Director Dave Hill thanked his staff and the County Administrator's Office for their help with the budget process. Mr. Hill presented a brief overview of the Department's performance plan, accomplishments, budget reductions and key initiatives and commented on the results of external evaluations of the department.

Board members and staff discussed several issues including off site disaster recovery backup, e-government upgrades, and telecommuting.

Treasurer/Tax Collector/Registrar/County Clerk

Assistant Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk Roy Given gave a brief overview of the Department's accomplishments, goals, key initiatives, and challenges. Mr. Given commented on recent elections and the need for volunteer poll workers, the consolidation of the Auditor-Controller and Treasurer/Tax Collector offices, and the implementation of an estate planning program.

Mr. Given introduced and acknowledged Registrar of Voters Elaine Ginnold.

County Administrator

Chief Assistant County Administrator Mona Miyasato gave a brief presentation regarding the Department's accomplishments, goals, key initiatives, and budget reductions. Ms. Miyasato commented on savings from in-house safety training, reduced insurance premiums, reductions in outside service contracts, and the elimination of a vacant position in the Clerk of the Board division.

Ms. Miyasato acknowledged the Board for their vision and cautious fiscal management and the County Administrator's staff for their work.

Board members and staff discussed disaster service training for County employees.

CLOSING STATEMENTS

Supervisor Brown briefly commented on the impact of budget reductions on the County's employees and recommended Board members forego a FY 2009-10 cost-of-living adjustment ("COLA").

M/s Supervisor McGlashan - Supervisor Arnold on behalf of Supervisor Brown, for the Board of Supervisors to forego a cost-of-living adjustment ("COLA") for FY 2009-10.

AYES: ALL

M/s Supervisor Adams - Supervisor Arnold to approve the recommended budget reductions of \$5.1 million to be incorporated in the FY 2009-10 proposed budget, as detailed in staff report dated March 25, 2009.

Board members briefly commented on several issues that were highlighted during the department presentations including the impact of State budget shortfalls on the most vulnerable community members, disaster readiness, changes to the Criminal Justice system, and relocation of Mediation Services. Board members acknowledged County staff for their work and cooperation, and emphasized the importance of continuing to engage the public and staff in the budget process.

Thereafter, the vote on the pending motion was
AYES: ALL

There being no further comment, the Budget Planning Workshop was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

SINE DIE

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

CLERK