



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Agricultural
Commissioner
Department No.: 051
For Agenda Of: 07/27/10
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 20 minutes
Continued Item: Yes
If Yes, date from: 06/22/10
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Elena Morelos, Asst. Director – Admin., 681-5600
Director(s)
Contact Info: Elena Morelos, Asst. Director – Admin., 681-5600
SUBJECT: UC Cooperative Extension Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- 1) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute an agreement with the Regents of the University of California for services delivered by the Cooperative Extension Office (UCCE) for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 in the amount of \$180,000.

Summary Text:

University Advisors and program assistants provide consultation services to County of Santa Barbara including research based training, educational guidance and access to beneficial University resources and will deliver direct program services for the following programs:

1. Applied research and Extension Education Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources, Nutrition, Family & Consumer Sciences and 4-H Youth Development:

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Improve productivity, competitiveness and overall viability of agriculture and related entities by conducting applied research and outreach programs to address these issues. Programs will focus on:

- o Applied research and educational/extension activities, including grower workshops serving English and Spanish-speaking clientele. May include applied research in:
 - Strawberry production.

- Vegetable crops production.
 - Small farm crops, including fruit production and organics.
 - High-value berry crops.
 - Nurseries management and flower production.
 - Viticulture.
 - Water quality, management, conservation and efficient use.
- Support for avocado, citrus and subtropical industries.
 - Assess potential new crops for Santa Barbara County.
 - Pest management, including integrated pest management practices.
 - Plant pathology and disease management.

Youth, Family, Nutrition and Community Programs

Conduct a Master Gardener Program that includes education/extension activities in areas that may include:

- Home horticulture and food production.
- Community gardening as a means to increase community food security and health.
- Community gardening efforts that support environmentally sound practices.’
- Support for school gardens and youth gardening efforts via 4-H and other youth-serving organizations and agencies.
- Helpline support for home and community gardeners that focuses on a wide range of issues, including food product and water use and conservation.
- Extend information about wildfire prevention.

Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP)/Other Nutrition Efforts

- Leverage USDA funds to decrease childhood obesity and promote a healthy lifestyle by providing nutrition information to low-income school students in North County; expand to include Lompoc in FY 10-11.
- Conduct other childhood obesity prevention and healthy lifestyle programs by educating extenders working with populations of youth and families, particularly in North County.

4-H Youth Development

- Conduct a 4-H military program at Vandenberg AFB.
- Provide support for a 4-H community club program and special programs that will serve at least 1400 youth in FY 10-11.
- Support development and expansion of the 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Program.

Financial Literacy

- Provide workforce preparation training for agencies working with youth to prepare them for jobs.
 - Provide information and training to agencies working with families about family economics and family budgeting.
2. Collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), and numerous other funding and project opportunities, and
 3. Other programs as agreed to by the parties.

This agreement is to implement a regional approach to providing these services to Santa Barbara County.

Currently, the County of Santa Barbara provides funding for administrative support staff (1 FTE – currently vacant), office space, supplies, and other charges including reprographics, vehicles and telephone services for three Santa Barbara County-based Advisors. UCCE provides funding for these Advisors who provide services in a variety of areas in agriculture (including production, specialty and small farm crop research and education, pests and plant disease); natural resources (marine); 4-H Youth Development; the Master Gardener Program; and the Food Stamp Nutrition and Education Program (FSNEP).

Under this new agreement, UCCE will work as a contractor, receiving funds from the County, and handling all administrative and operations functions and paying those costs, including office space, vehicles, copying, telephone, etc. UCCE will pay for support staff and associated benefits and retirement packages.

The Advisor (UCCE employee) currently working in Santa Barbara will be relocated to the Ventura County Cooperative Extension office and will provide services to Ventura County and Santa Barbara County. The two Advisors (UCCE employees) currently based in Santa Maria will be relocated to the San Luis Obispo County Cooperative Extension office and will provide services to San Luis Obispo County and Santa Barbara County. Although implementing this regional approach will result in the closure of the Santa Barbara County Cooperative Extension Office, the University Advisors will provide an enhanced level of services to Santa Barbara County.

Four additional advisors in San Luis Obispo County will provide cross-county service in other program areas vital to Santa Barbara County, including viticulture and FSNEP. Two additional advisors in the Ventura County Office will provide cross-county service in areas of high importance to Santa Barbara County agriculture, including nurseries; citrus, subtropicals and specialty crops; and soils and irrigation.

The County will have improved oversight and accountability through increased reporting of program activities.

This concept, which required additional funding in the amount of \$68,300 plus an additional \$45,000 for one-time setup costs, was brought to the Board of Supervisors during the budget hearings held in June, 2010. The Board held off on approving a budget expansion until the formal agreement and additional information was brought to back to the Board on June 22, 2010 at which time the item was not approved. Subsequent discussions with executive level staff of UCCE have resulted in an agreement to bring this item back to Board of Supervisors for further consideration to provide further clarification of services to be provided under this agreement.

Additionally, the department solicited input from the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) at its July meeting. There was a considerable discussion regarding the importance of the services provided by the UCCE, particularly with respect to those services that directly support production agriculture. The members of the committee approved a motion to advise the Board of Supervisors:

- 1.) The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) is an extremely important resource to production agriculture and;
- 2.) To fund and support the UCCE programs to the maximum extent possible.

The AAC also expressed an interest in having a representative from UCCE participate as a member of the Agricultural Preserve Advisory Committee.

Background:

The State of California Education Code Section 32330 provides for the appropriation of County funds by the County Boards of Supervisors for the support of Cooperative Extension work in Agriculture and Natural Resources for the benefit of the County and in cooperation with the University.

Pursuant to Section 32330, and at the request of the County, a Cooperative Extension office was established in Santa Barbara County on July 5, 1927. With the County's support, Cooperative Extension has served the people of Santa Barbara continuously since that time.

Performance Measure:

Applied research and educational/extension activities, including grower workshops in a variety of areas which may include strawberry production, vegetable crops production, small farm crops, high value berry crops, nurseries management, viticulture and water quality, management, conservation and efficient use.

Conduct a Master Gardener Program that in a variety of areas that may include home horticulture and food production, community gardening, school gardening and home gardening.

Provide nutrition education to low-income families in Northern Santa Barbara County and expand this to include the Lompoc area.

UCCE will maintain the total number of youth participants in the 4H Youth Development program and special programs that will serve at least 1400 youth in FY 10-11.

Develop and expand the 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: A portion of the amount requested in included in the FY 10/11 budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund	\$ 180,000.00		
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 180,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: The current level of funding approved for fiscal year 2010-11 is \$111,700 and the remaining balance of \$68,300 for annual costs was submitted as a budget expansion during the budget hearings. The Board of Supervisors voted to hold this item until the agreement was finalized and submitted for further discussion and consideration. This agreement was brought back to the Board of Supervisors on June 22, 2010 in the amount of \$225,000 which included \$45,000 in one-time set-up costs; however, it was not approved at that time. Subsequent discussions have resulted in an agreement to bring this item back to Board of Supervisors for further consideration to request funding for \$180,000.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

-1.0

FTEs:

-1.0

Special Instructions:

Please execute six original Standard Agreements and send all six originals to the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office along with a minute order. Once fully executed by all parties, an original will be forwarded to the Clerk of Board for filing.

Attachments:

Standard Agreement

Authored by:

Elena Morelos