



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

A-15

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

REPLACEMENT # 1
DATE 9/12/08 TIME 2:30pm

LATE
DIST

Department Name: Board of Supervisors
Department No.:
For Agenda Of: 9/16/08
Placement: Select_Placement
Estimated Tme: 20 minutes on 9/23/08
Continued Item: Select_Continued
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: No Vote Required

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Board Supervisor Janet Wolf, 568-2191
Member(s) Supervisor Joni Gray, 737-7700

Contact Info: Name & Phone: Mary O’Gorman, 568-2191 or
Susan Warnstrom, 737-7700

SUBJECT: Ag Futures Alliance- introduction and presentation

County Counsel Concurrence

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

Recommended Actions:

Set hearing for 9/23/08 to receive a brief presentation and report from representatives of the newly-formed “Ag Futures Alliance” of Santa Barbara County.

Summary Text:

Teri Bontrager, Executive Director of the Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau and Eric Cardenas of the Environmental Defense Center invited representatives of the agricultural and environmental communities in the County to join together to form a chapter of the “Ag Futures Alliance” (AFA). Ms. Bontrager and other members of the AFA kept our respective Board offices apprised throughout the planning and formation of the AFA, and now wish to present the goals of the AFA to the County.

Background:

In July, 2007, Santa Barbara County became the sixth County to launch an Ag Futures Alliance. A small group of growers, environmentalists and community leaders met for several months to form the foundation of the Santa Barbara AFA chapter. According to AFA literature, “The County has been the site of epic battles between northern county agricultural interests and the more populous southern part of the county that includes the city of Santa Barbara. The County is often characterized as contentious and gridlocked. Into this challenging environment, the members of the AFA are hoping to bring reason, a big view, and the common interest of all County residents to create a future worth having, back into the dialogue about agriculture and the environment.” Based upon our mutual commitment to bridge the divisions between North and South County, and promote the viability of agriculture, the Second and Fourth District offices are jointly sponsoring this presentation.

Performance Measure:

None

Narrative:

Staffing Impacts:

None

Special Instructions:

none

Attachments:

none

Authored by:

Mary O'Gorman
X2191

cc: