



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: August 9, 2011
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 20 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer, 568.3400
Director(s)
Contact Info: Jason Stilwell, Assistant CEO/Budget Director, 568-3413

SUBJECT: Response to the Grand Jury Report titled “Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly”

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Consider and adopt responses in Attachment A as the Board of Supervisors responses to the Grand Jury report entitled “Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly” and
- B. Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included as Attachment A forwarding the responses to the Presiding Judge.

Summary Text:

On June 23, 2011 the Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled “Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly.” The Board of Supervisors is named as a responder to Findings 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2a, 2b, 2c, and 3 as well as Recommendations 1, 2a, 2b, and 3.

It is recommended that the Board agree with Findings 1a, 1b, 1d, 2a, 2b, and 2c; partially disagree with Findings 1c and 1e; and disagree with Finding 3 and Recommendations 1, 2a, 2b, and 3. The specific recommendations are provided in the letter to the Presiding Judge (Attachment A). The full report from the Civil Grand Jury can be found at Attachment B.

Background:

On June 23, 2011 the Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled "Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly." This report serves as a follow-up study to the Local Government Compensation Survey dated March 4, 2011. The March report focused on current employees and the Grand Jury decided it would be prudent to also develop a report examining the costs incurred by local governments to fund post employment benefits for retirees. In particular, the Grand Jury was interested in examining the extent of the unfunded liabilities related to these benefits because there are widespread implications.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted:

No fiscal analysis required for consideration and adoption of this response.

Attachments:

- A- Response to the Grand Jury Report titled "Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly"
- B- Grand Jury Report – "Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County – Complicated and Costly"

Authored by:

Rachel Lipman, Fiscal & Policy Analyst

CC:

Robert W. Geis, Auditor-Controller
Jeri Muth, Interim Human Resources Director