

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 02/01/05
Department Name: CAO
Department No.: 012
Agenda Date: 02/22/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Michael F. Brown
County Administrator

STAFF CONTACT: Jim Laponis, Deputy County Administrator
Lori Norton, Analyst X 3421

SUBJECT: Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee Membership

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Consider the appointment of Third District Supervisor Brooks Firestone to serve as a Regular Member of the Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee ("Committee")

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The Recommendations are primarily aligned with the Board of Supervisor's Strategic Plan Goal number 1: An Efficient Government Able to Anticipate and Respond Effectively to the Need of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

On October 12, 2003, SB 621, which was introduced by Senator's John Burton and Jim Battin, was chaptered into law. SB 621 establishes the method of calculating and distributing monies from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund to local jurisdictions impacted by tribal gaming.

For Fiscal Year 2003-2004, the Statewide allocation from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund was \$25 million, of which Santa Barbara County received \$1.14 million. The Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Statewide allocation is estimated to be \$30 million. Of that total, approximately \$1.5 should be allocated to Santa Barbara County.

Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee

SB 621 creates, in each county where Indian gaming is conducted, an Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee, with specified membership. The primary purpose of the Committee is to select local jurisdiction grants to be funded from the Tribal Gaming Casino Account.

The composition and appointing authority for the membership of the Committee is statutorily prescribed. Pursuant to SB 621, the Committee shall be composed of seven (7) representatives as follows:

1. Two (2) representatives from the County, selected by the County Board of Supervisors
2. Three (3) elected representatives from cities located within four (4) miles of a tribal casino in the county, selected by the County Board of Supervisors
3. Two (2) representatives selected upon the recommendation of a majority of the tribes paying into the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund in each county.

The Santa Barbara County Committee Bylaws (adopted April 15, 2004) provides for three (3) Alternate members in addition to the statutorily prescribed members.

The action before your Board is to consider the appointment of Third District Supervisor Brooks Firestone as a Regular member of the Committee, replacing County Administrator Michael Brown. Currently, Fifth District Supervisor Joseph Centeno and Mr. Brown are Regular members of the Committee and Fourth District Supervisor Joni Gray is the County's appointed Alternate member. Staff is anticipating the Committee will convene a meeting in March to consider initiating the FY 04-05 grant process.

The primary purpose of the Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee is to select local jurisdiction grants to be funded from the Tribal Gaming Casino Account. In addition, the Committee has the following responsibilities:

1. Establish all application policies and procedures for grants
2. Assess the eligibility of applications for grants from local jurisdictions impacted by tribal gaming operations
3. Determine the appropriate amount of reimbursement for the demonstrated costs incurred by the County for administering the grant programs. The reimbursement for the county administrative costs may not exceed 2 percent (2%) of the aggregate county tribal account in any given fiscal year.

Mandates and Service Levels:

SB 621 creates an Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee in Santa Barbara County and requires local grants funded by the Committee to be administered by the County. As administrator of local grants, the County is required to provide an annual report to the Legislature.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee will require county staff support and administration of the local grants funded by the Committee. SB 621 limits the amount available to the County to administer local grants to 2% of the annual amount allocated to the Tribal Gaming Account. The Indian Gaming Local Community Benefit Committee determines the amount, thus may limit it further. For FY 2003-04, the Indian Gaming Community Benefit Committee awarded the County \$20,000 for staff support and administration of the local grants funded.

In addition, for FY 2003-04, the Committee awarded the following grants: \$525,160 to the County of Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department for increased patrol; \$250,000 to the County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department for Edison Road Improvements; \$271,899 to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department for a Firefighter/Paramedic at Station #32 (Note: The Tribe provided an additional \$ 118,100 to fully fund the Firefighter/Paramedic position); \$37,500 to the Santa Ynez Community Services District for sewer equipment purchases.