



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: Clerk, Recorder and
Assessor
Department No.: 062
For Agenda Of: 1/18/11
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Joseph E. Holland, Clerk, Recorder and Assessor
Director(s)
Contact Info: Billie Alvarez, Chief Deputy Registrar of Voters- 696-8963

SUBJECT: Santa Rita Hills Community Services District Requesting Consolidation with the Statewide General Election – Change to Even-Numbered Year Elections for Board of Directors

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors approve the request of the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District (resolution attached) to consolidate their district election with the Statewide General Election.

Summary Text:

In accordance with Section 10404 of the Elections Code, the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District submitted a resolution to move their Board of Directors Election from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years consolidating their election with the Statewide General Election. The Board of Directors for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District passed and adopted such a resolution on October 7, 2010. The resolution must be submitted for review and approval to the County Board of Supervisors no later than 240 days prior to the districts currently scheduled election of November 8, 2011 which is March 13, 2011. Should the Board of Supervisors approve this request the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District will be consolidated with the Statewide General Election beginning on November 6, 2012, and continuing each even-numbered year thereafter.

The Clerk, Recorder and Assessor's Department supports this request as impacts associated with this consolidation are reasonable and there will be financial gains for the district. The elections staff, and vendors who assist them in conducting these elections, will be able to implement this change and

effectively complete the tasks necessary to consolidate this Special District on the ballot for the Statewide General Election.

Additionally, Elections Code Section 10404 requires that (1) the Board of Supervisors notify all districts located in the county of the receipt of the resolution to consolidate and request input from each district on the effect of the consolidation; (2) the County Elections Official prepare and submit to the Board of Supervisors an impact analysis of the Consolidation (Impact Analysis included in this board letter); (3) a public notice of the proceedings in which the resolution is to be considered be made pursuant to Section 25151 of the Government Code and (4) after approval of the resolution the elections official notify the voters of the affected district by mail.

Impact Analysis:

The formation election for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District was held on May 5, 2009 and approved by the voters. Upon the formation of the new district Elections Code Section 10505 required that the election of the board of directors be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years. With other special districts having moved their elections to the Statewide General Election the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District is the only district that holds their election in November of odd-numbered years.

Board of Directors Terms of Office: Pursuant to Elections Code 10404(i), the consolidation extends the term of the current Board of Directors by one year, which may or may not create an issue with the voters of the district.

On-Going Costs: There will be significant cost savings to Santa Rita Hills Community Services District by moving their election to the Statewide General Election. Generally speaking, the cost to a jurisdiction is less in a general election than it is for a Unified District Election. This lower cost results from having a smaller proportional share of the cost due to a significantly higher number of state, federal, school district, and special district issues that are on a General Election ballot.

One-Time Cost: Elections Code Section 10404(f) requires the district pay the cost of notifying the voters of the districts consolidation with the statewide general election. The estimated cost to prepare, process and deliver this notice to the voters is listed below:

District	Registered Voters	Cost
Santa Rita Hills Community Services District	13	\$70

Criteria for Denial of Consolidation:

Your Board may deny this request in accordance with Elections Code Section 10404(e), if you find that the ballot style, voting equipment or computer capacity prevent the handling of additional elections or material. None of these issues present a problem in our county. Also, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10404(h), if a special district is located in more than one county, it may not consolidate if any county in which the district is located denies the request for consolidation. This district is located entirely within Santa Barbara County; therefore this section does not apply.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Fiscal Impacts are addressed in the Impact Analysis above.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

No significant staffing impacts.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a copy of the Minute Order to the Elections Office, Attn: Billie Alvarez.

Attachments:

Santa Rita Hills Community Services District Resolution of the Board of Directors to consolidate with the Statewide General Election.

Authored by:

Billie Alvarez

cc:

Joseph E. Holland, Clerk Recorder and Assessor
Jim McClure, Asst. Clerk Recorder and Assessor
Rose Rodarte, Dept. Fiscal Manager
Renee Bischof, Elections Division Manager