



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: September 1, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Cathleen M. Fisher, Commissioner, 681-5600
Director
Contact Info: Rudy Martel, Assistant Commissioner or Kendra Stites, Admin,
681-5600
SUBJECT: UCCE Cooperative Extension Agreement Fiscal Year 2015/2016

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the agreement with the Regents of the University of California for services delivered by the Cooperative Extension Office (UCCE) for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$162,000.
- b) Determine that the above action involves government funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities and is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4).

Summary Text:

Since FY 2010-11, the department has been funding the U.C. Cooperative Extension (UCCE) program with one-time fund balance accruals, but was not able to meet this obligation in its FY 2013-14 budget. During the FY 2013-14 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved an ongoing allocation of \$153,000 to the department to fund this program. During the FY 2014-15 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved a one-time increase of \$9,000, at the request of the University, to fund a rent increase. In the FY 2015-16 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved a one-time increase of \$9,000 at the request of the University to meet increases in rent and facility costs associated by their office relocation in 2014.

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. With the County's support, Cooperative Extension has served the people of Santa Barbara continuously for ninety-five years.

UCCE works as a contractor receiving funds from the County and handling all administrative and operational functions and paying those costs, including office space, vehicles, copying, telephone, etc. UCCE will also pay for support staff and associated benefits and retirement packages. This agreement is a regional approach to providing these services to Santa Barbara County.

University Advisors and paraprofessionals (program assistants) will provide consultation services to County, 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

Improved 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:

- 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
- 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

- Support a 4-H military program at Vandenberg AFB
 - Provide support for a 4-H community club program and special programs that will serve the youth of Santa Barbara County
 - Support development and expansion of the 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) Program
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.

Performance Measure:

Conduct applied research and education/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 provides information to the public 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.

Provide services to the participants in the 4-H Youth Development program and special programs that will serve the youth of Santa Barbara County.

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

UCCE will provide quarterly reports updating the Agricultural Commissioner on the status of these activities and other performance measures as mutually agreed upon.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes, funding for this program is in the department’s adopted FY 2015-16 budget. During the Budget hearings the Board of Supervisors approved a one-time increase of \$9000 for the FY 2015-16 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	\$162,000		
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 162,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: N/A

Key Contract Risks:

The vendor has a long history of providing professional-level programs under this contract. Language regarding oversight of the contract by the Department has been included in the contract. All exceptions to standard terms have been reviewed by County Counsel, the Auditor/Controller, and the Risk Manager.

Staffing Impacts:

None

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please execute the Standard Agreement and send three (3) signed 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 the Board for filing.

Attachments:

- Standard Agreement
- CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

Rudy Martel