

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



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

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 3/23/06
Department Name: Clerk-Recorder-Assessor
Department No.: 062
Agenda Date: 4/11/06
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Joe Holland
Clerk-Recorder-Assessor
STAFF CONTACT: Jim McClure
x2574
SUBJECT: Precinct Board Stipend for Services

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Effective with the June 2006 Primary Election, approve stipend increases for compensation to volunteers who work the precincts on election day as follows:

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Current</u>
Inspectors:	\$160	\$120
Clerks:	\$120	\$80
Field Supervisors:	\$250	\$250

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

This recommendation is primarily aligned with the actions required by law or routine business necessity.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Members of a precinct board are individuals who volunteer to perform services at election precincts in connection with federal, state, or local elections. These individuals are essential to the election process, providing community support and support to the election process. The Election Office is continuously challenged in recruiting the 1,500-1,600 volunteers needed to work a 15-hour day on election days. These volunteers are recruited through a variety of ways such as continuing to contract with those volunteers who worked in previous elections and new volunteers obtained through referrals and outreaching efforts. These outreaching efforts conducted by our Election's Division are both challenging and time consuming. We believe that in order to retain current volunteers and recruit new volunteers, part of the outreach program

should include offering reasonable stipends in an effort to increase community participation and provide the quality resources required to conduct an election. These stipend amounts will be used to compensate volunteers for all elections conducted by the county.

Per Election Code 12310, each member of a precinct board (poll workers) shall receive a stipend for services fixed by the governing body of the jurisdiction. It has been about 9 years since the Board of Supervisors last approved the stipend amounts for these volunteers.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Appointment of precinct boards (poll workers) is authorized by Elections Codes 12300-12327.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

We estimate the overall cost increase to be between, \$20,000-\$25,000 for countywide elections (Federal & State consolidated elections). The county's proportionate share of these costs for all federal, state, and county contests is estimated to be 75%. The department feels it can absorb the increased costs within existing appropriations, thereby not creating any general fund impact.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a signed and dated copy of the ordinance to Rose Rodarte of the Clerk-Recorder-Assessor Department.

Concurrence:

County Executive Office

Attachment