



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: 05/25/10
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Time: 20 minutes on 06/01/10
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Elena Morelos, Asst. Director, 681-5600
Director(s)
Contact Info: Elena Morelos, 681-5600
SUBJECT: Adoption of Agricultural Commissioner's Revised Fee Schedule

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Set hearings to consider recommendations regarding an Ordinance relating to the fee schedule of the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, as follows:
 - a. Set first hearing on the departmental agenda for June 1, 2010 (Estimated Time 20 minutes) to consider the introduction (first reading on the departmental agenda) of an Ordinance entitled "Ordinance Amending the Agricultural Commissioner's Fee Schedule"; and
 - b. Set the second hearing on the administrative agenda for June 15, 2010 to consider the adoption of an Ordinance entitled "Ordinance Amending the Agricultural Commissioner's Fee Schedule".

Summary Text:

In accordance with the Board's approved fee policy, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office reviewed the cost of services, specifically for conducting inspections related to providing phytosanitary certificates. These certificates are issued to growers to certify the commodities meet the entry requirements of the country or state receiving the shipments. The goal was to insure full cost recovery where possible without negatively impacting growers during these difficult economic times and to have the proposed fee adjustments adopted prior to your Board's approval of the Department's budget for FY 2010-11. On April 29, 2010, the department sent notices regarding this proposed fee increase to

agencies impacted and held informational meetings on Monday, May 10 in the Santa Maria Office and Tuesday, May 11 in the Santa Barbara Office. One person attended the meeting on May 10 to express their appreciation for keeping the fee the same for as long as we have and understood the need for this increase. This was the only feedback received.

Background:

The department is proposing increases for the hourly rate from \$68 to \$80 per hour and fees charged for phytosanitary certificates/inspections from \$30 to \$40 for 11 or more units and from \$22 to \$25 for 10 units or less. The estimated revenue will increase \$70,000 to \$252,000 from the current fiscal year’s fee revenue of \$182,000 representing a 38.4% increase. These proposed changes are within the range of fees charged by other California counties and are consistent with the Board of Supervisors policy of full cost recovery where possible. All other fees charged by the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office will remain the same.

Data supporting the proposed fees has been reviewed by the Auditor Controller’s Office and is on file at the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office located at 263 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara.

CEQA does not apply to the adoption of this fee resolution pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15273 (a) (1) (2).

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

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			
State			
Federal			
Fees		\$ 70,000.00	
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -

Narrative: We estimate the revised fee will increase revenue by \$70,000 annually.

Special Instructions:

1. After the June 1 hearing, direct the Clerk of the Board to publish a Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to Section 6062a of the Government Code.
2. After the June 15 hearing, direct the Clerk of the Board to send an original adopted ordinance and a minute order to Elena Morelos, Agricultural Commissioner’s Office and publish a copy of the ordinance or a summary with names of the members of the Board of Supervisors voting for or against the Ordinance.

Attachments:

- Fee Ordinance
- CEQA Exemption

Authored by: Elena Morelos