




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: Auditor-Controller
Department No.: 061
For Agenda Of: March 18, 2014
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director Robert W. Geis, CPA
Auditor-Controller
Contact Info: Katie Roth, CPA 
Division Chief of Advance & Specialty Accounting
SUBJECT: Independent Special Districts Compliance Report

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:

Accept and file the Santa Barbara County Independent Special Districts Compliance Report for the completion of annual audits ending Fiscal Year (FY) 2011/12 and annual budgets for FY 2012/13.

Summary Text:

Government Code §26909 requires the County Auditor to either make or contract with a certified public accountant to make an annual audit of the accounts and records of every special purpose district within the County in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The audit report is required to be completed and filed with the County Auditor within 12 months of fiscal year end. Government Code §53901 requires every assessing or taxing district or local agency to adopt and file their annual budget with the County Auditor within 60 days of the beginning of the fiscal year. Health and Safety Code §13895 requires every Fire Protection District to adopt and then file their annual budget with the County Auditor on or before October 1st of each fiscal year.

All Santa Barbara County districts completed their FY 2011/12 audits before the require 12 month legal deadline. The County Internal Audit division conducts audits of 5 of the 39 districts' financial statements and the remaining 34 are audited by other CPA firms listed in the attached report.

The following audit opinions were received:

- 38 districts received an unqualified (clean) opinion.

- Casmalia Community Services District received a disclaimer of opinion due to the lack of independence between the Auditor and the district.

All Santa Barbara County districts completed, approved, and submitted their FY 2012/13 annual budgets on time.

Background:

During Fiscal Year 99/00, the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury recommended that the Auditor-Controller improve the compliance effort concerning completion and filing of annual budgets and annual financial reports by independent special districts. In its recommendation, the Grand Jury noted that the timely filing of reports is an internal control that can assist districts with the management of their financial affairs on an annual basis. The same Grand Jury requested that the Auditor-Controller conduct a financial analysis of the independent districts. In response to these recommendations, we issue annual summary reports and a financial analysis report every three years, resources permitting. The most recent financial analysis of the independent special districts was completed for FY 2010/11.

Performance Measure:

Timely and accurately produce and publish financial reports.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Staffing Impacts: N/A

Special Instructions:

N/A

Attachments:

1. Special Districts Compliance Report

Authored by:

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cc: