MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 11, 2006

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for September 11, 2006

This is the weekly report by the County Administrative Officer to the Board of Supervisors. This report provides information on issues affecting the County and the progress of County activities.

Cooperative Extension

Monterey County Advisors Smith and Hammond have just published a new free color brochure entitled, “Annual Planting and Harvesting Schedule for Agricultural Crops, Monterey County California”. The guide is useful to anyone needing to know when the 33 top local commodities are normally planted and harvested. Free copies can be obtained at the Cooperative Extension office located at 1432 Abbott Street.

Through the efforts of the weed advisor, Richard Smith, a new use pattern for a weed control material is being registered. This new approved use will give growers the opportunity to manage hard to control weeds in broccoli and cauliflower production. This new use registration is the culmination of four years of research with local growers.

In August, Plant Pathology Farm Advisor, Steven Koike, attended his first meeting as a member of the American Phytopathological Society’s book publishing division, APS Press. Because of Koike’s expertise in diagnosing and researching diseases of vegetables and strawberries, he was appointed as a Senior Editor for this publication group. Many of APS’s books are practical field guides that are used by farmers and pest control advisors in California. The American Phytopathological Society is the national scientific professional group that organizes plant pathologists and other scientists who work on plant diseases.
The Nutrition Education Program Manager, Kathleen Nolan, is field-testing University of California Cooperative Extension’s newest school curriculum “Farm to Fork”, which integrates farm, garden, cafeteria and nutrition education for young children. Beginning in October, the Alisal Union School District will collaborate by providing the sites for pilot testing “Farm to Fork”, which is fully aligned with California content standards in math, language arts and science.

Michael Cahn, the Irrigation and Water Quality Advisor, has been invited to review a book manuscript, which was co-authored by Jean-Michel Cousteau and Julie Robinson. Cahn reviewed specifically an excerpt dealing with innovative grower practices that protect water quality. Cahn was also asked to help connect the publisher, Ocean Futures Society, with growers who surf. The book, *America’s Underwater Treasures*, is a companion to the upcoming Fall PBS special of the same name. Cahn also helped on background information to be used in the television special.

**Military and Veteran’s Affairs**

On Saturday, September 15, 2006, a benefit barbeque to raise funds for the Endowment Fund, authorized under AB 3035, for the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery will be held from 12:00 noon to 3:30 p.m., at the proposed cemetery site (Parker Flat Cutoff and Normandy Road on the former Fort Ord). Scheduled to speak are Representative Sam Farr, Assemblyman John Laird (author of AB 3035), Senators Jeff Denham and Abel Maldonado and a representative from the Governor’s office. The Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation and the Monterey County United Veterans Council are sponsoring this event.

**Parks Department**

Lake San Antonio & Lake Nacimiento experienced a successful Labor Day Weekend, good weather, good attendance and good times. Attendance at Lake San Antonio was up by 19% over last year as visitors enjoyed the final days of summer at the Lakes. Unfortunately, a 25-year-old male drowned at Lake Nacimiento, while diving off a bluff overlooking the Lake.

**RMA – Planning Department**

The Planning Commission will hold a workshop on September 13, 2006. Topics will include the Housing Element, Safety and Circulation.

The Housing Advisory Committee considered issues pertaining to the consistency of the Housing Element with the Draft GPU and will be making recommendations to the Planning Commission.

Several cities have requested staff presentations on the General Plan in addition to the meeting staff already attended with the City of Salinas. These cities include Monterey, Marina and Gonzales.

**Sheriff’s Department**

The inmate count at the jail over the weekend of September 2-3, 2006 was 1185.
Commander David Allard will retire from the Sheriff’s Office effective September 16, 2006. We wish him all the best.

The Sheriff’s Office Third Annual Open House will be held on Saturday, September 23rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Uniform inspection begins at 10:00 a.m. Employees and their families are encouraged to attend.

Emergency Communications

Emergency Communications has been advised by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) that at its July 20, 2006 meeting the Commission approved three dispatcher training courses for back-fill reimbursement, effective immediately. The three approved courses are for line dispatchers, trainers, and shift supervisors. This means that in addition to reimbursement for tuition, travel, and per diem for our students, POST will reimburse us for the cost to replace the absent trainee with another dispatcher/supervisor on overtime. While we are still closely managing the amount of overtime required of our staff, this approval provides the resources necessary to better balance our POST mandated training requirements without creating undue pressure on our staffing budget.

Economic Development

Members of the Building & Design Cluster have met with the Building Officials individually and at their regular monthly Association meeting regarding establishing a universal building permit application. There is interest in pursuing this concept provided we can develop a form that meets the needs of both the cities and county. Richard Rudisill of the Central Coast Builders Exchange’s Government Affairs Committee is taking the lead in this effort. Wayne Tanda and Alana Knaster are members of the sub-committee and have expressed support and their willingness to work with Richard. Copies of the application forms currently being used by the thirteen jurisdictions are under review so that a draft universal form can be developed. The draft form will be presented to the Building Officials for review and additional feedback at their September meeting. The Building & Design Cluster Working Group will discuss this effort at their meeting on September 20, 2006. The Cluster Working Group feels this would be a good first step to streamlining the permit process.

Competitive Clusters

The Monterey County Business Council is sponsoring the first annual President’s Reception / Dinner on Tuesday, October 10, 2006, at the Monterey Marriott’s Ferrante Room. The reception will be 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and dinner is 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Across the nation, colleges and universities are playing a bigger role in economic development. The objective of this event is to bring the leaders of our educational institutions together with the decision-makers and community leaders of Monterey County so that we can pursue ways to better integrate the educational institutions and research facilities into our economic development programs. Many of the institutions are already members of the Education Competitive Clusters Group and this is another step toward integrating the institutions into our community.
The MCBC, in partnership with Leadership Monterey Peninsula, is sponsoring an Executive Impact Program that focuses on informing business leaders on critical issues and challenges facing Monterey County. The first session will be two half-days, October 16 & 23, 2006, 12 – 5:00 P.M., with a tour of projects proposed for the former Fort Ord and panel discussions on Housing, Water and Transportation issues and needs, with a networking reception at the end of the October 23rd session. The objective is to encourage business leaders to become involved in finding solutions to challenges that impact their business and community. Additional information and invitations for both events will be forthcoming.

This concludes the CAO report.