MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 25, 2006

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for September 25, 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.

Social and Employment Services Department – Employment Training

The Monterey County Workforce Investment Board (WIB), Office for Employment Training (OET) and the Employment Development Department (EDD) have been working collaboratively to provide additional resources for dislocated workers in Monterey County. The US Department of Labor (DOL) has notified the One Stop Career Center that all employees that are laid off from McCormick & Company, Inc., located in Salinas, California will be eligible to received Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) benefits and resources. These funds will be available to all of the 460 employees that are expected to be separated from McCormick & Company, Inc., between September 8 and December 31, 2006. As of September 22, 2006, McCormick & Company, Inc., reported that over 100 employees have been laid off.

The total benefit that could potentially come to these laid off workers is $4.6 million dollars. Since TAA is an entitlement program, every dislocated worker is eligible for all services. Applicants must be in receipt of unemployment insurance benefits to be eligible.

The EDD staff and the One Stop Career Center are responsible for the administration of the program. The Office for Employment and Training will provide in-kind contributions, which include individualized assessments, labor market information, referrals to training, case management, job placement and a wide variety of workshops. Financial support from this
federally funded program, available to qualified workers, can amount to as much as $10,000 per individual.

For additional information, contact the Employment Development Department (EDD) Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) representative at (831) 796-3636.

Social and Employment Services Department – Aging & Adult Services

The Aging & Adult Services Division of DSES is very honored to be participating in a new collaborative with the Family Medicine Residency Program at NMC as an educational and training component in the Geriatric Medicine rotation. Beginning July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, Aging & Adult Services will host 8 Residents for 4 hours/wk each for a 6-week rotation to provide first hand experience with seniors and adults with disabilities receiving home and community based services.

Geriatric Residents will receive an orientation to DSES and the programs administered by Aging & Adult Services, including Adult Protective Services, In-Home Supportive Services, Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program (MSSP), as well as an overview of the Monterey County long term care system and community based programs serving the elderly and adults with disabilities. Residents will accompany social work and nursing case managers on home visits with clients to experience first hand the challenges our mutual clients/patients face living at home while managing significant health issues, functional impairments, formal/informal support systems or lack thereof, and frequently with very limited financial resources. Residents will have the opportunity to see how their impressions of a patient seen during a clinic visit may differ from seeing the patient during a home visit and perhaps gain insight into what environmental factors may affect patient's ability to comply with complex medical follow through. Residents will also see the resiliency and determination clients often show to be independent and live at home.

Two Residents have completed their rotation with Aging & Adult Services to date and both expressed how much an "eye opener" this experience was for them. The social work staff is also benefiting from the opportunity to hear the medical perspective of those clients the Resident and social worker visit together.

There is a critical shortage of physicians in Monterey County with Geriatric training. As our population ages and the number of aging and adults with disabilities increases dramatically in the next few years, the need for trained medical and social service providers trained in Geriatric specialties will dramatically increase. Home and community based social service and medical programs will need to expand as we rely less on nursing home care. The collaborative program between Aging & Adult Services and the NMC Family Medicine Residency program provides an example of how social service and medical professionals can collaboratively approach providing comprehensive social and medical services for our community members.

Resource Management Agency

Representatives from Public Works, Planning, Building Services, Environmental Health and the Water Resources Agency are working with representatives of the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Builders Exchanges and other representatives of the building industry to improve permit processes. The group, known as the County Permit Streamlining Task Force, meets every
two weeks. The Task Force has begun review and refinement of recommendations for improving plan check processes and the role of land use advisory committees. Future topics include permit coordination, education and outreach, over the counter and electronic permitting, application requirements and consistency of review processes. The Task Force’s meetings have been positive and productive with an emphasis on improvements to the County’s processes.

Health Department

Len Foster, Director of Health has announced the appointment of Thomas A. Lynch to the position of EMS Director for Monterey County, effective November 6, 2006.

Mr. Lynch has extensive experience in the fields of emergency medical services, having been trained and worked as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and paramedic in New York; served as an instructor, flight coordinator, flight paramedic and prehospital coordinator in the Denver EMS system; and worked as an EMS Specialist with the City and county of San Francisco’s EMS Emergency Medical Services Agency. For the past 13 years he has been the Executive director of the San Luis Obispo Emergency Medical Services Agency. In addition to his technical training, Mr. Lynch also earned a B.S. degree from the University of Phoenix.

Mr. Lynch’s appointment represents the culmination of a recruitment and selection process that included extensive involvement by local EMS stakeholders. Mr. Foster is confident that Mr. Lynch brings to the position the experience and skills necessary to ensure that Monterey County’s EMS system continues its evolution to achieving world-class status.

Sheriff’s Department

The County Administrative Office expresses appreciation to Sheriff’s Office personnel who worked in coordination with the District Attorney’s Office for the manner in which they responded to the Court/Government Center threat on Friday, September 15, 2006. Their response was well coordinated and organized, and they are thanked for a job well done.

The 3rd annual Sheriff’s Office Open House was held on Saturday September 23.

A formal inspection of sheriff’s office uniformed personnel preceded the open house. Conducted in accordance with Sheriff’s Office policy, the inspection was intended to insure that personnel are in compliance with uniform and grooming standards.

Persons delivering opening remarks included Supervisor Jerry Smith, Supervisor Fernando Armenta, and Assemblyman Simon Salinas.

At the conclusion of the inspection ceremony, Sheriff Kanalakis announced the following promotions:

Johnny Mihu, promoted to Commander
James Bass, promoted to Sergeant
Bobby Rodriguez, promoted to Sergeant

The Sheriff also presented a Board Resolution to retiring Reserve Captain Chuck Bray.
The open house followed the inspection ceremony and was attended by over 350 people. In addition to tours of the facility, they enjoyed displays/demonstrations by the Sheriff’s Office K-9 unit, Bomb Squad, CERT and SWAT teams, S.E.A.T. team, Motor Squad, Mounted Unit, and Search & Rescue team. Activities for children included clowns and face painting. 154 bicycle helmets were given out (to children under age 14).

The Open House was, by all accounts, a rousing success; offering the public an opportunity to see the “inner workings” and capabilities of the Sheriff’s Office, as well as a chance to interact with personnel from all aspects of the operation.

This concludes the CAO report.