MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 12, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for February 12, 2008

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.

Elections

Election Day has come and gone but the Election is far from being over. Overall, the administration of the Election was smooth. Election Officers were prepared for a busy day, equipped with extra staff, additional voting booths, and plenty of election materials. Polls opened and closed on time. The Department saw its busiest day in years as over 1,000 voters passed through the front doors to inquire about their registration status, to obtain and vote a ballot or to drop off their voted vote by mail ballot. The Department also managed an average of 100 telephone calls per hour answering questions from voters, Election Officers, and the media.

The first Election Night result report was posted at approximately 9:00 pm when the Department learned that all voters still in line when polls closed at 8:00 pm had finished voting. The final report of the evening was completed and on the Department’s website by 2:02 am and the Department finalized reporting to the Secretary of State’s office by 2:35 am.

The Department has over 30,000 remaining ballots left to process, including 23,968 vote by mail ballots voted and dropped off on Election Day, 4,268 provisional ballots, and 1,997 ballots that may have been damaged or ballots that could not be machine read that may need to be duplicated with voter’s intent in order to be processed.
Over a period of 28-days, the Department will be working through various steps of the official canvass of the vote. Steps leading to the certification of the official vote include, by may not be limited to, processing all of the above voted ballots, as well as reconciling all precinct returns, updating voter history, counting all valid write-in votes, conducting the manual tally, and the storage and preservation of all official election materials. The last day the Department can certify the February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary is March 4, 2008.

The Department will continue to process ballots and update results over the next few weeks. Updated Monterey County results are posted on the Department’s website at www.MontereyCountyElections.us. Anyone interested in viewing the statewide results may visit the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ca.gov.

Once again, the Department would like to thank all those who participated in the Election through the Election Officer and County Reassignment program. Your continued efforts and dedication have led to yet another successfully run election in Monterey County. Additionally, the Department cannot forget to thank all other County agencies that assisted with human resource inquiries, purchasing needs, Information Technology needs, and Election Day security support through the County Sheriff’s Office.

June 3, 2008 Consolidated Statewide Direct Primary Election: Monday, February 11, 2008 is the opening day of nominations for candidates seeking to have their name placed upon the ballot for any one of many offices scheduled for election this June. Requirements vary depending on the office sought. Visit www.MontereyCountyElections.us for more information, including a candidate’s guide. Additional information on running for state or federal office can also be found on the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ca.gov.

Sheriff

The Sheriff’s Office website now includes a 15 minute video on STAR. It can be accessed by clicking on: “Updated: The Monterey County Sheriff’s Office announces a new Tactical Airborne Response Helicopter is ready for action”. Click on the arrow in the second picture for the video. Pictures are also available on the T-drive in the Administration File titled: Helicopter News Conference 012908. The Herald also had a great article and slides that can be viewed at: http://extras.montereyherald.com/slideshows/helicopters0130/index.html

This concludes the CAO report.