MEMORANDUM

DATE:   June 30, 2008

TO:     Board of Supervisors

FROM:   Lew C. Bauman  
         County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for June 30, 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.

Emergency Communications and OES

EOC Activations for Wildland Fires

The County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been fully activated to support local, state and federal firefighters in battling the Indians and Basin Complex fires all week. The EOC “Blue Team” has been buzzing with activity for long hours every day; staffed by many trained County employees along with personnel from several local agencies and non-profit groups. The “Gold Team” has also been activated, with a smaller presence during the late night hours when firefighting activity is scaled back. Some members of the “Green Team” have been called on to help relieve members who’ve worked many long days in a row.

All EOC team members are working diligently to maintain up-to-date incident status information, as well as ensure that communications are timely, accurate, and useful to the public as well as responders. The 911 Center’s “Fire Comm” dispatchers provide the EOC Fire Ops Chief with the daily list of all fire agencies’ duty chiefs and contact numbers, and has assisted in preparing a report on all areas planning for the 4th of July.

Two EOC trained 911 Operations Supervisors serve at the Communications Desk in the Logistics Section on both the Blue and Gold Teams and provide assistance and support to the
Section Chief and OES and EOC staff in various ways, serving as the link between the EOC and 911 Operations; i.e. between the County EOC, and routine local fire and law agency support for the affected populations. It was 911’s Green Team representative who advised the EOC of a sudden influx of telephone calls after an incorrect Emergency Alert System message was broadcast by local media.

Shorthanded OES staff is working diligently to simultaneously support management of the incident, assistance to the many staff members serving in the EOC, and ensure that all the necessary paperwork is maintained, and document opportunities for training and improvement for the next incident. Hats off to OES and all the other dedicated County, City, District, and community service organizations’ personnel who are working long and hard to ensure the best possible outcome during this lengthy emergency.

This concludes the CAO report.