MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 3, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman, County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for November 3, 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

November 4, 2008 Presidential General: REMEMBER TO VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008!! All Monterey County polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

On Tuesday, October 28th, the Department reported 158,391 registered voters qualified to vote. However, the Department will continue to receive qualified voter registration cards up to Election Day, as long as they contain a postmark of the deadline of October 20th. These voters are considered “late but eligible”.

The Department would like to again thank the County employees from the District Attorney’s Office, County Counsel, and In-Home Supportive Services for assisting the Department to enter and qualify over 4,000 registered voters who will now be listed in the Roster Index and be eligible to vote a regular ballot. We absolutely could not have completed all cards by the October 28th reporting deadline had these employees not come to assist. THANK YOU!

Vote by Mail and Early Voting: Department has now issued just over 97,300 vote by mail ballots and has received nearly 60,000 voted returns. Any voter who will otherwise be unable to vote at their polling place on Election Day may come to the Department to obtain a ballot in person, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and up to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Voters may also authorize a
family member, including grandparents, or a member of their household to come to the
Department to pick up a ballot on their behalf.

As a reminder, all voted mail ballots must be received by the Monterey County Elections
Department by the close of polls on Election Day. Voted ballots should no longer be returned
via U.S. Mail, but should be dropped off to the Department or to any polling place in Monterey
County. For a list of all active polling places for the Presidential Election, visit the Department’s
website at www.MontereyCountyElections.us and select the link “Polling Places in Monterey
County.” Monterey County employees who reside in surrounding counties are again reminded to
return their ballot to the County where they are registered to vote and where they obtained their
vote by mail ballot – the Monterey County Elections Department cannot accept a voted ballot
from another county.

On Saturday, November 1st, the Department worked from 9 a.m. to nearly 1:00 a.m. Sunday
morning and then returned again after a few hours rest to complete the opening and extracting
vote by mail ballots in preparation for tabulation. Tabulation that began on Monday, October
27th was not complete and had to continue for two days due to the number of voted returns and
the fact that there were two ballot cards per voter this Election. Based upon this experience, the
Department chose to commence tabulation of voted returns on Sunday afternoon to continue
through Monday, November 3rd. With no vote tabulating devices at the polling places and with
only three central count tabulating machines, ballot tabulation will take a long time.

**Election Night Reporting:** While it is impossible to predict exactly what time the Department
will complete the tabulation and reporting of Election Night returns, based upon the time
necessary to process the vote by mail returns, the Department is anticipating ballot tabulation
will continue into the early hours of Wednesday morning. Many voters will be going to bed
prior to the release of the semifinal election night result. California Election Law mandates that
counting be continuous until all precincts have reported, which means the Department cannot
take a break or stop the tabulation process to send staff home to rest. Because Election Day
begins around 5:30 or 6:00 a.m. for nearly all staff and with the great potential for tabulation to
take 10 hours, shift work is being considered in order to accomplish ballot tabulation without
staff reaching exhaustion.

This concludes the CAO report.