MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 17, 2008

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer's Weekly Report for November 17, 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 - Official Canvass: The Department commenced the Official Canvass on Thursday, November 6th. With the Election Night semifinal canvass lasting to noon on Wednesday, November 5th, the day remained a light day for staff, most working only a short-shift in order to catch up on much needed rest. State law provides a 28-day period to complete the official canvass of the vote and produce a final certified statement.

The Department has completed scanning all roster indexes to capture voter history and processing all remaining vote by mail ballots. A vote result update was sent to the Secretary of State and posted to the Department’s website on Friday, November 14th. The Department began the review process of provisional ballots on Thursday, November 13th and continued reviewing, duplicating and remaking otherwise unreadable ballots to capture voter intent; these processes are expected to be complete by Thursday, October 20th. On Monday, November 17th, the Department will be conducting the random draw and commencing the required manual tally of results which is no less than 1% of the precincts, with additional precincts selected to capture contests not available in the original 1%, as well as a 100% tally of all votes cast on any touch-screen voting machine used in the election. The Department will also conduct an increased post-election manual tally requirements for close contests where the margin of victory for the semifinal election night result is 0.5% or less – those are the Salinas Valley Memorial Health Care District, the City of Soledad, and Pajaro Valley Unified School District. The completion of
all required manual tallies is expected to take approximately one week. Provisional and
duplicated ballots will be tallied and reported on Monday, November 24th, and the tally of write-
in votes will commence on Wednesday, November 26th after the final tabulation of all ballots.
After all steps of the official canvass are complete, the Department will prepare certificates of
election for all candidates and local governing bodies for adoption, sending final certified results
to the Secretary of State, and packaging and sealing all returns for storage and retention for 22
months.

Election Officers: Once again, the Department would like to thank all County employees who
participated in November’s election. As in the past, there were new items to learn and
procedures to implement throughout the day in addition to preparing to serve a historical number
of voters on Election Day. The day went very smoothly in Monterey County, and that is a true
testament to just what a great job was performed by all Election Officers. Payroll is nearly
complete and will be turned over to the Auditor-Controller to process. As a reminder, the
Election Officer stipend will appear in the bi-weekly County paycheck.

March 3, 2009 – Special Election: Candidate filing for the March 3, 2009 Special Election
opened on Monday, November 10th. The Special Election is scheduled in order to fill a vacancy
on the Hartnell College Board, Trustee Area 5 as well as to conduct a recall election for the
Chualar Elementary School District, Trustee Area 3. Both items were placed on the ballot by
separate petition drives. Education Code section 5091 provides that a petition may be filed to
terminate the appointment of a person who is scheduled to fill a vacancy and cause an election to
fill the vacancy rather than through the appointment process the Governing Body completed.
Division 11 of the Elections Code allows for a petition to be filed for an election to recall an
elective officer of a governing body and allow candidates to be voted on for a replacement to the
recalled officer.

There may be an additional recall election placed on the ballot on March 3, 2009 in the San Ardo
School District. The District was presented a certificate of sufficiency for two petitions filed
against two members of the Governing Body on Wednesday, November 12th. The District has
14-days to schedule the election, which must occur between the 125th and 88th day after the call
of the election. Candidate filing would end no later than the 75th day before the election.

Department of Social and Employment Services

Recipient of National Award: MC-CHOICE an outreach program with the County Department of
Social and Employment Services is the recipient of the 2008 Hunger Champion Award
announced by Nancy Montanez Johner, Agriculture Undersecretary for Food, Nutrition, and
Consumer Services. The award recognizes exemplary service conducting outreach activities and
assisting eligible residents to obtain nutrition benefits in the Food Stamp Program, now known as
the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). **MC-CHOICE** was commended for implementing innovative strategies and creating partnerships to increase participation in this critical nutrition assistance program.

USDA selected two Hunger Champion awardees from 81 nominations by State and local offices and advocacy organizations serving communities across the country. The Department appreciates the generous support of the Board, and the vote of confidence from our network of local service organizations and advocacy groups who nominated the department. Outreach work is a vital component to increasing community awareness and improving access to services. This award is a testament to the talents and commitment of the **MC-CHOICE** staff in fulfilling the vision and mission of the County. To learn more about MC-CHOICE please go to [www.mc-choice.co.monterey.ca.us](http://www.mc-choice.co.monterey.ca.us)

**Health**

On October 28, 2008, the Health Department received a letter from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) recommending the approval of the transfer of the former Children's Services International facility, consisting of approximately 23,000 square ft. on 6.1 acres in the City of Marina (on former Ft. Ord). DHHS has forwarded their recommendation to the U.S. Army for review and response. Upon final approval from the Army, local stakeholders, and the Monterey County Board of Supervisors, the property can be transferred to the County to be used for health and human services related programs. The Department is also awaiting a response from DHHS regarding a second land grant application submitted for a parcel located in the City of Seaside (near CSU Monterey Bay) which currently belongs to the Housing Authority. We have been informed that the timeline for the disposition of this transfer is eminent and staff is monitoring the situation closely. Prior to recommending acceptance of the actual transfer to the Board of Supervisors, a comprehensive assessment of the property will be conducted to determine if there are hazards not previously known, and if so, the cost of mitigation.

In 2007, the Health Department's Behavioral Health Division provided vital financial support to explore the possibility of establishing a Master of Social Work (MSW) Program. The proposed MSW Program would be designed to fill the local needs that have been historically neglected. It would also prepare and produce future generations of MSW-level social workers to serve the needs of local residents and communities on California's Central Coast. On November 5, 2008, the CSU Monterey Bay Postgraduate Studies Committee overwhelmingly approved the MSW Program Proposal. The next step in the approval phase involves approval by the Academic Senate, scheduled for December 10, 2008.
The County Superintendent of Schools, Nancy Kotowski, Ph.D., has reported that the California School Boards Association, has awarded two of its prestigious Golden Bell Awards to the Silver Star Resource Center and Rancho Cielo Youth Campus, based on the innovative approach and strong collaboration with partners, which includes the County Health Department's Behavioral Health Division.

This concludes the CAO report.