MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 26, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for January 26, 2009

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.

Auditor-Controller

On December 18, 2008, the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) – Central Coast Chapter sponsored the 18th Annual Government Tax Seminar presented by Diehl, Evans & Company, LLP. Hosted by the office of the Auditor-Controller, the program addressed recent federal and California tax developments affecting California local governments.

Attendees were appreciative of both the timely and interesting tax information as well as the cost savings provided by the AGA sponsorship. The cost of the AGA sponsored seminar was $175 per person which included the 2008 Government Tax Manual. Diehl, Evans & Company independently offers this course for a charge of $275 in San Francisco, Irvine, and Ontario.

The 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. seminar held in the County Government Center qualified participants for five hours of government continuing education credit (CPE) with the California State Board of Accountancy, and each attendee received a copy of the 2008 Government Tax Manual. There were 37 in attendance, including 19 from various County departments, with the balance of 18 attendees from Cities and Special Districts.

The seminar focused on new developments affecting the following government-related tax topics:

Employee vs. Independent Contractor
Expense Reimbursement Plans

Transportation Fringe Benefits
Deferred Compensation Plans
Fringe Benefits related to Autos
Group-Term Life Insurance
Workers Compensation Benefits
Disability Benefits Programs
Accident and Health Plans
Cafeteria Plans
Educational Assistance Programs
Working Condition Fringe Benefits
De Minimus Fringe Benefits
Cell Phone and Laptop Benefits

Section 403(b) Annuity Plans
Accrued Vacation/Sick Leave Benefits
Employer “Pick-Up” of Pension Contributions
“Service Credit” Purchases
Form W-2 Reporting
Form W-4 Reporting
Form 1099 Reporting
Social Security and Medicare Reporting
Government-Related Nonprofit Corporations

If interested in attending this annual seminar for the 2009 tax year, please contact Maria Papurello to be placed on a notice roster.

This concludes the CAO report.