MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 26, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman
County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for October 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.

Elections

Outreach: The Department joined the third annual “Forum for the Future – Creating Opportunities for Tomorrow’s Leaders” on Thursday, October 22nd at the Pasadera Country Club organized by the Young Farmers & Ranchers, Monterey County Young Professionals Group, and the Salinas Jaycees. The event was arranged in an effort to encourage young leaders, ages 21-39, to consider a higher level of involvement in their community by running for elected/appointed offices, non-profit board positions, and joining charitable organizations. The Honorable Debra Bowen, California’s Secretary of State, was the special guest speaker along with Jeff Pereira, Patrick Oroso, and Carolyn Swanson as panelists. The Elections Department offered materials and information on running for public office, voter registration drives, and service to the community through the Department’s Election Official Programs.

November 3, 2009 Consolidated City, School, and Special District Elections: The November local election is eight-days away. The deadline to register to vote for the November 3rd local election was Monday, October 19th. The final number of eligible voters for the local election is 118,345.

To date, the Department has mailed out nearly 71,000 vote by mail ballots. On Saturday, October 24th, the Department worked to open and extract more than 10,000 vote by mail ballots
to prepare them for early tabulation. Results from ballots tabulated before Election Day may not be accumulated and released until the close of polls on the night of the Election.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, October 27th is the last day to request a vote by mail ballot. Eligible voters may find an application on the back cover of their Voter Information Pamphlet, download an application from the Department’s website, or come directly to the office to obtain a ballot in person.

Also on Tuesday, the Department will launch a new feature on the website for voters. Under the same link where a voter may obtain the location of their assigned polling place (“Where do I vote?”), the Department has added a new feature that will display the voter’s entire Voter Information Pamphlet. The information is as complete as what was mailed to each voter, displaying all candidate statements, information about local measures, as well as a sample of the official ballot they will receive at their polling place on Election Day. For local Measure G and Measure J, where the full text is not printed in the Pamphlet, a voter may view the full text online under the tab “Upcoming Elections” and following the information for the local measures appearing on the November 3rd ballot. The link is immediately to the right of the official title (assigned letter) of the measure.

**Emergency Communications and OES**

On Wednesday, October 28th, two important events will be held at the National Steinbeck Center beginning at 12 noon. From noon to 12:30 p.m., the official launch of our Alert Monterey County public education and outreach campaign will be held, with a program including Board Chair Lou Calcagno and representatives from the National Weather Service, the fire service, law enforcement, and AT&T; and will end with a demo of the Alert notification system and the ability to view the new Alert website and register e-mail, cell and VoIP phones to receive Alert messages.

From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., OES will host the annual Winter Storm Preparedness Conference with presentations on the 2009-10 Winter Storm Forecast, Utility Services during Disasters, Storm Monitoring and Local Preparedness, 911 Disaster Plans and Protocols, Planning for Floods, Animal Care During Disasters and Evacuations, Citizens Corps and CERT, and the 2009 Winter Storm Emergency Response Plan.

This concludes the CAO Report.