MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2009

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Lew C. Bauman, County Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: County Administrative Officer’s Weekly Report for November 16, 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

The Official Canvass - November 3, 2009 local City/School/Special District Elections: On Friday afternoon, the Department issued an update to the semifinal official results. Visit the Department’s website and select “Latest Election Results” to see the latest announcement. The details of the vote count, reflecting the precinct-by-precinct result, will not be available until after the manual tally has been completed.

On Tuesday, the Department will begin the required manual tally in order to verify the accuracy of the machine count. The Department must randomly select at least two precincts and manually count all ballots cast in those precincts, including those voted at the polls and by mail. In addition, the Department must select additional precincts in an effort to verify results for each candidate and ballot measure contest. With 24 total contests (19 candidate and five measures), the number of additional precincts may be high. The Department will conduct the tally using a total of 13 people, three four-member teams and one supervisor, and is expected to last approximately four days.

Observer/Advisory Panel: The 2009/2010 panel met at the Department on Tuesday, November 10th. The members of the panel who observed polling place activities for the November Election provided feedback and suggestions for the Department to consider. Other topics covered the
panel’s purpose for the year ahead such as a review and recommendations for improvements to the Poll Worker training and voter outreach and educational materials and programs, as well as a study of new methodologies to conduct the manual tally and verify the machine’s accuracy. Any changes to the Department’s methodologies would not change the requirement that the Department conduct the legally required one percent manual tally under the methods described in California Election Law and any additional regulations that may be approved by the State.

Library

Borders Book Drive to benefit Monterey County Free Libraries. In celebration of the holiday season, Borders bookstore in Sand City, is holding a book drive to benefit Monterey County Free Libraries (MCFL). Starting Saturday, November 14th and continuing through Thursday, December 24th, Borders shoppers will see displays and signs asking them to purchase a book for MCFL. A variety of books have been placed on display including bestsellers, children’s titles, paperbacks, etc. that offer shoppers a variety of topics and price ranges to select from. In addition, shoppers may select other items from the store to purchase to donate to MCFL.

With the last budget cycle, MCFL made deep cuts to its books and media materials budgets and welcomes donations from members of the public to boost its collection. Monterey County Free Libraries also maintains a wish list with the online bookseller Amazon.com, and MCFL staff is always happy to suggest items that members of the public may purchase for the Library. For more information on giving gifts to the library, please call (831) 883-7573 or go to MCFL’s website at montereycountyfreelibraries.org.

This concludes the CAO Report.