

County of Santa Clara
Board of Supervisors
Supervisory District Three



BOS3-04-158

DATE: September 28, 2004

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: *James T. Beall Jr.*

James T. Beall, Jr.
Supervisor, District 4

Pete McHugh

Pete McHugh
Supervisor, District 3

SUBJECT: Report from Finance & Government Operations Committee on the meeting of September 2, 2004

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Accept report from Finance and Government Operations Committee (FGOC) relating to meeting of September 2, 2004.

Possible Action:

- a. Approve Committee recommended actions on recommendations from Management Auditor on State-County Property Tax Administration Program (SCPTAP) (Item 6)

Processor name Lynn Regadanz

- b.

Item Number 16

Approve the County Executive's recommendation to amend Board Policy Manual allocating 30 percent of proceeds from sale of surplus property owned by the General Fund to support affordable housing projects and adopt Board Policy Resolution No. 04-15 amending Board of Supervisors' Policy Manual Section 7.8 (D)(3) relating to allocating the proceeds from sales of surplus property owned by the General Fund (Roll Call Vote), and direct Clerk of the Board to include Policy in Board of Supervisors' Policy Manual. (Item 8)

- c. Accept reports from items 4, 5, 7, and 9 as for Board information only, as listed on the attached FGOC agenda and approve Committee direction or referrals:
1. (Item 5) Direct County Counsel to revise prototype lobbying ordinance to incorporate comments from Committee members, staff and public and present to Committee for further review in November.
 2. (Item 5) Delay any further consideration of Ethics Code until Board has completed work on the lobbying ordinance.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

For items 6 and 8 that have Committee recommendations for Board action, we have attached the staff documents that the Committee considered. For item 6 on the State-County Property Tax Administration Program, we have also provided a matrix that states the Committee's recommended action for each Auditor recommendation along with a summary of the response from the Assessor and Administration. With respect to the action recommended for approval, staff will use the Auditor memo or the relevant response as the appropriate basis rather than the matrix. We have also provided an unapproved extract of the meeting minute's for that item so that Board members may have a sense of the Committee's discussion. For item 8, we have also added adoption of the formal Board policy resolution that the County Counsel's Office has prepared.

In Item 7, the Finance Director and Assessor presented an update on the Property Appraisal, Assessment, and Management Information System. Since there was no staff transmittal for that item when the Clerk released the FGOC packet, we have provided a copy of the handouts given to the Committee for that presentation.

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Since the extract of the Item 6 minutes provides the discussion for that item, we provide below the key discussion points for Item 5 on the lobbying ordinance.

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Key Discussion Points (Item 5)

1. Received Committee member comment that the ordinance's goals should be transparency where lobbying activities are disclosed to the public. The ordinance should establish standards of behavior.
2. Received Committee member comment that ordinance should focus on individuals who are retained by others to influence County decisions and that hour threshold should be lower than 100 hours.
3. Received Committee member comment that the ordinance should strive for consistency and not impede the desire for open public discussions with the County by establishing artificial barriers.
4. Received comment from a member of the public that non-profit organizations should be exempted or that the ordinance be designed to give more flexibility for communication between the non-p ordinance that gives more flexibility to speak.
5. Received staff comment that ordinance should address posting of disclosures on a web site and include some penalties that could be imposed without a court action.

ATTACHMENTS

- Item 6 Auditor Memoranda on SCPTAP (Miscellaneous)
- Item 6 Asessor and Administration Responses (Miscellaneous)
- Item 6 State Finance Department Letters (Miscellaneous)
- Item 7 Property Tax Information Management Systems Presentation (Miscellaneous)
- FGOC Sep 2 Agenda (Miscellaneous)

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- Item 6 Extract of Unapproved Meeting Minutes (Miscellaneous)
- Item 6 Matrix of Committee Recommendations on SCPTAP Audit Memos (Miscellaneous)



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