

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<p>(1) DEPARTMENT Central Services</p>	<p>(2) MEETING DATE 2/23/2016</p>	<p>(3) CONTACT/PHONE Will Clemens, Central Services Director Shauna Dragomir, County Real Property Manager (805) 781-5206</p>	
<p>(4) SUBJECT Request to consider the Paso Robles Basin Water District formation election ballot for County-owned real property located within the proposed Paso Robles Water District boundary. Districts 1 and 5.</p>			
<p>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board consider the ballot for County-owned properties within the proposed Paso Robles Basin Water District, and abstain from voting on the formation of the proposed Paso Robles Basin Water District.</p>			
<p>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Central Services and Public Works</p>	<p>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00</p>	<p>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$1,002.25 (potential annual impact if ballot measure is successful)</p>	<p>(9) BUDGETED? No</p>
<p>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent    <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation                    <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___)    <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ___)</p>			
<p>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions    <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts    <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ballots</p>			
<p>(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A</p>		<p>(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>	
<p>(14) LOCATION MAP N/A</p>	<p>(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No</p>	<p>(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: <u>11/10/2015</u> (Item #7, 8, 9)</p>	
<p>(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW David E. Grim</p>			
<p>(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) Districts 1 and 5.</p>			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Central Services / Will Clemens, Central Services Director  
Shauna Dragomir, County Real Property Manager  
(805) 781-5206

DATE: 2/23/2016

SUBJECT: Request to consider the Paso Robles Basin Water District formation election ballot for County-owned real property located within the proposed Paso Robles Water District boundary. Districts 1 and 5.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board consider the ballot for County-owned properties within the proposed Paso Robles Basin Water District, and abstain from voting on the formation of the proposed Paso Robles Basin Water District.

## **DISCUSSION**

The proposed Paso Robles Basin Water District ("Water District") encompasses approximately 350,000 acres in northern San Luis Obispo County. The service area boundary for the Water District includes the unincorporated properties in San Luis Obispo County that overlie the overall 505,000 acre Paso Robles Groundwater Basin as described in the study completed by Fugro in 2002 ("Basin"). The Basin supplies water for both residential and agricultural properties. The purpose for forming the Water District is to provide for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) compliance within the boundaries of the Water District. The estimated cost for the Water District to undertake SGMA compliance is \$950,000 annually.

In 2014, the State Legislature passed the SGMA. SGMA provides a framework for the sustainable management of groundwater basins within the State and empowers local agencies that have water supply, water management or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin to become groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA) and manage groundwater pursuant to the authorities provided in SGMA. SGMA requires the establishment of a GSA (or multiple GSAs) within any high or medium priority basin and the adoption of a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) or coordinated GSPs within certain specified timeframes. If a GSA or collection of GSAs is not established or if the GSA or GSAs fail to adopt or implement a compliant GSP or coordinated GSPs, the State Water Resources Control Board may intervene and designate the basin as a "probationary" basin and (subject to certain cure periods) adopt and impose an interim plan (as well as mandatory metering) until there is local compliance.

On November 10, 2015, the County Board of Supervisors (acting on behalf of both the County and the Flood Control District) initiated local SGMA compliance, calling for a landowner formation election of the proposed Water District, Board of Director elections (landowner and registered voter), and a special tax election. In order for the Water District to be formed, a simple majority of the votes cast by the landowners must be in favor of forming the Water District and the special tax must have two-thirds of the returned ballots cast by registered voters be in favor for the tax to pass. Both the formation vote and special tax must be successful in order for the Water District to be formed.

Pursuant to Assembly 2453 (2014) (Water Code §§ 37900 et seq.), the Board of Directors shall be elected by landowners and registered voters as follows: There are nine seats – three elected by registered voters, two elected by large landowners of 400 acres or more, two elected by medium landowners of 40 acres to 399 acres and two elected by small landowners with less than 40 acres.

The following table provides a list of the County-owned parcels located within the Basin and the proposed special tax for each:

Department	APN	Proposed Special Tax	Estimated Acreage	Location	Description	District
Central Services	015-031-052	\$115.25	1	4050 BRANCH RD	CalFire - Meridian Station 36	1
Central Services	020-241-023	\$115.25	1	MOJAVE LN	Dirt Road	1
Public Works	020-311-006	\$118.00	12	4020 RIVER RD	Vacant Lot	1
Central Services	015-282-026	\$25.25	1	TR 20 PTN LT 121	Vacant Lot	5
Central Services	015-283-016	\$115.25	1	GROUND SQUIRREL HOLLOW	Vacant Lot	5
Central Services	015-283-020	\$25.25	1	TR 20 PTN LT 190	Vacant Lot	5
Central Services	015-292-018	\$115.25	1	5025 STAGG HILL PL	Vacant Lot	5
Central Services	015-293-002	\$25.25	1	5230 WHITE TAIL PL	Vacant Lot	5
Public Works	035-081-044	\$116.25	5	CRESTON RD & FEENSTRA RD	Vacant Lot/Abandoned Rd.	5
Central Services	043-091-051	\$115.50	2	5110 SWAYZE ST	Creston Community Center	5
Central Services	043-091-076	\$115.75	3	6055 WEBSTER RD	CalFire - Creston Station 43	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,002.25</b>	<b>29</b>			

As the owner or holder of title of twenty nine (29) acres of land within the proposed Water District, the County is considered a small landowner and, like all other landowners regardless of category, may cast one vote on the formation of the Water District. Staff is recommending that the County take no formal action on voting yes or no on the question of whether the Water District should be formed. As a small landowner, the County also has the statutory authority to cast votes for the two small landowner seats. However, given that the election by small landowners is uncontested, with only two candidates running, the ballot does not have an option to vote for these candidates. Additionally, since the County is not a registered voter, it did not receive a ballot for the special tax.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The Central Services Department, Real Property Services division is bringing this item to the Board on behalf of both the Central Services and Public Works Departments.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

In the event the special tax passes, the total yearly assessment would be \$1,002.25, with \$768.00 of costs allocated to Central Services and \$234.25 of costs allocated to Public Works.

**RESULTS**

The Board’s abstention from voting its ballots contributes to the county-wide goal of a Well Governed Community by being responsive to the community’s desires, allowing the community to decide the outcome of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin District formation.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Paso Robles Basin Water District Formation Ballot