



Agenda Date: 6/28/2005
Agenda Placement: 6Z

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Greg Clark for David Whitmer - Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Commissioner
REPORT BY: Greg Clark, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, 253-4357
SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution Accepting the Engineer's Report for the Winegrape Pest & Disease Control District and Setting a Public Hearing on the Proposed Levy of Assessment

RECOMMENDATION

Agricultural Commissioner requests the following actions:

1. Adopt a resolution accepting the Engineers' Report for the Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District and setting a public hearing on the proposed levy of assessment for the district;
2. Set Public Hearing for August 2, 2005 at 9:00 A.M. to hear protests to the establishment of the proposed assessment;
3. Direct the Clerk of the Board to comply with the requirements of Article XIII D of the California Constitution with respect to notice requirements for the proposed assessment; and
4. Designate Rob Paul, Deputy County Counsel, as the person to answer questions regarding the assessments and protest proceedings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The recommended action will commence the annual assessment process for the Winegrape Pest & Disease Control District for the 2005-2006 fiscal year by accepting the Engineer's Report, which sets forth the proposed assessment, and setting a public hearing to hear protests to the proposed assessment.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

In 2002, the Board of Supervisors established the Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District (NCWPDCD) to assist in the funding of the inspection, detection, and education of Pierce's disease as stated in the Napa County Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Workplan with the goal of preventing the spread of Pierce's disease by the GWSS.

The assessment rate methodology and special benefit analysis were also approved by the Board and the owners of the parcels of real property within the District containing one or more acres of planted vineyard. The annual assessment may not exceed twenty dollars (\$20.00) per acre per year, and continues through fiscal year 2006/2007, unless reauthorized and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Pursuant to Napa County Code section 3.54.040, an Engineers' Report for the NCWPDCD, dated June 13, 2005, has been prepared and submitted to the Board of Supervisors by Kristin Lowell, Inc. The proposed assessments are based upon an allocation of program costs over all properties subject to assessment within the NCWPDCD, (i.e., parcels of one or more planted vineyard acres - approximately 47,770 acres). The assessments will be utilized to assist the funding of the Napa County Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Workplan. The report recommends the levy of an assessment for fiscal year 2005-2006 in the amount of \$83,599 for a per acre assessment of \$1.75.

The NCWPDCD Board conducted a public meeting on March 9, 2005, and by a unanimous vote adopted a budget reflecting the above figures. The total estimated cost for the Agricultural Commissioner to implement the Napa County GWSS Workplan and related District activities for FY 2005-2006 is \$726,963 with funding coming from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, County, and the proposed assessments.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey