



Agenda Date: 7/17/2007
Agenda Placement: 8A
Set Time: 9:00 AM PUBLIC HEARING
Estimated Report Time: 5 Minutes

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: David Whitmer - Agricultural Commissioner
Agricultural Commissioner
REPORT BY: Greg Clark, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, 253-4357
SUBJECT: Napa Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District imposition of assessments for Fiscal Year 2007/2008

RECOMMENDATION

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures requests the following actions relating to the Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District (WP&DCD):

1. Open Public Hearing to consider any objections or protests with respect to the assessments proposed for WP&DCD for Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and
2. Close Public Hearing and adopt a resolution authorizing and levying assessments for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 on qualifying properties in the WP&DCD.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District was formed in 2002 for the purpose of providing funding for the prevention of Pierce's Disease and the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter. This public hearing, which complies with the requirements of Proposition 218, is to consider objections or protests to the proposed assessment. This resolution imposes an assessment in the amount of \$3.45 per planted vineyard acre for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 on qualifying properties, which is being decreased from the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 assessment of \$4.95 per planted vineyard acre.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Agricultural Commissioner

	The Agricultural Commissioner (budget unit 26400) Fiscal Year 2007/2008 approved budget includes projected revenue from collection of the assessment funds.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This revenue source is used in combination with State Grant funding and General Fund revenue in a financial partnership developed to prevent Pierce's Disease and the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and other winegrape pests, such as the vine mealybug.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	It is anticipated that the WP&DCD will continue to participate in a financial partnership.
Consequences if not approved:	There would be a decrease in the level of service for this program and or decrease in revenue.
Additional Information:	None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is an activity encompassed within the Negative Declaration adopted March 26, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors for the formation of the District and its subsequent activities.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District (WP&DCD) was formed in 2002 for the purpose of providing funding for the prevention of Pierce's Disease and the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter. This public hearing, which complies with the requirements of Proposition 218, is to consider objections or protests to the proposed assessment. The resolution imposes an assessment in the amount of \$3.45 per planted vineyard acre for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 on qualifying properties, which is being reduced from the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 assessment of \$4.95 per planted vineyard acre.

The proposed assessments for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 do not exceed the range of assessments previously approved by the Board and the owners of the parcels of real property in the WP&DCD containing one or more acres of planted vineyard. The annual assessment may not exceed twenty dollars (\$20.00) per acre per year. Pursuant to Napa County Code section 3.54.040, an Engineers' Report for the WP&DCD, dated June 19, 2007, 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 WP&DCD, (i.e., parcels of one or more planted vineyard acres - approximately 45,566 acres). The assessment amount has changed each year due to variations in the total planted winegrape acreage; type and amount of work to be performed as identified in the Agricultural Commissioner's Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Workplan and WP&DCD approved budget; amount of any carryover of unexpended assessment funds from the previous fiscal year; and amount of funding from the California Department of Agriculture. The report recommends the levy of an assessment for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 in the amount of \$157,313.06 for a per acre assessment of

\$3.45; however, the WP&DCD approved FY 2007/2008 budget estimates \$222,485 in total expenditures. The \$65,172 difference between total assessment funds collected and total expenditures results from the carryover of unexpended funds from Fiscal Year 2006/2007. The Agricultural Commissioner will receive \$222,485 in revenue as a result of performing the activities identified in the WP&DCD budget.

The WP&DCD Board conducted a public meeting on March 14, 2007 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 Fiscal Year 2007-2008 is \$872,740 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: Helene Franchi