

Board of Supervisors' Report
For the Angwin Community Council
December 16, 2008

To: Directors of the Angwin Community Council
From: Herb Ford

Today's Board meeting started with a commendation for Supervisor Harold Moskowitz who is ending his second period of service on the BoS. Previously he served for 12 years as the supervisor representing District 4, and now he is ending four years of service for District 5. Harold was perhaps grudgingly lauded for his plain-spoken-ness and his holding to his beliefs regardless of what others might say. His is being replaced by Keith Caldwell, former fire chief of the American Canyon Fire Department who won in the recent election over former Napa County Sheriff Gary Simpson.

Public Works official Don Ridenhour announced that the new, multi-million dollar parking garage that is located right next to the main county buildings will open on Friday, December 19. Lots of parking relief coming to those desiring to do business at the county headquarters.

A total of 23 sections in today's "Consent Items" saw the approval of or the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of your tax dollars; many of the expenditures "routine," and, fortunately, none of them locking in multi-year commitments as happened in last weeks BoS session.

The Board adopted a resolution amending or establishing Agricultural Preserves for Markham Vineyards, and it rescinded an existing contract, replacing it with three new contracts with the Jaeger Living Family Trust, the John F. And Joanne S. Jaeger Revocable Trust, and the Jeffrey and Kristen Jaeger Revocable Trust, in the general location of Big Ranch Road and Oak Knoll Avenue. Quite frankly, I'm not sure what the significance of these moves were, and I did not have opportunity to ask anyone who might know.

A group of military and civilian pilots is proposing the creation of a Napa Valley Air Museum at the Napa County Airport, and they brought a request to the BoS today that will allow them to proceed in planning for this new facility. The museum will be housed in a 100,000 square-foot two-story building which, in addition to the museum will also house the airport terminal. If this plan comes to fruition it promises to give a completely different look to the Napa County Airport. The BoS gave its approval for the planning to continue at "no cost to the county."

The big item in today's session was a presentation, discussion and action relating to the General Fund of the county. In the main it was a belt-tightening proposal which the BoS adopted. The presentation forecasts the General Fund balance moving downward from just under \$50 million this year to just under \$40 million in Fiscal Year 20012-20013. The associate

chief executive officer of the county set out six recommendations for lowering expenditures, noting that the only part of the county's operation that will not be cut in some way will be health and safety operations. While stating that the county is not in financial straits right now, the associate CEO said that absent the adoption and carrying out of the six recommendations the county could be in serious financial trouble in the near term future. Noted was the decreasing income from local taxes, inflation problems, and the whopping \$40 billion California State budget crises (since many of the county's programs are funded from the State).

A longer period of time than was necessary was spent by the Board members in discussing when they planned to meet in 2009 - setting the calendar they called it. Absolutely nothing new about an increased or decreased number of meetings during the new year came out of the discussion.

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