

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Clerk-Recorder - Elections Division

BOARD AGENDA # B-9

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 3, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

(Information Attached)

SUBJECT:

Approval to Adjust the Clerk-Recorder - Elections Division Budget for Costs Associated with the Statewide Special Election on May 19, 2009 Funded from a Transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies of up to \$560,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the increase in appropriations in the Clerk Recorder - Elections Division budget for the costs associated with the Statewide Special Election on May 19, 2009 funded from a transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies of up to \$560,000 by 4/5 Vote of the Board of Supervisors.
2. Authorize the transfer of estimated savings from the Clerk Recorder - Recorder Division budget to the Clerk Recorder - Elections Division budget in the sum of \$60,000.
3. Authorize the Auditor - Controller to make the necessary budget adjustments outlined in the attached Budget Journal.

FISCAL IMPACT:

On February 20, 2009, the Governor called for a Statewide Special Election for Tuesday, May 19, 2009. The total estimated costs for Stanislaus County to conduct a special election is \$720,000.

Based upon year-end projections prepared for the Clerk Recorders-Registrar of Voters budgets it is projected both budgets will have a savings of \$160,000. It is recommended these funds be used to offset the costs with the special election. The remaining costs of \$560,000 for the special election is recommended to be funded from a transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies. (CONT. ON PAGE 2)

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-143

On motion of Supervisor Monteith, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2)        Denied

3)        Approved as amended

4)        Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Approval to Adjust the Clerk-Recorder-Elections Division budget for Costs Associated with the Statewide Special Election on May 19, 2009 Funded from a Transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies of up to \$560,000.

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### **FISCAL IMPACT: (CONTINUED)**

When the Governor signed SBX3 19, which called for a statewide special election for May 19, 2009, he signed a letter stating the following, "... calling a special election does not come without costs to California counties. As such, I am signing this measure with the understanding that the Legislature will reimburse counties for costs of the elections as soon as possible." The Clerk Recorder Elections Division will pursue full reimbursement from the State of California for costs associated with the Statewide Special Election.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Elections Division's base budget includes funding for one election each fiscal year. As part of the 2008-2009 Final Budget the Registrar of Voters conducted the Presidential General Election. Pursuant to California Election Code 1003, the Governor is authorized to call a special election. On Friday, February 20, 2009, the County received word that Governor Schwarzenegger had called a Statewide Special Election for Tuesday, May 19, 2009, just 88 days away.

This statewide election is part of the legislative proposal to balance the state budget. The ballot will include; (1) a legislative constitutional amendment relating to budget reform; (2) a legislative constitutional amendment relating to education finance; (3) a legislative measure relating to the California State Lottery; (4) a legislative measure relating to Proposition 10 approved by the voters at the November 3, 1998, statewide general election; (5) a legislative measure relating to Proposition 63 approved by the voters at the November 2, 2004, Statewide General Election; and (6) a legislative constitutional amendment relating to the pay of state officers in the event there is an operating deficit in the state budget.

Although Stanislaus County formally requested the option of conducting the Statewide Special Election entirely using Vote-By-Mail, which would have reduced the cost of the election by approximately 25%, no such authority was received from the State. In addition certain statutory deadlines for placement of these measures before the voters on May 19, 2009 have been waived by the legislature creating a shortened election preparation period. In order to ensure the timely delivery of elections supplies for a traditional polling site election, it is necessary to increase appropriations.

Approval to Adjust the Clerk-Recorder-Elections Division budget for Costs Associated with the Statewide Special Election on May 19, 2009 Funded from a Transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies of up to \$560,000.

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The total cost of a special election is estimated at \$720,000. Those costs are recommended to be funded by savings in the Clerk-Recorder – Registrar of Voters budgets totaling \$160,000 and transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies of up to \$560,000. The Department will pursue full reimbursement from the State on the cost of this election.

**POLICY ISSUE:**

The Board of Supervisors is requested to determine whether the recommended actions are consistent with the Board priority of promoting efficient delivery of public services. A transfer from Appropriations for Contingencies requires a 4/5 vote of the Board of Supervisors.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

Staff impacts associated with this Statewide Special Election will include the utilization of existing staff and additional part-time staff necessary to complete the special election.



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

FEB 20 2009

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 19 of the Third Extraordinary Session.

This bill is a crucial component of the recently approved budget package. It calls for a May 19 special election to consider six important initiatives, including a constitutional amendment to enact a rainy day budget stabilization fund.

However, calling a special election does not come without costs to California counties. As such, I am signing this measure with the understanding that the Legislature will reimburse counties for the costs of the election as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger



**County of Stanislaus: Auditor-Controller  
Legal Budget Journal**

Database  
Set of Books

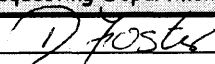
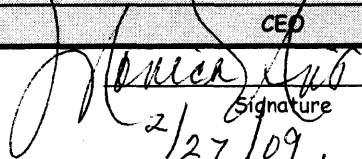
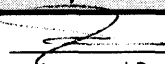
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County of Stanislaus

<b>Balance Type</b>	Budget
<b>Category</b>	* List - Text Budget - Upload
<b>Source</b>	* List - Text
<b>Currency</b>	* List - Text USD
<b>Budget Name</b>	List - Text LEGAL BUDGET
<b>Batch Name</b>	Text
<b>Journal Name</b>	Text
<b>Journal Description</b>	Text
<b>Journal Reference</b>	Text
<b>Organization</b>	List - Text Stanislaus Budget Org

Upl	Fund	Org	Acc't	GL Proj	Loc	Misc	Other	Debit		Credit		Period Upper case MMM-YY LIST - TEXT	Line Description TEXT
								incr appropriations decr est revenue (format > number > general)		decr appropriations incr est revenue			
	4	/	0	/	0	0	0						
FD	0100	0020100	63280	0000000	000000	000000	00000			\$	45,000		Contracts
	0100	0020100	65780							\$	2,000		Education & Train
	0100	0020100	67040							\$	13,000		Other Travel
	0100	0020200	50020					\$	44,000				Extra Help
	0100	0020200	66950					\$	16,000				Election Officers

Totals: \$ 60,000 \$60,000.00

Explanation: Transfer \$60,000 from the Clerk Recorder - Recorder Division budget to the Clerk Recorder - Elections Division budget per the Agenda Item

Requesting Department		CEO	Data Entry	Auditors Office Only	
 Signature		 Signature	_____ Keyed by	_____ Prepared By	 Approved By
2-27-09 Date		2/27/09 Date	_____ Date	_____ Date	2-27-09 Date