

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

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # III.A.

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE March 13, 2012

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Reconsider the Decision to Order a Special Election to Vote on the Question of the Formation of the Proposed Veterans Memorial District and to Elect the Members of the First Board of Directors (March 6, 2012 9:10 A.M. Public Hearing)

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Rescind prior approval and withdraw the order to hold a special election pursuant to Military and Veterans Code section 1178 to vote on the question of formation of the proposed district and to elect the members of the first board of directors thereof and direct the County Elections Official to consolidate the election with, and place the measure on, the June 5, 2012 election.
2. Adopt an order pursuant to Military and Veterans Code section 1178 abandoning of the creation of the proposed district.

Continued on Page 2

FISCAL IMPACT:

With the request of the abandoning of the Veterans Memorial District, there is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. If approved, County staff will continue to work with Veteran Organizations on the creation of an organization as well as identifying possible facilities within Stanislaus County for their organization to meet.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2012-102

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor Withrow

and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman O'Brien

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.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: (Continued)

3. Pursuant to Elections Code section 9605, direct staff to forward a copy of the resolution of the Board of Supervisors ordering withdrawal of the order of election for creation of the proposed veterans memorial district to the Stanislaus County elections official on or before March 14, 2012.
4. Direct staff to work with the Veteran Organizations and return to the Board of Supervisors with suggestions on how the County may assist the Veteran Organizations in establishing their goal of creating a more formal organization as well as identifying their facility needs.

DISCUSSION:

On March 6, 2012 the Board of Supervisors during a Public Hearing ordered the formation of the Stanislaus County Veterans Memorial District and the election of the members of the first board of directors to be placed on the Presidential Primary Election on June 5, 2012.

Since that Public Hearing, the Veterans Organization requested to meet with County staff to better understand the implications of the formation of the Veterans Memorial District and associated costs to Stanislaus County.

Chief Executive Office staff along with staff from County Counsel and Area Agency on Aging – Veterans' Services met with a few of the Veterans who sponsored gathering the signatures for the petition to form the Veterans Memorial District. At that meeting the Veterans asked for clarification of the California Military & Veterans Code as well as other potential solutions that would allow them to create a district and obtain a meeting place. The County provided information to the Veterans for their meeting the following day with the larger veteran group.

The following day, on Friday, March 9, 2012 the Veterans Organization met to discuss potential implications as to the formation of the Veterans Memorial District. Invited to join the meeting was the Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer and County Counsel. At that meeting it was expressed that the Veterans now understand that the formation of the Veterans Memorial District will create a tremendous financial burden on the citizens of Stanislaus County. They discussed that their desire is to have a place where they could meet as well as consolidate veteran services.

Attached is a letter dated March 9, 2012 that was presented to the Chief Executive Officer at the above mentioned meeting. In the letter the Veterans Organization that sponsored the petition to form the Memorial District requests the Board of Supervisors to withdraw the request to form a veterans memorial district, and to form a local

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Page 3

Stanislaus County Veterans Commission of which they would be an advocate on behalf of all Veterans. (Attachment A)

The goal is that together the Veterans Organization along with County staff will work toward a solution that will meet everyone's needs and together, bring those recommendations back to the Board of Supervisors.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Board of Supervisors is asked to consider whether this request is consistent with the Board's priorities of ensuring Effective Partnerships, Efficient Delivery of Public Services and A Healthy Community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Stanislaus County staff from the Chief Executive Office, County Counsel and Area Agency on Aging – Veterans' Services will continue to work with the Veterans Organization to develop a plan that establishes their goal of creating a more formal organization as well as identifying their facility needs.

CONTACT: Monica Nino, Chief Executive Officer

209-525-6333

MARCH 9, 2012


We are hereby requesting that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors withdraw our request to form a Veterans Memorial District.

We understand that the formation of such District will be a tremendous financial burden on the citizens of Stanislaus County at this time.

We would like to request that instead of a District, the Board of Supervisors form a local Stanislaus County Veterans Commission. The Commission's role will be to advocate on behalf of all Veterans and to facilitate the coordination, and where feasible the consolidation, of Veterans services.

Thank you for your consideration and support, of the Veterans of Stanislaus County.

Sincerely,

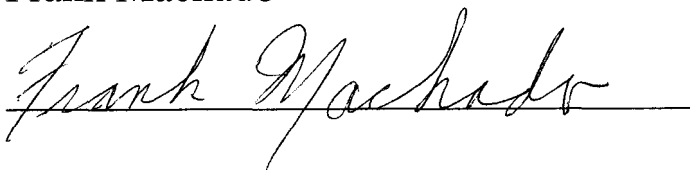


Richard Edgecomb



Larry Johnson

Frank Machado



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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE