

**PLACER COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Clark Moots, Director of Administrative Services
Jerry Gamez, IT Division Manager
DATE: March 6, 2007
SUBJECT: Demonstration of Board Streaming Video Solution via the Internet

ACTION REQUESTED

View staff's demonstration of the Placer County Board of Supervisors Streaming Video Solution via the Internet.

BACKGROUND

As a means of displaying a new technology that gives greater offsite public access to your Board's meetings, we ask that you review a demonstration today. The Administrative Services Department (Department) maintains an extensive and technically sophisticated video broadcasting system that supports the production of the County's Board of Supervisors bi-weekly meetings. These taped meetings are distributed to the local cable access stations for rebroadcast over the local cable television systems. Currently, only cable television subscribers within Placer County have access to these videotaped meetings.

On December 1, 2006, the Department launched a "Pilot" streaming video project that expanded the availability of your Board's meetings to Placer County citizens, businesses, and government agencies "live" over the Internet. Board meetings were made accessible through the County's web site on demand 24-hours a day, seven days per week. Documents including staff reports, agendas and minutes were also made available through the County's web site.

Many government agencies are now presenting and archiving their public meetings online and using streaming video solutions as a convenient and cost effective solution for residents who have a desire to get involved in local government and hear directly from their elected leaders about matters that are of importance to them.

The Department conducted extensive research over a period of two years to identify a viable solution to deliver these meetings live over the Internet and concluded that it would be cost prohibitive to host these services internally. The Department has contracted with Granicus, Inc., a San Francisco based firm that specializes in hosting streaming video solutions for local government agencies. In California, the number of government agencies utilizing this streaming video solution is over 100 including the City of Roseville and Sacramento County.

The streaming video solution includes a searchable archives feature that allows a section of any meeting to be retrieved at anytime using a simple keyword search for up to one year from the date of meetings. In addition to airing Board of Supervisor meetings, this streaming video solution is available to broadcast special workshops, public service announcements, training videos, and informational videos.

FISCAL IMPACT

The one-time cost associated with these services is \$32,686.10 and the annual managed services costs are \$15,600. The Department has budgeted appropriately for these services in their FY06/07 Budget.

REQUESTED ACTION

The streaming video solution will greatly improve internal and external access to Placer County's public meetings far beyond what can be provided through our current cable television providers. It is requested that your Board view staff's presentation of the Placer County Board of Supervisors Streaming Video Solution via the Internet.

cc: Tom Miller, County Executive Officer
Rich Colwell, Chief Assistant County Executive Officer
Holly Heinzen, Assistant County Executive Officer
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer
Candi McCord, Deputy Director of Administrative Services
Ron Baker, Senior Administrative Services Officer