



MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Boesch, Placer County Executive Officer
By: Bekki Riggan, Principal Management Analyst

DATE: August 20, 2013

SUBJECT: 2012-13 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Veteran’s Memorial Halls –
Board of Supervisors Response

Action Requested

Authorize the Chairman to sign a letter in response to the Placer County Grand Jury’s 2012-13 Final Report on the Placer County Veteran’s Memorial Halls.

Background

The 2012-13 Grand Jury received a complaint from a citizen of Placer County, alleging that the Placer County Board of Supervisors and Facility Services Department are not in compliance with Chapter 2 of Placer County Code and claiming that each Veterans Memorial Hall Board of Trustees is not allowed to manage their respective veteran’s hall. Concerns were related to maintenance scheduling, rental agreements, changes in maintenance and janitorial services as well as a perception of misinformation on the part of Facility Services.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors and Facility Services were asked to provide responses to the Grand Jury report. In collaboration with County departments, County Executive Office staff prepared a response on the behalf of the Board of Supervisors, which is subject to your approval today. Upon approval by your Board, the Board’s response will be provided to the Presiding Judge of the Placer County Superior Court and to the Placer County Grand Jury.

The Grand Jury determined that the handling of Hall calendars appears to be efficient and adequate. The scheduling conflict mentioned in the citizen complaint appears to be an isolated incident, and does not appear to be an ongoing issue. Facility Services was also found to be in compliance with Section 2.82 of Placer County Code.

The Grand Jury recommends that Facility Services take the initiative to inform the Hall Board of Trustees of the operational procedures now in place. They also recommend that the heating and cooling system at the Auburn Memorial Hall be evaluated to insure its adequacy for the facility.

Board of Supervisors Response

Details of the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations are included within the response letter attached. To summarize, the letter states that the Board of Supervisors agrees in general with the Grand Jury's findings related to the Placer County Veterans' Memorial Halls. The Board of Supervisors supports a more effective exchange of information between the Hall Board of Trustees and Facility Services and the continued monitoring of the newly installed system to ensure the heating and cooling needs at the Auburn Memorial Hall are addressed.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this response to the Grand Jury report.

Attachments: Board of Supervisors 2012-13 Grand Jury Response to: *Placer County Veteran's Memorial Halls*

County of Placer Board of Supervisors

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August 20, 2013

Alan V. Pineschi, Presiding Judge
Placer County Superior Court
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: 2012-13 Grand Jury Final Report – *Placer County Veterans Memorial Halls*

Dear Judge Pineschi,

This letter is in response to the 2012-13 Grand Jury's Findings & Recommendations from the report titled *Placer County Veterans Memorial Halls*. The Placer County Board of Supervisors would like to thank the members of the 2012-13 Grand Jury for their efforts associated with the Placer County Veterans Memorial Hall review.

Findings of the Grand Jury

1. Budgets are allocated by the Board of Supervisors based on the County's cost to provide the services. These budgets account for the overhead. When the Hall Board of Trustees is presented with the Hall's operating cost versus revenue reports by the County they see costs that are fully burdened with the overhead costs. These costs may seem to be excessive relative to the cost of the dedicated resources that previously performed the task as a part of their duties. No monies are taken from the Hall Groups.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors partially agrees with this finding. The reports that Facility Services have provided to the Grand Jury include the full costs of providing services, including appropriate overhead. However, since those reports were reviewed, labor costs have been reduced and overhead is less than previously reported.

2. The Grand Jury determined that the handling of the Hall calendars is centralized in Facility Services and is efficient and adequate. The calendars are online and available to the Hall Board of Trustees and were observed posted in the Halls we visited. Hall Boards identify non-recurring meetings on an annual basis. During monthly Hall Board of Trustee meetings the Board of Trustees can make requests for sponsored non-recurring events, and negotiate reduced rental rates up to 50% as defined in 2.82.120 of the Placer County Code. Non-veteran sponsored events are requested through Facility Services. Conflicts are always resolved giving the veteran event priority.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

3. The schedule conflict mentioned in the complaint was, perhaps, a one-time issue. In our interviews no one perceived it as an ongoing problem.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

4. The Grand Jury did not identify any misinformation by Facility Services. The issue here is a lack of open communications at the monthly Board of Trustees meetings at the Halls. None of the people interviewed could identify a specific example of misinformation on the part of Facility Services.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

5. The Grand Jury found that Facility Services is performing at a very good level and is compliant with the intent of Section 2.82 of the Placer County Code.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

6. As a result of the deferred maintenance program the quality and frequency of maintenance and janitorial service to the halls had been less than the dedicated services previously provided.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

7. The heating and cooling system of the Auburn Memorial Hall was noted to be far from adequate during our interviews.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with this finding.

Recommendations of the Grand Jury

1. The Grand Jury recommends that Facility Services take the initiative to inform the Hall Board of Trustees of the operational procedures that are now in place.

Board of Supervisors Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The Board will continue to work with Facility Services to ensure that the Board of Trustees for the Halls is informed of all initiatives and operational procedures.

2. The Grand Jury recommends the heating and cooling system of the Auburn Memorial Hall be evaluated to determine its adequacy for the facility.

Board of Supervisors Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Facility Services has relocated and replaced higher capacity cooling heads along with installation of an additional cooling head. The Board will continue to monitor this issue to ensure that the newly installed system is adequate for the facility.

The Board of Supervisors appreciates the work of the 2012-13 Placer County Grand Jury in their report regarding the Placer County Veterans Memorial Halls.

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER

Jim Holmes, Chairman (District 3)
Placer County Board of Supervisors

cc: Albert Erkel, Grand Jury Foreman
Placer County Board of Supervisors
David Boesch, Placer County Executive Officer
Jonn Melrose, Veterans Services Officer
Mary Dietrich, Facility Services Director

