



Date: April 30, 2008 for May 7th Agenda
From: Patrick M. McCormick, Executive Officer
To: Commissioners
Subject: Logistics for Public Hearing on Proposal to Form a Fire Protection District in Bonny Doon

Summary: The Commission has received application No. 913 to form a fire protection district in Bonny Doon and to detach Bonny Doon from County Service Area 48, which funds the current County emergency response contract with Cal Fire.

Recommendation: The Commission should discuss and give direction to staff regarding the date, location, and other logistics for holding the public hearing on the proposal.

In October 2006, a group of Bonny Doon residents filed a petition and application (No. 913) with LAFCO to form a fire protection district in Bonny Doon and to detach Bonny Doon from County Service Area 48 (County Fire). The County Elections Department has verified the petition, and the LAFCO staff has conducted research and hosted negotiations regarding the proposal. The staff is approaching a point that the staff report can be completed with less than a month's work. State law requires the Commission to conduct a noticed public hearing on governmental agency reorganization proposals. The Commission, rather than staff, customarily sets public hearings for major applications. I am writing to request the Commission to set the hearing date and to specify any other significant logistics for the hearing.

In order to meet the noticing requirements, the earliest the public hearing could occur would be June 4, 2008, which is currently scheduled for a regular LAFCO meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room. Since the applicants expect attendance in excess of that meeting room's capacity, LAFCO staff has located a room with a larger capacity (450 people) that is available during the afternoon of Friday, June 6:

- Friday, June 6, 2008
- 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- First Congregational Church
- 900 High Street
- Santa Cruz.

The proponents do not want the public hearing to occur in the summer since they believe that many interested people will not be able to attend. Also, it is difficult in the summer for all the LAFCO Commissioners to attend a meeting due to differing budget and vacation schedules. Therefore, the staff requests the Commission to either set the hearing for June 6th at 1:30 p.m. or for a date, or range of dates, in mid-September to mid-October.

cc: Tom Scully, Bonny Doon Fire and Rescue
County Administrative Officer
County Director of General Services
County Fire Department Advisory Commission
County/CalFire Chief Ferreira
Davenport/North Coast Association