COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL

(1) DEPARTMENT	(2) MEETING DATE	(3) CONTACT/PHONE
Auditor-Controller	July 27, 2010	Gere Sibbach, 781-5040

(4) SUBJECT
Response to the Grand Jury Report titled
"Your Property Tax Bill: The Devil is in the Details – But There are No Details".

(5) SUMMARY OF REQUEST
The Grand Jury released a report entitled "Your Property Tax Bill: The Devil is in the Details – But There are No Details". The Grand Jury found that information concerning detailed breakdown of property tax allocation is not printed on individual tax bills and recommended that the breakdown be printed and also available on a web page. The findings and recommendations were directed to the Auditor-Controller and to the Treasurer-Tax Collector. The Board of Supervisors is not required to respond. This item is provided for your Board's information only.

The Auditor and Tax Collector do not intend to implement the Grand Jury's recommendations. They believe that the cost of modifying the current computer system would outweigh the public benefit. The Auditor and Tax Collector suggest that at such time as a more modern property tax system is implemented, a review of the distribution breakdown information provided for taxpayers would be appropriate.

(6) RECOMMENDED ACTION
That your Board receive and file the attached combined response by the Auditor-Controller and the Treasurer-Tax Collector to the 2009-10 San Luis Obispo Grand Jury Report concerning printing of property tax bills.

(7) FUNDING SOURCE(S)	(8) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT	(9) ANNUAL COST	(10) BUDGETED?
N/A	N/A	N/A	☐ No ☐ Yes ☒ N/A

(11) OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT (LIST):
None

(12) WILL REQUEST REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF? ☒ No ☐ Yes, How Many? _______
☐ Permanent _____ ☐ Limited Term ____ ☐ Contract _____ ☐ Temporary Help _____

(13) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)	(14) LOCATION MAP	(15) Maddy Act Appointments Signed-off by Clerk of the Board
☐ 1st, ☐ 2nd, ☐ 3rd, ☐ 4th, ☐ 5th, ☒ All	☐ Attached ☒ N/A	☒ N/A

(16) AGENDA PLACEMENT	(17) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS
☒ Consent ☐ Hearing (Time Est. __________) ☐ Presentation ☐ Board Business (Time Est.________)	☐ Resolutions (Orig) ☐ Contracts (Orig + 3 Copies) ☐ Ordinances (Orig) ☒ N/A ☐ Email Resolution and Ordinance to CR_Board_Clerk (in Word)

(18) NEED EXTRA EXECUTED COPIES?	(19) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?
☐ Number: ___________ ☐ Attached ☒ N/A	☐ Submitted ☐ 4/5th's Vote Required ☒ N/A

(20) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)	(21) W-9	(22) Agenda Item History
____________________	☒ No ☐ Yes	☒ N/A Date _______________

(23) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW

Natalie Schmidt JNG

Rev. 6-09

County of San Luis Obispo
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GERE W. SIBBACH, CPA
JAMES P. ERB, CPA,
Assistant
LYDIA CORR, CPA, *Deputy*
JAMES HAMILTON, CPA, *Deputy*

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FROM: GERE SIBBACH, AUDITOR-CONTROLLER GWS
DATE: JULY 27, 2010
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT TITLED: "YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL: THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS-BUT THERE ARE NO DETAILS"

RECOMMENDATION:
That your Board receive and file the attached combined response by the Auditor-Controller and the Treasurer-Tax Collector to the 2009-10 San Luis Obispo Grand Jury Report concerning printing of property tax bills.

DISCUSSION:
The Grand Jury released a report entitled "Your Property Tax Bill: The Devil is in the Details – But There are No Details". The Grand Jury found that information concerning detailed breakdown of property tax allocation is not printed on individual tax bills and recommended that the breakdown be printed and also available on a web page. The report's findings and recommendations were directed to the Auditor-Controller and to the Treasurer-Tax Collector. The Board of Supervisors is not required to respond. This item is provided for your Board's information only. See attached.

The Auditor and Tax Collector agreed with the finding that the bills do not include a breakdown of the 1% Proposition 13 tax amount, but point out that the current bill format meets all known legal mandates. They also believe that no other California County provides this level of detail on their printed tax bills. They do not intend to implement the recommendations that the bills be modified, believing that the cost of making such a change would outweigh public benefit.

Further, while the County's Information Technology Strategic Plan has called for replacement of the current mainframe based property tax system since 2002, a cost-effective replacement system has not yet been identified or funded. The Auditor and Tax Collector suggest that at such time as a more modern property tax system is implemented, a review of the distribution breakdown information provided for taxpayers would be appropriate.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:
None

RESULTS:
The combined response fulfills all obligations under Penal Code Section 933.