



OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

DAVID W. MOELLER
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES
DIRECTOR, MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL

January 24, 2002

Agenda: February 5, 2002

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Adopt Resolution Approving Addition of Limited Term Agricultural Biologist Aide to Agricultural Commissioner Budget Unit 103210

Dear Members of the Board:

On January 14 your Board approved our workplan for Glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS) and authorized the Agricultural Commissioner to submit the workplan to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). In a letter dated January 24, 2002, CDFA has confirmed their intent to enter into a contract with us for FY 2001-02. They have reviewed and approved our workplan and budget for an amount not to exceed \$132,478. The official contract will be mailed to us upon completion by CDFA contracts office.

During budget hearings, your Board approved two limited term Agricultural Biologist Aides for 16 pay periods each in Budget Unit 103210 to work in the GWSS program. It was quickly apparent last spring that there was too much work to be done with only two staff members during peak season; permanent staff members were unable to provide adequate assistance due to other program needs. We hired a third Agricultural Biologist Aide in an extra help capacity to assist with the GWSS inspections. The number of shipments we receive during the winter months is still too high to inspect using permanent staff. The appointment term for the limited term staff expired early in November, and will resume in April. We retained the extra help employee to perform the GWSS inspections over the winter; he has reached the 999 hour maximum allowed for extra help employees.

Evaluation of the time required for inspection of plant shipments, traps, nurseries, vineyards, and newly landscaped developments in the county makes it clear that we need three Agricultural Biologist Aides during the peak season. The budget approved by CDFA contains sufficient funding for FY 2001-2002 to pay for the extra help employee and for three Agricultural Biologist Aides for the upcoming spring season. Money expended for salaries and benefits in the GWSS program is fully reimbursed by CDFA through this contract, and results in no increase in net county cost.

Resolution Adding Agricultural Biologist Aide
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It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:

Adopt a Resolution approving the addition of one Agricultural Biologist Aide (limited term) to Budget Unit 103210 for 9 ½ pay periods beginning February 16, 2002.


Sincerely,

d W. Moeller

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David W. Moeller
Agricultural Commissioner

Approved:



SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER