

**San Benito County Grand Jury
2011-2012**

**SAN BENITO COUNTY
GRAND JURY
FINAL REPORT
2011-2012**



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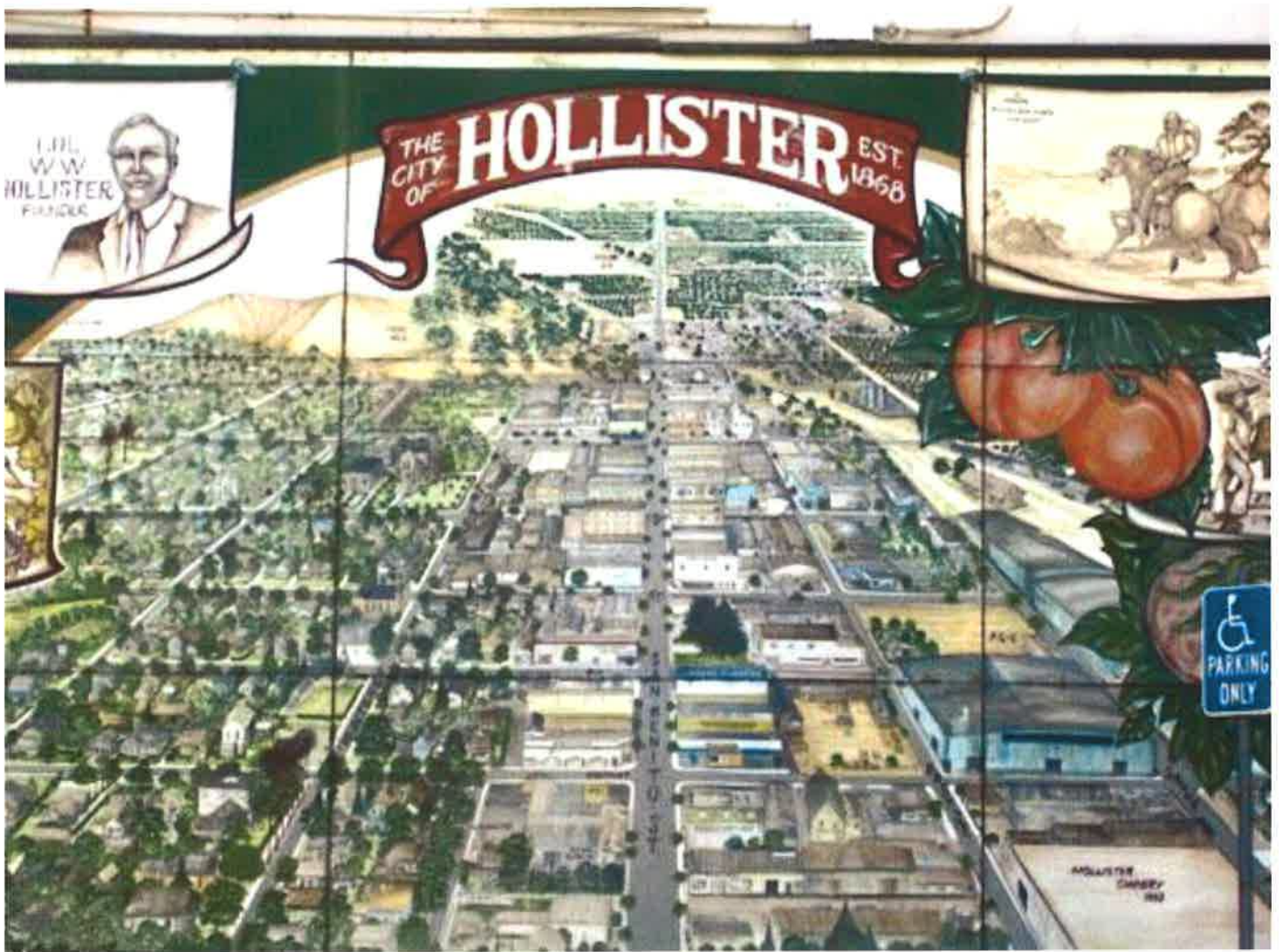
Don Dixon Sr.

Date:

7/20/12

**Don Dixon Sr., Foreperson
2011-2012 San Benito County Civil Grand Jury**

San Benito County Grand Jury
2011-2012



* Source: thisthat-herethere.com 1mural.jpg

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Foreperson Letter

Greetings from the 2011-2012 San Benito County Grand Jury; another year has come to a close. In trying to describe the year, the Chinese curse "May you live in interesting times" seemed perversely appropriate. It is – interesting -- that Stockton recently became the largest U.S. city in history to file for bankruptcy on June 28th, and San Bernardino will probably do the same very soon. This is relevant to San Benito County because Stockton and San Bernardino represents every city and county in the state of California to some degree. All are struggling to put their financial house in order. Hollister, San Juan Bautista, and San Benito County are no exception.

All need to make hard choices in the future in order to balance their respective budgets. As a community, we need to help shape and influence this process. We need to define what services we deem necessary and provide funding on a sustainable basis. County and City residents need to make their voices heard.

In November 2012, Hollister residents will be given an opportunity to do just that when they cast their vote -- for or against -- an extension to Measure T. The Grand Jury has outlined several facts for consideration, and we urge residents to participate in the discussion, understand the issues, and examine the consequences of a yes or no vote.

On a more personal level, Grand Jury members are citizens of San Benito County. They may be your neighbor or the person down the street. Members come from every walk of life; and give their time because they believe they can make a difference in the community. As a group, they are the civil watchdogs of the County, City, and Special Districts. Their job is to ensure that the best interests of San Benito County citizens are being served. To do this, the Grand Jury reviews all aspects of local government.

The San Benito Grand Jury is divided into several subcommittees; Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), Cities and Special Districts, Law and Justice, and County. Each committee spends an enormous amount of time looking into how things are done; not so much looking for something wrong, but looking for ways to make things better.

The Grand Jury also reviews citizen complaints. This year, the Grand Jury turned over one such complaint to the District Attorney to investigate allegations of fraud. All other complaints have been resolved and are reviewed in this document.

Throughout the year, the Grand Jury has interviewed County and City officials to better understand the issues facing the community. The Law and Justice committee toured the County Jail and the Juvenile Detention Center. The County committee studied the land fill site for efficiency and its economic contribution. The HEW Committee set foot in every school in San Benito County (from Aromas to Bitterwater).

In closing, please take the time to read each report and remember this is your County. We need to work together to make it a better place to live, work, and raise our families. And lastly, if you are interested in serving your community as a member of the Grand Jury, please review the final pages of this report for more information.

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Respectfully Submitted,
Don Dixon Sr.
Foreman 2011-2012
San Benito County Grand Jury

2011-2012 San Benito County Grand Jury Members

Don Dixon Sr., Foreperson
Jwanita Alexander, Pro-Tem
Michael Alcorn
Gary F. Anderson
Arthur Bliss
Linda Buckhout
Josie Gallegos
Connie Gray
Richard Gray
Laurie Grice
Susan Killian
John A. Lemos
Joe Nunes
Terry McLean

Response Required

A response is required to the reports herein within the time limits and form as prescribed by California Penal Code §933. Relevant paragraphs from Section 933 are quoted below for respondents' guidance.

Time Limits for Responses

California Penal Code 933(c) requires that:

No later than 90 days after the Grand Jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority, the governing body, and every elected county officer or pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body, and every elected county officer or pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body, and every elected county officer or agency head for which the Grand jury has responsibility pursuant to Section 914.1, shall comment within 60 days to the presiding Judge of Superior Court, with an information copy to the Board of Supervisors, on the finding and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of that county officer or agency head and any agency or agencies which that officer or agency head supervises or controls. In any city and county, the Mayor shall also comment on the findings and recommendations. All of these comments and reports shall forthwith be submitted to the presiding Judge of the Superior Court who impaneled the Grand Jury. A copy of all responses to Grand Jury reports shall be placed on file with the clerk of the public agency and the office of the County Clerk, or with the Mayor when applicable, and shall remain on file in those offices. One copy shall be placed on file with the applicable Grand Jury final report by, and in the control of the currently impaneled Grand Jury, where it shall be maintained for a minimum of five years.

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Form of Responses

California Penal Code 933.03 requires that:

(a) For the purpose of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each Grand Jury finding, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:

- (1) The respondent agrees with the findings.
- (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.

(b) For the purpose of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each Grand Jury recommendation, the responding person or entity shall report one the following actions:

- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding implemented action.
- (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, (with a timeframe for implementation).
- (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury report.
- (4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefore.

Report Distribution Dates

The San Benito County Jail Review (Distributed electronically)

Responses due:

- * San Benito County Sheriff's Office (response required within 60 days).
- * San Benito County Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days).

San Benito County Juvenile Hall Review (Distributed electronically)

Responses due:

- * San Benito County Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days).

Courtesy copy:

- * Courtesy Copy has been delivered to San Benito County Probation Department

Inspection of the Hollister Police Department (Distributed electronically)

Responses due:

- * Hollister City Council (response required within 90 days)

Courtesy copy:

- * Hollister Police Department
- * San Benito County Health Department

San Benito High School (Distributed electronically)

Responses due:

- * San Benito High School District, Board of Trustees (response required within 90 days)

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* San Benito County Office of Education, Board of Trustees (response required within 90 days)

County (Distributed electronically)

Responses due:

* San Benito County Office Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days)

Send Your Responses To:

Honorable Harry J. Tobias, Presiding Judge
San Benito County Superior Court
440 Fifth Street, Room 205
Hollister, CA 95023

City of Hollister: Measure T – Prepare for the Future
(Source: 2010-2011 GJ Report)

Measure T was approved in November 2007. This increased the sales tax of the City of Hollister by 1%. The sales tax increase was approved for five years to help offset the cost of police, fire and city workers. The measure passed with 66% of the vote and went into effect April 1, 2008. The one-cent sales tax is scheduled to expire March 31, 2013.

Measure T provides roughly \$3 million in revenues to city coffers each year. This accounts for more than 20% of the city's annual \$14 million general fund budget [1]. According to the Measure T Report for fiscal year 2008-2009, prepared by the Measure T Citizens Oversight Committee, "All appropriations from Measure T revenues will be toward the restoration and enhancement of services within the Police Department, Fire Department, Community Services and Administration. The surplus will go toward the City's FY General Fund deficit [2]".

Unfortunately, the recession trickled down to local budgets and tax revenues declined. The City was forced to shift Measure T funds disproportionately towards deficit reduction. Unless the economy performs significantly better than current projections, a Measure T extension may be placed on the ballot in 2012 for voter approval.

The Grand Jury is not an advocate for or against an extension. The Grand Jury simply believes that it is prudent to encourage residents to prepare for the future and examine the consequences of such a vote. There are many arguments to consider. Is an extension economically viable? Can we maintain our quality of life and safety-net services without an extension? In either case, the stakes are high. This issue is simply too important to ignore. Other solutions may present themselves between now and then, but if a vote is required in 2012, do so after a careful review of the facts.

[1] The Weekend Pinnacle Online, <http://www.pinnaclenews.com/>, City budget outlook murky at mid-year review, 3/11/2011, by Adam Breen

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[2] <http://hollister.ca.gov/site/Documents/CitizenOversightCommittee.pdf>

City of Hollister: Measure T – The Future is Now

(2011-2012 GJ Report)

Last year, the 2010-2011 Grand Jury encouraged residents to “Prepare for the Future”. In this future, City residents are asked to judge the merits of an extension to the Measure T sales tax. This has come to pass – and – the future is now. The Hollister City Council has officially placed an extension on the November (2012) ballot.

If the extension does not pass, Measure T will sunset on March 31, 2013. As a contingency, the City has developed austerity plans in case the tax initiative does not pass a renewal vote. The issues linked to the extension, as perceived by the Grand Jury, are discussed below for public comment and review. This is meant to be a non-partisan review of the facts.

The City of Hollister is experiencing a severe financial and an impending cash flow problem. The persistent instability in the financial markets and erosion in global liquidity is a major problem for the City.

For instance, foreclosures continue to be a factor. At one time the City was the second worst City in the State of California for foreclosures based on estimates from Realtytrac.com. In 2011, 1 in every 148 housing units received a foreclosure filing.

San Benito County’s unemployment rate was 15.7% for June 2011 per the Bureau of labor Statistics. The unemployment rate has been as high as 22.9% in 2011, well above the National average of 9.7% reported during the same period.

In addition, the State of California has significantly delayed or reduced cash reimbursements to the City and forced the closure of the Redevelopment Agency. As a result, the City is expecting a \$3.5 million budget shortfall in tax revenues and interest earnings by fiscal year 2013-2014.

A broad array of actions have been taken by the City to ensure sufficient liquidity in the interim, but budget shortfalls will likely reduce the City General Fund to near zero by fiscal year 2013-14. The City has adjusted to this reality by curtailing spending and deferring capital projects. Unfortunately, these measures cannot keep pace with the sharp drop in tax and other discretionary revenue. This creates a structural deficit which is expected to continue due to the weak economic recovery.

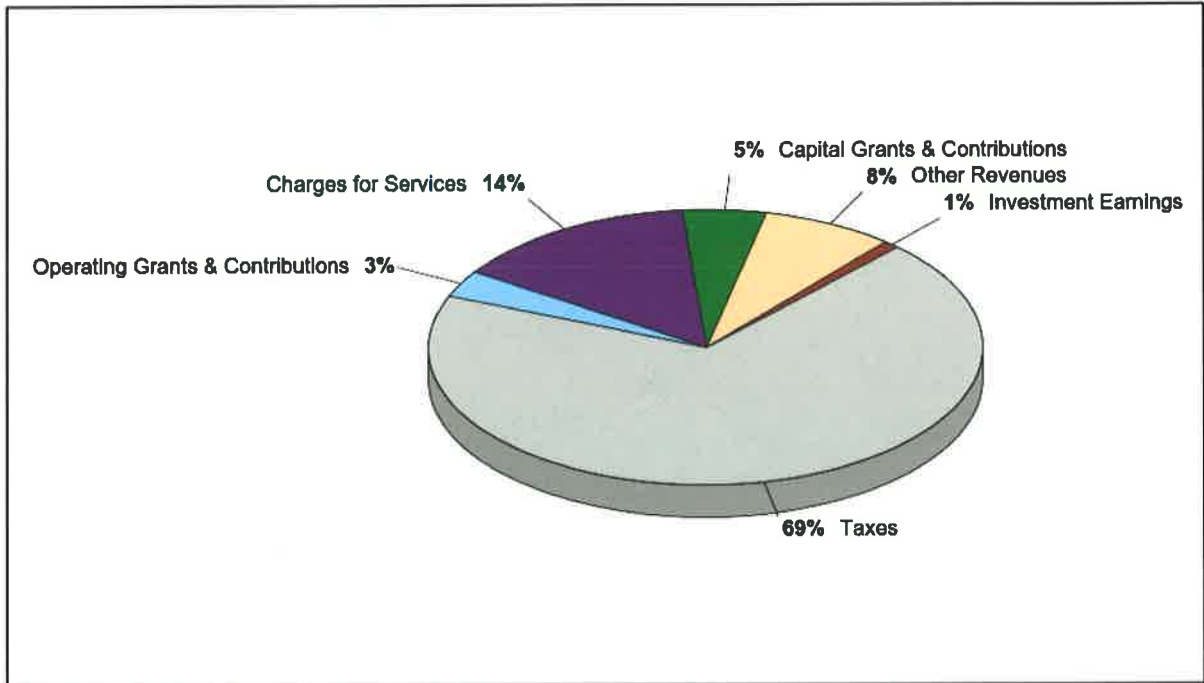
To put this in perspective, think of the City as a service organization that must maintain a balanced budget. Hard choices will need to be made to bring the budget into balance. This will significantly impact important services, City residents, and City employees.

In the pie-chart below, sixty-nine (69%) of the City’s revenue was collected from both sales and property taxes in 2011*. Thus, as tax receipts decline, services reductions are inevitable.

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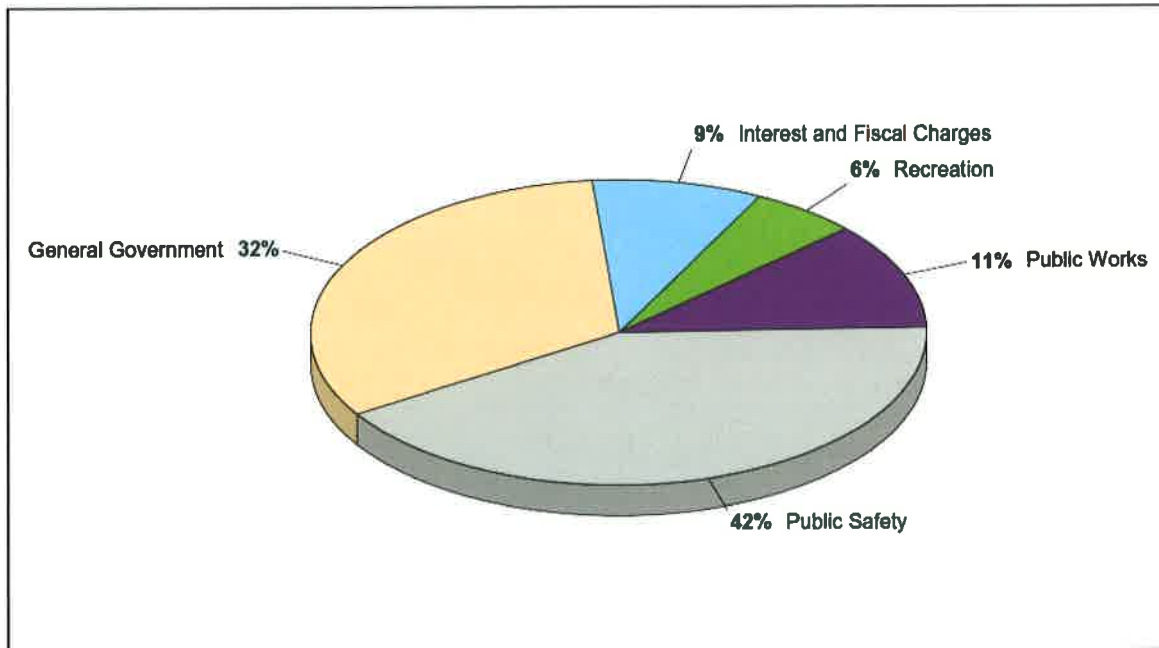
Sources of Revenues

Governmental Activities



Functional Expenses

Governmental Activities



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*Source: City of Hollister, December 2011 City Council Retreat

On the other side of the ledger, forty-two (42%) of the functional expense in 2011 was assigned to public safety. If services reductions are needed, public safety will be hard pressed to escape the budget axe.

The austerity plans outlined in the "City of Hollister December 2011 City Council Retreat" illustrate this correlation in terms of police and fire reductions through 2015. Positions in all departments will be affected in order to balance the budget, but safety programs, due to their relative contribution to the functional expense, may experience significant reductions.

Given the state of the economy, an extension to Measure T will be a controversial issue. The City desperately needs the income from the sales tax extension, but voters may not want to tax themselves -- yet again -- for another temporary extension in order to maintain current services levels. Many residents remember that once Measure T was approved in 2007, the City immediately approved retroactive, current, and future pay raises for existing employees. The pay raises did not fully materialize due to the stagnant economy; but for many residents, this violated a public trust, and this is still an issue today.

In closing, hard choices will need to be made in order to bring the budget into balance. Our community needs to define what services we require, their respective priorities, and the funding sources to maintain them on a sustainable basis. Conceptually, this seems simple; but in reality, it is very difficult to do. Some may perceive this as an ideological debate, with austerity and sacrifice on one side, versus growth and investment on the other. The truth probably lies somewhere in the middle, but may require compromise to find and implement. In all likelihood, the City of Hollister will face difficult fiscal challenges even if the extension to Measure T becomes a reality, but the impact to city services will be far less severe. If the extension is not approved, the City will not be able to avoid significant and deep cuts to services. The reserve funds have been depleted. There are no more tricks or short term gimmicks. The budget needs to be in balance. We can no longer rely on smoke and mirrors to get the job done. Hard choices need to be made and soon.

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San Benito County Sheriff – 2011 Annual Report Overview

The Grand Jury voted to include sections of the “San Benito County Sheriff – 2011 Annual Report Overview”. The report was redacted to present information the Grand Jury deemed important for county residents.

California Constitution Article 13, section 35(a2):

The protection of the public safety is the first responsibility of local government and local officials have an obligation to give priority to the provision of adequate public safety services.



San Benito County Sheriff's Office
451 Fourth Street
Hollister, California 95023
831-636-4080 www.sbcsheriff.org

2011 ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW

Presented by
San Benito County Sheriff's Office

Darren Thompson
Sheriff—Coroner

San Benito County Sheriff's Office
451 Fourth Street
Hollister, CA 95023
831-636-4080 www.sbcsheriff.org

Mission Statement:

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To serve the public by establishing a partnership with the community; to protect life and property, prevent crime, and solve problems.

The Sheriff's Office is mandated by law to provide the following services to the entire county (including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista):

- Civil process and court document service
- C.L.E.T.S. access for all local law enforcement agencies
- Court security and bailiff service
- Coroner duties
- Corrections - Jail services and inmate transportation
- Community - Office of emergency service operations
- Community - Search & Rescue

The Sheriff's Office also provides the following services to the entire county (including the cities of Hollister and San Juan Bautista):

- Canine (K-9) support for all county law enforcement agencies
- Narcotic task force coordination (UNET)
- Patrol & law enforcement of unincorporated areas and contract cities
- Radio infrastructure for the public safety communications system
- School Resource Officers

Civil Authority

Government Code section 26608 Duty to Serve Process and Notices: The sheriff shall serve all process and notices in the manner prescribed by law.

With the elimination of the Marshal's office, the civil service workload was transferred to the Sheriff's Office.

- Civil papers are served by on-duty patrol Deputies as time allows
- The Sheriff's Office does not have personnel dedicated to civil process service.
- Each service takes an average of three attempts before a successful service is complete
- Sheriff's Deputies saw a 300% increase in civil process services with the elimination of the Marshal's Office.

2011 Civil Processes Served

- 202 Evictions
- 378 Summons
- 456 Criminal subpoenas
- 513 Court orders
- 30 Temporary restraining orders
- Total processes served = 1,579

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Deputies made approximately 4,750 attempts to serve the processes, and the income from civil fees for 2011 = \$35,000. Deputies spend time in the city of Hollister serving civil processes which takes away from the time they can spend in their communities (Aromas, Paicines, Tres Pinos, and San Juan Bautista).

Courts Authority

Government Code section 26637. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the sheriff shall provide bailiffing, court security, and prisoner holding in the Superior Court.

Coroner Authority

California Government Code Section 27491:

It shall be the duty of the coroner to investigate the cause of death of any person reported to the coroner as having been killed by violence, or who has suddenly died, or who has committed suicide.

In 2011, 60 Coroner cases were handled, an average of 1.25 per week. The Sheriff assumes coroner duties because San Benito County does not have a dedicated Medical Examiner's office. Coroner cases are investigated by Sheriff's investigators who also handle general criminal and internal investigations. Patrol Deputies handle the preliminary investigation and then notify the on call detectives. Investigators are on call 24 hours per day for coroner cases. The Sheriff/Coroner handles all cases in the entire county including the cities of Hollister, San Juan Bautista, and at the hospitals. San Benito County has a contract with Monterey County for autopsies as the County does not have a dedicated Medical Examiner. Autopsies cost \$2,000 each and 37 autopsies were conducted last year at a cost of \$74,000.

Jail Operations Authority

Health & Safety code section 26605 Jails and Prisoners; Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the sheriff shall take charge of and be the sole and exclusive authority to keep the county jail and the prisoners in it.

County Jail bookings decrease & inmate population increases

- 2009 – 3,040 total bookings – 125 average daily population
- 2010 – 2,893 total bookings (-147) – 126 average daily population (+1)
- 2011 – 2,562 total bookings (-331) - 130 average daily population (+4)

Parolees are spending less time in jail when rearrested due to overcrowding (they are released early)

- 2010 – 364 total parolee days
- 2011 - 325 total parolee days

The number of inmates released early to participate in work-alternative programs has also increased due to overcrowding

- 2010 – 239 inmates released to work alternative programs

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- 2011 – 295 inmates released to work alternative programs

Current staffing:

- One supervisor and 4 correction deputies during the day (6am to 6pm)
- One supervisor and 3 correction deputies at night (6pm to 6am)

Inmate danger potential has increased

- The County jail is now housing several murder suspects and many other violent felons
- State of CA AB 109 (realignment) will bring more inmates from state prison to County jail.

The CA Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) inspection and the 2011 San Benito County Grand Jury report both identified low staffing as a major concern. Supervisors have to perform line functions and are not able to supervise. The inmate to Deputy ratio is 40 to 1 which is unsafe and below state guidelines.

Community impact

The early release of state prisoners combined with the overcrowding condition in our jail puts both the Correctional Deputies and the community at risk. Prisoners frequently return to the community to commit more crimes and sometimes more violent crimes.

Narcotics Enforcement -- Unified Narcotics Enforcement Team (UNET)

- Funding for UNET operations comes from a federal Anti-Drug Agency (ADA) grant
- Funding for Deputy salaries comes from State multijurisdictional methamphetamine enforcement (CALMMET) grant designated for narcotics enforcement only.
- The Sheriff provides 2 deputies for the task force

UNET has made a significant crime impact

- 210 People arrested in 2011
- 65 Weapons seized in 2011
- Drugs with a street value of over \$13 Million were seized in 2011

Community impact

Without grants, the Sheriff's Office would not be able to provide any dedicated level of narcotic enforcement which has a direct impact on the quality of life in the County as the task force is seeing more and more gang members who are selling narcotics on the street

Patrol Operations Authority

Penal Code section 830.1. The authority of a sheriff, undersheriff, and deputy sheriff extends into the employing jurisdiction: As to any public offense committed, or which there is a probable cause to

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believe has been committed within the political subdivision (entire county, including Hollister and San Juan Bautista) which employs said sheriff, undersheriff or deputy sheriff.

2011 calls for service

- Beat 1 – West San Benito County – 2932 calls for service
- Beat 2 – East San Benito County – 7524 Calls for service
- Beat 3 – San Juan Bautista – 1604 calls for service
- Beat 4 – South San Benito County – 308 Calls for service
- Total calls for service = 12,368 which is an average of 34 calls per day.

Deputies spend an average of 32 minutes on each call which equals an average of 18.5 hours per day spent handling calls for service, and this does not include civil process services. Deputies took a total of 1,822 reports in 2011, and patrol deputies self-initiated 980 events in 2011 (i.e. vehicle stop, person stop, etc.)

Average response time, which is directly linked to staffing levels. The goal is an 8 minute response time to priority 1 calls.

Priority 1 calls for service – 9 min 51 sec

Immediate threat to physical safety or an in-progress felony

Priority 2 calls for service – 11 min 52 sec

All other calls for service – 24 min 49 sec

Community policing

In addition to all of the rural areas of the county, Deputies are responsible for law enforcement in the following communities: Aromas, Bitterwater, New Idria, Paicines, Panoche, Tres Pinos, and San Juan Bautista.

Deputies are also responsible for law enforcement in the following neighborhoods:

- Ashford Highlands -- Montebello
- Cielo Vista -- Oak Creek
- Comstock Estates -- Quail Hollow
- Creekbridge -- Rancho Larios
- Dunneville Estates -- Ridgemark
- Four Corners -- River View Estates
- Heatherwood Estates -- Stonegate
- Hidden Valley Union Heights
- Holiday Estates -- Vineyard Estates
- Hollister Ranch Estates

Current staffing

- Day shift team (6am to 6pm) – 1 supervisor & 2 Deputies

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- Night shift team (6pm to 6am) – 1 supervisor, & 2 Deputies

A deputy with K-9 splits time between day and night shift, and K9 support is 7 days per week. Deputies work a 12 hour shift, alternating 4 days per week then 3 days per week. It should be noted that one call can consume an entire patrol team. Other calls have to wait.

- Priority 1 calls = Two Deputies, minimum, more if it's a complex scene with evidence, prisoners, witnesses, etc
- Priority 2 calls – day shift = One Deputy.
- Priority 2 calls – night shift = Two Deputies

If a team member is absent, patrol teams go with one, or sometimes two fewer people. The low staffing can be dangerous as back up help is either not available or a distance away. Sometimes back up can be 10-15 minutes away; however, Hollister PD, CHP and State Park Rangers occasionally respond for back up. Staffing levels in San Benito County is far less than comparable counties in California*

| | County Population | Area—Sq Miles | Sworn staff | Reserves |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|
| Lake | 64,053 | 1,256 | 52 | 1 |
| Tehama | 63,100 | 2,950 | 75 | 10 |
| San Benito | 58,388 | 1,388 | 27** | 3 |
| Tuolumne | 56,086 | 2,220 | 62 | 6 |
| Siskiyou | 46,010 | 6,277 | 80 | 5 |
| Calaveras | 45,870 | 1,020 | 50 | 5 |

Sources: US Census data and California Peace Officer Standards & Training (P.O.S.T.) data

* San Benito County's property tax revenue—which funds public safety—is one of the lowest rates in the State and is based on a formula defined by CA Proposition 13 and CA AB-8 which has not changed since the laws were passed in 1978 and 1979. **San Benito County receives \$0.11 per property tax dollar.**

** 19.5 are funded by the general fund, 7 are funded through grants & contracts, 1 is vacant

Community impact

San Benito County's location between Salinas and Gilroy puts it in the middle of two large gang "hubs" and the crime that goes with it. **San Benito County residents may not receive law enforcement services in the timely manner they demand due to patrol staffing.**

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San Benito County Juvenile Hall Review

Conducted by the Law and Justice Committee

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Summary:

The SBC Juvenile Hall is responsible for providing a safe, secure and healthy environment for minors while they are in temporary custody, or serving a sentence up to 90 days. The Juvenile Hall is a division of the SBC Probation Department. It serves as a temporary detention and treatment facility that houses a young person awaiting a court hearing or release to parents, guardians or other responsible adults.

Purpose of Inquiry:

Each year the GJ performs a state mandated inspection of Juvenile Hall to ensure that it is operating safely, securely and effectively.

Methodology:

A committee of the GJ visited Juvenile Hall and interviewed the on-site staff, chief probation officer and Juvenile Hall Superintendent on September 22, 2011.

Discussion:

The Juvenile Hall review and inspection covered the following areas:

- Juvenile Hall Personnel
- Juvenile Hall Wards
- Food Services
- Medical Services
- Educational Services
- Maintenance Services
- Juvenile Hall Facilities

Details for each of these areas are described in the following sections:

Juvenile Hall Personnel:

The Juvenile Hall (JH) Superintendent is responsible for the daily management and supervision of the JH personnel. JH has a full-time staff of thirteen and a part-time staff of fifteen. Officers work rotating shifts. Detainee's cells are checked every fifteen minutes.

Juvenile Hall Wards:

JH provides housing for young persons from twelve to eighteen years of age. Building capacity is 28. School capacity is 20. Reports indicate that approximately ninety percent of the detainees are there for gang-affiliation, drug use and related issues. The average age is 15-16 years. The average detention is 13-15 days.

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Food Services:

The JH has an attractive, clean, multi-use dining area. The facility contracts with Aramark Food Services to prepare and deliver 3 meals a day to the facility.

Medical Services:

There is a registered nurse on duty from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. JH contracts with a medical provider for assistance at other times.

Educational Services:

JH provides educational instruction and support through the Pinnacle Court School, which is staffed by one teacher, one classroom aide and one JH instructor officer. Students placed on individual learning plans, work at their own pace. They receive four hours of instruction daily, Monday through Friday. The number of students in the classes may vary. Instruction is also provided for special education students.

Maintenance:

There is no maintenance staff; however the JH staff and residents voluntarily assume responsibility for on-going maintenance, repairs and daily janitorial duties.

Juvenile Hall Facilities:

The JH includes an intake area, day room, school room, administrative offices, laundry room, storage area, and courtroom. The overall appearance is clean, neat, up-dated, spacious and youth-friendly. Signage on Highway 25, and at the entrance, is easily visible and attractive. There is a metal detector in place. They have a check in and out system so the residents are responsible for keeping their room clean. The computer system has been upgraded. There is also a movie night.

Findings:

F1. The JH was found to be operating in a safe, secure and effective manner. Staff members are exceptionally caring, involved and committed.

F2. Ongoing maintenance and daily janitorial tasks are performed by residents and staff.

F3. The JH continues to offer limited rehabilitative treatment programs.

F4. Two videos developed by the facility, staff and SBHS students – one for the purpose of orientating parents, and residents, and another for sentencing/reporting, have received state awards and the models are being used by other juvenile hall facilities.

F5. JH is currently providing on-site open houses for the community.

F6. Facility staff conducts parenting classes at the Presbyterian Church.

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F7. A Community Advisory Board has been established.

Recommendations:

None

Response Required

The California Penal Code 933 (c) and 933.03 requires a response to the findings and recommendations made in this final report be delivered to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. The following affected agency shall respond to all relevant findings and recommendations. The affected agencies are:

- San Benito County Probation Office (response required within 60 days)
- San Benito County Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days)

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The San Benito County Jail Review

Conducted by the Law and Justice Committee

Summary:

The San Benito County jail is responsible for providing a safe, secure and healthy environment for men and women (18 and above) who are detained at the facility located at 710 Flynn Road, Hollister, CA 95023. The jail is a division of the San Benito County Sheriff's Office. It serves as a detention and treatment facility for inmates waiting for their arraignments, having their cases tried in court, or serving their sentences. The capacity of the jail, determined by inmate/staff ratio is 145 beds. At the time of our visit, the jail housed 142 inmates. The annual budget for the jail is 2 million dollars.

Purpose of Inquiry:

Every year the Grand Jury performs a state mandated inspection of the San Benito County Jail to ensure that it is operating safely, securely and effectively.

Methodology:

The Law and Justice Committee of the Grand Jury toured the San Benito County Jail and interviewed on the site staff on September 22, 2011.

Discussion:

The jail review and inspection covered the following areas:

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- Jail Personnel
- Inmates
- Food Services
- Medical Services
- Support Services
- Maintenance Services
- Jail Facilities

Details for each of these areas are described in the following sections:

Jail Personnel:

The Jail is staffed by one administrator, 4 sergeants, 22 correctional officers, employees and work rotating shifts. The central control position changes hands every 4 hours. Ideally there should be 1 sergeant and 4 deputies on duty around the clock, but this ratio is not always possible due to illness and/or personnel cutbacks. The average ratio of deputies to inmates is currently 1 to 40. At the time of the tour, night time staffing levels were 1 sergeant and 2 deputies. At the time of the tour they were down 3 positions due to budget cuts, but really 6 positions with layoffs. Further changes will be based on additional budget cuts. They have 3 transport deputies separate from regular deputies.

Inmates:

There are 6 housing units (called “pods”): 2 for maximum-security prisoners and 4 for general population, which includes both minimum and medium-security individuals. Female inmates are housed in 2 separate pod units. Inmates are transported to and from the jail by means of a van. Those detainees found intoxicated upon arrival at the jail are placed in sobering cells and monitored every 30 minutes, and those displaying violent or suicidal behavior are placed in a safety cell and checked every 15 minutes. Once admitted, inmates are given 1 sheet and 1 blanket. They can be identified by the color of their assigned jumpsuits and also wear identifying wristbands. Inmates receive 1 hour of common recreation daily and a shower every day. Visiting hours are limited to 1 hour weekly visits, and inmates are advised that all phone calls are recorded.

Food Services:

The jail contracts with Aramark Food Service to prepare and deliver 3 pre-packaged meals a day to the facility: 2 cold meals and 1 hot meal. The hot meals are heated at the jail and transported on a warming cart to each pod by inmates on a work order. The Jail also maintains a 3-day supply of “emergency” meals. Depending on their status, inmates may purchase additional snack food items from the “traveling” commissary once a week. Medical and religious food requests are honored.

Medical Services:

A registered nurse is on duty from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. and there is a nursing assistant and a Deputy in the nurse’s office at all times. The Jail contracts with various medical providers for additional assistance as

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needed. During the inspection, there were several inmates, 2 medical staff and a deputy all crowded in 1 extremely small exam office.

Support Services:

Currently, inmates have an opportunity to obtain a General Education Diploma (GED). All prisoners are allowed to participate in a variety of educational classes and programs, most of which are offered by volunteers, including religious services and anger management classes. In addition to formal programs, there are television sets, computers, crafts, board games, and exercise equipment available in the common area of each pod. Additionally there is a variety of reading materials available in a reading room.

Maintenance Services:

The Jail has 1 full-time maintenance/custodial person who is responsible for the repairs and upgrades of the facility.

Jail Facilities:

The Jail facility includes an intake unit, front office, holding cells, safety and sobering cells, housing pods, a command center, an educational room, kitchen, laundry, medical area, visiting area, and exercise yard. At the time of our visit, all areas of the Jail were exceptionally clean, organized, and well-maintained. There are monitoring cameras in the intake, general gathering and visitor area; however, there are no monitoring devices in the individual cells.

The current Jail facility was built in 1992 at a cost of \$7 million dollars. It is rapidly becoming too small to accommodate the growing inmate population as well as inadequate in terms of space needed for personnel, storage, and programs. Bill AB 900 (adopted in 2007) authorized a new jail. **An additional 60 beds will be added if the county gets \$5 million dollars from the state in AB 900.**

Findings

F1. Though the jail is well-run and well-maintained, it is severely understaffed. An orderly, clean environment is the norm.

F2. The safety of prisoners is assured and there have been no murders, suicides or escapes since the Jail's inception.

F3. The Jail staff is well-trained and experienced. Professional development opportunities are ongoing.

F4. Prisoners are treated with respect.

F5. There are a variety of support services available.

F6. Jail is currently operating at maximum capacity.

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F7. The Jail passed both the State and Health inspections with flying colors.

Recommendations

R1. Personnel are stretched too thin due to budget cuts and non-replacement of deputies. Basic current needs include the hiring of at least 4 additional deputies.

R2. The office for Medical Services is extremely cramped and a larger space should be considered.

Response Required

The California Penal Code 933 (c) requires a response to the findings and recommendations made in this final report be delivered to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. The affected agencies are:

- San Benito County Sheriff's Office (response required within 60 days)
- San Benito County Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days)

San Benito County Schools

Conducted by Health, Education and Welfare Committee

Summary

The majority of schools in San Benito County were each visited by the Civil Grand Jury (Health, Education and Welfare Committee). The purpose of these visits were for informational and oversight purposes. It is also common for the Civil Grand Jury to follow up on previous findings and recommendations in order to ensure that progress is being or has been made.

Purpose of Inquiry

Between September 2010 and February 2011, members of the Civil Grand Jury visited San Benito High School on four separate occasions. The reasons for these visits were:

- To follow up on prior recommendations regarding surveillance and safety issues;
- To determine compliance with the CA state mandate regarding display of the American flag and daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by students;
- To assess the number and general condition of student bathrooms;
- To tour / inspect the library and student cafeteria;
- To visit the transportation (bus) department and assess / ensure compliance with state-mandated safety, training and record-keeping procedures.

Methodology

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Civil Grand Jury members visited the various schools. During the visits, the tours were led by a member of the school administration, who made available teachers for us to speak with, as well as, department heads and various members of the staff. Access to records and files was also provided as needed and /or requested.

Discussion

| School | # Students | # Teachers |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Southside School (K-8) | 260 | 16 |
| Aromas Elementary (K-8) | 431 | 18 |
| Ladd Lane School (K-6) | 800 | 28 |
| Cerra Vista School (K-6) | 752 | 28 |
| Gabilan Hills (K-6) | 460 | 14 |
| Dual Language Academy (K-5) | 296 | 10 |
| R.O. Hardin (K-6) | 800 | 24 |
| Sunnyslope School (K-6) | 750 | 26 |
| Rancho San Justo (7-8) | 560 | 21 |
| Marguerite Maze (7-8) | 544 | 25 |
| Tres Pinos School (K-6) | 137 | 6 |
| Willow Grove School (K-8) | 10 | 1 |
| San Benito High School | 2900 | 125 |
| Anzar High School | 386 | 24 |
| San Andreas (9-12) | 280 | NA |
| Santa Ana (7-12) | 70 | NA |
| Pinnacle Continuation (9-12) | 69 | 2 |
| Bitterwater Tully School | 26 | 2 |
| Jefferson School | 16 | 2 |
| Panoche School (K-8) | 10 | 1 |
| Cienega School (K-8) | 24 | 2 |

Library

San Benito County Grand Jury 2011-2012

All the libraries of the Hollister School District have been closed due to budget constraints. Volunteers are available, but cannot be used as it will cause labor problems with the School District and Labor Union. Some schools have partially functioning libraries.

Transportation

Transportation is determined by each district. Some districts, such as the Hollister School District have eliminated much of the transportation costs by realigning the school boundaries and having the majority of students walk to school. While still in the investigative stage of this report, the governor returned the funding for transportation, and the Hollister School District has re-instated pupil transportation.

Sidebar: it was reported that a non-employee (approximately 21 years of age) was in a remote driver's lounge waiting for his High School age girlfriend/student (< 18 years of age). The Grand Jury believes this is inappropriate, and potentially dangerous.

Lockdown Drill

Each school district has "lock down" drills along with the required drills.

Findings

F0. The San Benito High School District has an estimated \$20 million reserve fund (as reported in a GJ interview).

F1. The American flag is displayed on a pole at the front of each school. The recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance (or other -- patriotic equivalent -- per CA Ed Code §52720) is completed daily.

F2. As pointed out by the 2010-2011 Grand Jury, the San Benito High School still does not have a campus-wide public address system.

F3. San Benito High School completed a "Lock Down Drill" while the Grand Jury was in attendance. For the most part, the drill was successful. Approximately 45 students were tardy, and locked from their classrooms. Local law enforcement was notified of the pending drill and was present during the drill.

F4. San Benito High School should not allow relatives of employees to use the school facilities as waiting areas.

F5. It is estimated 85% of all computer learning centers and libraries in the Hollister School district have been closed.

F6. A current challenge of all school districts is budgets and budgeting.

F7. Even though qualified volunteers are available, they may not perform any work so the school does not have to deal with the wrath of the employee unions.

F8. San Andreas is an accredited school through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. This gives graduates significant educational opportunities for college.

F9. Many schools in the county do not have security cameras.

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F10. The Grand Jury has confirmed that there are eleven school districts and 19 Schools County wide.

F11. Bitterwater Tully School appeared to be a very well-run school, with a functioning library and computer lab.

F12. Jefferson School is an older school, but is very well maintained. There is a residence for the use of the staff, but no staff member at this time use the residence.

Recommendations

R1. All schools should discuss and make plans in the budget for additional surveillance cameras.

R2. San Benito High School should budget for a campus wide public address system for security.

R3. San Benito High School should review and refine lock out drill policies and procedures regarding where students should go in the event they are “locked out” or arrive at school after the lockdown drill has begun.

R4. The heads of the Police Department and Sheriff’s Department should be notified regarding the “Lock Down Drill,” but officers should not receive prior notification so their response time can be properly evaluated and critiqued.

R5. The San Benito High School District should make a policy that does not allow relatives on campus or other buildings without signing in as a visitor.

R6. Hollister School District should attempt to negotiate with the employee unions to allow volunteers to run programs that are not funded to allow short falls in educational programs to be filled.

R7. All school Districts should consider and discuss consolidation to reduce educational costs county wide and to provide more money for educational programs and opportunity.

Response Required

The California Penal Code §933 (c) requires that a response to the findings and recommendations made in this final report be delivered to the Presiding Judge of the San Benito County Superior Court within 90 days.

- San Benito High School District, Board of Trustees (response required within 90 days)
 - San Benito County Office of Education, Board of Trustees (response required within 90 days)
-
-

Hollister Community Pantry

County Committee Members

Connie Gray, Chairperson
Terry McLean
John Lemos

**San Benito County Grand Jury
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Jwanita Alexander
Gary Anderson
Linda Buckhout

SUMMARY

The county committee received a complaint regarding the operation of the Hollister Community Pantry and theft of “pallets” of donated food by employees/volunteers. The allegation also alleged the suspect individual instructs employees to forge documents to cover the thefts.

An investigation was conducted, and it appears the problem of internal theft has been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. During the investigation, the committee determined that many of the food bank expenses are being covered by “Pat’s Place,” the second hand store on Fifth Street.

The Food Bank appears to be efficiently run, using both volunteer and employee labor. Qualified families are able to obtain a well-rounded box of food during their visit. The secure storage area would rival a local grocery store in terms of capacity and variety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. The Hollister Community Pantry should investigate purchasing a video security system to ensure the security of both employees and volunteers.

R2. Pat’s Place should be commended for their service and commitment to the Food Bank.

John Smith Landfill

The County Committee elected to investigate the operation of the John Smith Landfill and the adjunct operations. This was a continued investigation from the 2010-2011 Grand Jury.

Committee Members

Connie Gray, chair
Terry McLean

The County Committee met with the Solid Waste Manager at the John Smith Landfill. The findings are discussed below.

Findings

- The Landfill accepts approximately 250 tons of waste per day. The existing landfill has a remaining life expectancy of 16.1 years of operation.

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- Of the 250 tons per day, 60% is residential garbage and 40% is from out of county. Most of the waste accepted from out of county sources is a type of filler waste to fill the gaps in the other waste.
- 20% of the fees come to the County.
- The San Benito County Integrated Waste Management Departments runs many programs for the benefit of county residents, such as free recycling programs at the landfill location.
- When the land fill opens a new cell, it is graded and an impermeable membrane is put down to contain any type of liquid run off or leachate. Each new cell is also piped so methane gas generated by decomposition is able to be tapped and used for another energy source.
- The landfill is beginning the process of expanding to the south side of John Smith Road. In this new area, other types of activities will be encouraged, such as more recycling with private partnerships. With these partnerships, it could conceivably reduce the fees to county residents using the landfill.
- Monthly and quarterly recycling programs are provided to reduce the actual refuse entering the landfill.

Recommendations

R1. Encourage the public to support the permits required to open new areas of the landfill

Response Required

The California Penal Code 933 (c) requires a response to the findings and recommendations made in this final report be delivered to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. The affected agencies are:

- San Benito County Board of Supervisors (response required within 90 days)

Grand Jury Information

**San Benito County Grand Jury
2011-2012**



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO
Office of the Jury Commissioner

440 Fifth Street, Room 205
Hollister, CA 95023
(831) 636-4057, ext. 40

WHAT IS THE GRAND JURY?

The California Constitution requires the appointment every year of a Grand Jury for each county. In San Benito County, 19 Grand Jurors are appointed to serve for a term of one (1) year, but not more than two (2) consecutive years. The Grand Jury is an official body of the Court with independent authority that is not answerable to administrators or legislators. Its principal purpose is to protect the public interest. Appointment to the Grand Jury provides citizens a means to participate in the affairs of the local governments.

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND JURY?

California Penal Code section 893(a) states that a person is competent to act as a Grand Juror if that person possesses each of the following qualifications:

- Be "a citizen of the United States"
- Be "of the age of 18 years or older"
- Have been a resident of San Benito County for one (1) year immediately before being selected
- Be in possession of "natural faculties, of ordinary intelligence, of sound judgment, and of fair character"
- Be "possessed of sufficient knowledge of the English language."

California Penal Code section 893(b) states that a person is not competent to act as a Grand Juror if any of the following apply:

- "The person is serving as a trial juror in any court of this state"
- "The person has been discharged as a grand juror in any court of this state within one year" of being selected (although for ease of transition from one year to the next, Jurors may be held over for a second year at the discretion of the Court)

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- "The person has been convicted of malfeasance in office or any felony or other high crime"; or;
- "The person is serving as an elected public officer."

The Grand Jurors are selected by lot after a screening process by the Court at the beginning of the County's fiscal year (July 1). Anyone interested in becoming a Grand Juror may submit an application to the Jury Commissioner at the above address.

WHAT DOES THE GRAND JURY DO?

The Grand Jury serves a primary civil (non-criminal) function – namely the investigation of county and city government, special districts, and school districts. These civil investigations result in recommendations for improvements to save taxpayers' dollars and to improve services.

To do this, the Grand Jury is divided into committees, each of which concentrates on careful and diligent investigation of certain departments or functions of government. These committees study complaints submitted by citizens of San Benito County, visit various facilities, investigate records and documents, draw conclusions regarding the operation of local governments, and meet with officials.

The Grand Jury may subpoena witnesses to give testimony or deliver documents for study. The Grand Jury may seek advice from the District Attorney or County Counsel and may discuss problems with a Judge of the Superior Court. If these officials are unable to assist properly, the Grand Jury may request advice from the State Attorney General. After performing these activities, the Grand Jury submits recommendations for improvement of the operation of the county government to the Board of Supervisors.

WHO MAY ASK THE GRAND JURY FOR AN INVESTIGATION?

The Grand Jury may receive and investigate complaints by private citizens, local government officials, and local government employees regarding the actions and performance of public officials. Complaints requesting an investigation must be submitted in writing with a legible signature, address, and telephone number, and must include any supporting evidence available. Members of the Grand Jury are sworn to secrecy and, except in very rare instances, neither minutes nor records of its meetings can be subpoenaed by any outside body, thus assuring that all complaints will be handled in an entirely confidential manner. If the Grand Jury believes that the evidence submitted is sufficient or within their jurisdiction, a detailed investigation may be conducted. Complaints requesting a Grand Jury investigation must be mailed to the following address. Complaints submitted to an address other than the one listed below will not be reviewed by the Grand Jury.

San Benito County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 1624
Hollister, CA 95024

DOES THE GRAND JURY INVESTIGATE CRIMES?

**San Benito County Grand Jury
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In San Benito County most criminal complaints are handled through the Court. The Grand Jury may hear evidence concerning criminal activity and, where there is probable cause to bring charges, return an indictment. This happens infrequently. Information about the Grand Jury's work in this area is not included in the Grand Jury's Final Report.

THE FINAL REPORT

A Final Report is prepared at the end of the Grand Jury's term, which contains each committee's recommendations. Copies of this report are distributed to the public officials, county libraries and news media. The County Board of Supervisors must respond to each of the Grand Jury's recommendations within 90 days. Should you want to know what your Grand Jury has investigated and recommended, read the local library's copy or ask to read a copy of the Report at

Clerk of the Superior Court
440 Fifth Street, Room 205
Hollister, CA 95023

This questionnaire is to assist the Superior Court Judge in compiling a list of nominees which fairly represents a cross-section of our county. The information supplied on this questionnaire is confidential

| | |
|---|--|
| YOUR NAME _____ | HOME PHONE _____ |
| YOUR ADDRESS _____ | WORK PHONE _____ |
| CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ | E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ |
| LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN SAN BENITO COUNTY _____ | DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER _____ |

If you are currently employed, please provide the following information:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| YOUR OCCUPATION _____ | ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER _____ |
| EMPLOYER'S NAME _____ | CITY/STATE _____ |

If you are married or have children, please provide the following information:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| YOUR SPOUSE'S NAME _____ | SPOUSE'S OCCUPATION _____ |
| AGE(S) OF CHILDREN _____ | SPOUSE'S EMPLOYER _____ |

BELOW ARE THE STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVICE AS A GRAND JUROR.
PLEASE ANSWER EACH ONE BY CHECKING THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

Are you a citizen of the United States?

☐ YES ☐ NO

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| | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Are you at least 18 years of age? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Have you resided in San Benito County for at least one year before being selected? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Do you possess ordinary intelligence and good character? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Do you possess a working knowledge of the English language? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Are you presently serving as a trial juror? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Have you been discharged as a Grand Juror within the last year? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Have you been convicted of a felony or malfeasance in office? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| Are you presently serving as an elected official? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

**San Benito County Grand Jury
2011-2012**

The following questions are to assist the court in ensuring that it selects individuals who are representative of the community and free of bias.

NAMES AND LOCATIONS OF SCHOOLS YOU HAVE ATTENDED:

| <u>NAME OF SCHOOL</u> | <u>LOCATION OF SCHOOL</u> | <u>GRADE LEVEL COMPLETED OR DEGREE ATTAINED</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

LIST ANY ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH YOU BELONG, AND THE LENGTH OF YOUR INVOLVEMENT:

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN NOMINATED FOR OR SERVED ON A GRAND JURY?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please state when and where:

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A GRAND JURY?

HAVE YOU EVER HELD A PUBLIC OFFICE?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, what office and where?

ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN AN ELECTED OFFICIAL?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please state what office and when it was held by you:

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC AGENCY IN THIS COUNTY?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, what agency and when?

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DO YOU HAVE RELATIVES EMPLOYED BY ANY PUBLIC AGENCY IN THIS COUNTY?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please state relative's name, relation to you and by whom they are employed:

PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EMPLOYMENT HISTORY FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS, INCLUDING EMPLOYERS, POSITIONS HELD, AND DURATION OF EACH:

| <u>PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT</u> | <u>POSITION HELD</u> | <u>LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR SPOUSE'S EMPLOYMENT HISTORY FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS, INCLUDING EMPLOYERS, POSITIONS HELD, AND DURATION OF EACH:

| <u>PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT</u> | <u>POSITION HELD</u> | <u>LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

HAVE YOU EVER SERVED IN THE MILITARY?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please state the dates, what branch, highest rank attained, and nature of employment:

| <u>DATES OF SERVICE</u> | <u>BRANCH OF SERVICE</u> | <u>HIGHEST RANK</u> | <u>NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS OR ABILITIES YOU POSSESS THAT THE JUDGE SHOULD BE AWARE OF IN CONSIDERING YOUR APPLICATION:

DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS OR OTHER MATTERS YOU WOULD LIKE FOR THE JUDGE TO CONSIDER IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR APPLICATION?

NOTE: Applications for nomination as a member of the San Benito County Grand Jury may be subject to background check and investigation as to the statutory qualifications for service and the applicant's ability and suitability for service.

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In support of my application for selection as a member of the San Benito County Grand Jury, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at _____, California, on this _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Signature: _____

The following questions are optional and will be used for statistical purposes only. The information provided will not be used as part of the grand jury selection process.

1. Age at the time of this application:

- ☐ 18-25
- ☐ 26-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65-74
- ☐ 75 and over

2. Gender:

- ☐ Male ☐ Female

3. Race or ethnicity (you may select more than one):

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African-American
- ☐ Hispanic/Latino
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Other race or ethnicity (please state: _____)

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☐ Decline to answer

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San Benito County Grand Jury Complaint Form

SAN BENITO COUNTY GRAND JURY COMPLAINT FORM

NOTICE TO CITIZENS WHO WISH TO ISSUE A COMPLAINT: Among the many powers and responsibilities of the San Benito County Grand Jury is the investigation of citizen complaints to assure that all branches of county and city government are being administered efficiently, honestly and in the best interest of its citizens. It is not the function of the Grand Jury to help to settle disputes between private citizens and/or groups.

CONFIDENTIALITY: All complaints submitted to the San Benito County Grand Jury are required by law to be treated in the strictest of confidence.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE: ALL COMPLAINTS FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND MAILED TO:

SAN BENITO COUNTY GRAND JURY

Post Office Box 1624

Hollister California 95024

PHONE CALLS AND FAXES ARE NOT ACCEPTED. THIS PROCEDURE IS TO ASSURE THAT ALL COMPLAINTS REMAIN STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

NAME OF PERSON PRESENTING THIS COMPLAINT _____

PERSON OR AGENCY ABOUT WHICH COMPLAINT IS MADE _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

POSITION OR OFFICE HELD BY PERSON NAMED IN COMPLAINT _____

IS COMPLAINT WITH A GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND NOT ONE PERSON? YES ☐ NO ☐

IF YES, WHAT GOVERNMENT AGENCY? _____

NATURE OF COMPLAINT _____

Note: if you need more space, please use the back of this form or attach additional page(s).

COMPLAINT CONTACTS: What other persons or agencies have you contacted about this problem?

ACTION REQUESTED: Please describe in detail, what action you would like the San Benito County Grand Jury to take.

"This information is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ SIGNATURE _____

Please see reverse side for additional instructions

San Benito County Grand Jury
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FORMA PARA ENTABLAR UNA DENUNCIA AL GRAN JURADO DEL CONDADO SAN BENITO

AVISO A LOS HABITANTES QUE DESEEN ENTABLAR UNA DENUNCIA: Entre los muchos mandos y responsabilidades del Gran Jurado del Condado San Benito esta el de Investigar las denuncias entabladas por los habitantes para asegurar que todas las agencias gubernamentales del condado y la ciudad están siendo administradas eficazmente, honestamente, y en el mejor interés de sus habitantes. No es el cargo del Gran Jurado de asistir a resolver disputas entre habitantes privados y/o grupos.

PRIVACIDAD: Todas las denuncias entabladas presentadas al Gran Jurado del Condado San Benito son requeridas por ley a ser tratadas con la más estricta privacidad.

PROCEDIMIENTO PARA ENTABLAR UNA DENUNCIA: TODAS LAS FORMAS DE DENUNCIA DEBEN ESTAR LLENAS Y ENVIAR POR CORREO A:

**SAN BENITO COUNTY GRAND JURY
Post Office Box 1624
Hollister, California 95024**

NO SE ACEPTAN LLAMADAS TELÉFONICAS O FAXES. ESTE PROCEDIMIENTO ES PARA ASEGURAR QUE TODAS LAS DENUNCIAS PERMANECEN EstrictAMENTE PRIVADAS. POR FAVOR ESCRIBA EN LETRA DE MOLDE O ESCRIBIR A MÁQUINA.

NOMBRE DE LA PERSONA PRESENTADO ESTA DENUNCIA: _____

PERSONA O AGENCIA DE LA QUE SE ESTÁ ENTABLANDO LA DENUNCIA _____

NOMBRE _____ #DE TELÉFONO _____

PUESTO O ADMINISTRACIÓN QUE SOSTIENE LA PERSONA NOMBRADA EN LA DENUNCIA _____

¿LA DENUNCIA ES CON UNA AGENCIA GUBERNAMENTAL Y NO UNA PERSONA? SI NO

SI ES SI, ¿QUÉ AGENCIA GUBERNAMENTAL? _____

NATURALEZA DE LA DENUNCIA _____

Nota: si necesita más espacio, por favor incluya otra hoja a esta forma

CONTACTOS DE DENUNCIA: ¿Con que otra(s) persona(s) o agencia(s) se ha comunicado con respecto a este problema?

QUE ACCIÓN SE SOLICITA: Por favor describa en detalle que acción quiere UD. que tome el Gran Jurado del Condado San Benito.

"Esta información es verdadera, correcta, y completa a lo mejor de mi conocimiento."

NOMBRE _____ FECHA _____

DOMICILIO _____ CIUDAD _____ ESTADO _____ CÓDIGO POSTAL _____

TELÉFONO _____ FIRMA _____

