

MEMORANDUM

PLACER COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Christine E. Turner, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

DATE: March 10, 2009

SUBJECT: Agreement for Joint Use and Maintenance of Weight Truck and Weight Standards with El Dorado County

CET by 

ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures to sign an agreement for the joint use and maintenance of Weight Truck, Weight Standards, and Weight Cart by the Placer County Agriculture/Weights and Measures Department, and the El Dorado County Agriculture/Weights and Measures Department.

BACKGROUND

The County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures is responsible for testing all commercial weighing and measuring devices in the County including high-capacity scales such as livestock scales, landscape rock scales, and vehicle scales, to ensure their accuracy. Specialized equipment including a heavy capacity truck with a crane (weight truck), weight standards, and a weight cart, is required to conduct these tests. In order to most efficiently utilize their limited economic resources, Placer and El Dorado Counties desire to jointly share the use of a weight truck, weight standards, and weight cart. El Dorado County currently owns weight standards and a weight cart, and Placer County is willing to purchase a weight truck to accomplish the required tasks.

This agreement will allow the Placer County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures to use funds contributed by El Dorado County towards the purchase of the Weight Truck, and to utilize equipment belonging to El Dorado County, which Placer County would otherwise have to purchase in order to properly equip and use the Weight Truck. In exchange, Placer County will allow El Dorado County to use the Weight Truck per the terms of the agreement.

The fixed-asset purchase of the Weight Truck was approved by the Placer County Board of Supervisor's on September 9, 2008, as part of the Agriculture Department's Fiscal Year 2008-09

budget. Placer County has already received a Letter of Intent from El Dorado County stating their intention to contribute \$20,000 towards the purchase of the Weight Truck. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to vote to approve the \$20,000 transfer to Placer County along with the Joint Use Agreement on March 10, 2009. Placer County's portion of the funds to be used for this purchase were rolled over from a significant fund balance that occurred due to unanticipated revenues at the end of the 2007/08 Fiscal Year.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Placer County Agriculture/Weights and Measures Department will receive a one-time payment of \$20,000 from El Dorado County to be used towards the \$100,000 purchase price of the weight truck.

Attachments – Letter of Intent from El Dorado County

Agreement available for review at the Clerk of the Board.



The County of El Dorado

Agriculture, Weights & Measures

311 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667-4197

William J. Stephans
Agricultural Commissioner,
Sealer of Weights & Measures

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December 4, 2008

Christine Turner,
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights & Measures
Placer County Department of Agriculture,
Weights & Measures
11477 E. Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603-2799

Dear Christine,

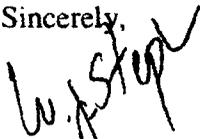
The County of El Dorado Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures is participating with the County of Placer Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures by making a one time contribution in the amount of \$20,000 to jointly purchase a new weight truck that will be used by the counties of Placer, El Dorado and Amador. This Letter does not create a binding agreement between Placer County and El Dorado County for the use and maintenance of the new weight truck. A Memorandum of Understanding to establish the basic terms, percent of usage, and cost for maintenance will be established by Placer County and forwarded to El Dorado County Counsel for review, concurrence and adoption by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors.

BACKGROUND:

- A. The Department currently uses a 1990 International Medium Capacity Weight Truck that is mandated by California Air Resources Board Regulations to be retrofitted with a Diesel Particulate Trap prior to December 2009. Preliminary estimates for the kit with installation by A to Z Services (Contracted through Department of Transportation) will cost the Department \$21,488 (\$20,000 has been budgeted). The age, rapid decline in value and high cost of maintenance each year coupled with the additional cost of the mandated particulate trap makes it extremely difficult to justify the overall expenditure by the Department on a vehicle that will require replacement in the very near future.

- B. The Department currently has rental agreements with Placer County and Amador County which allows both counties to use our medium capacity weight truck, equipped with hoist, motorized weight cart, and (10) 1,000 pound certified weights. Each county currently uses the weight truck an average of four to six weeks per year for the specialized testing/inspecting of commercially used vehicle, winery, livestock and large capacity shipping and receiving scales.
- C. Placer County's Board of Supervisors has approved partial funding for the purchase of a new weight truck by their Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures. Enough funding for the new weight truck will be available with the additional El Dorado County contribution of \$20,000. To complete the functionality of the new truck without additional expense, the use of our (10) 1000 lb certified weights and motorized weight cart will be included in the agreement. The participating counties will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to allow the use of the new weight truck whenever necessary each year.

Sincerely,



William J. Stephans

cc: CAO/Budget Transfer document