DEPARTMENT: Farm Advisor

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve Agreement between Mariposa County and University of California Regents to support the Master Gardener Program and authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Agreement; Approve budget action reducing General Fund Contingency by $8,500 and transferring $3,000 within the Cooperative Extension budget to fund the program. ($8,500).

Please see the attachment for additional information.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
On December 18, 2007, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors voted to support the Mariposa County Master Gardener Program.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the Agreement or the budget action. The County will be unable to utilize the assistance from the University of California Regents to expand and continue the Master Gardener Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Impact?</th>
<th>(X) Yes</th>
<th>( ) No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current FY Cost</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
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<td>Annual Recurring Cost</td>
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<td>Budgeted In Current FY?</td>
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<td>(X) No</td>
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<td>Partially Funded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount in Budget</td>
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<td>Additional Funding Needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source: Internal Transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unanticipated Revenue</td>
<td>4/5's vote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer Between Funds</td>
<td>4/5's vote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
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<td>4/5's vote</td>
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<tr>
<td>(X) General</td>
<td>( ) Other</td>
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CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 58-3
Vote - Ayes: 5
Noes: 0
Absent: 0
Approved
Minute Order Attached
( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date: 
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: ____________________________
Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
Requested Action Recommended
No Opinion
Comments: 

CAO: ____________________________

Revised Dec. 2002
COUNTY of MARIPOSA
P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

LYLE TURPIN, CHAIR
DIANNE A. FRITZ, VICE CHAIR
BRAD ABORN
JANET BIBBY
BOB PICKARD

DISTRICT II
DISTRICT IV
DISTRICT I
DISTRICT III
DISTRICT V

MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTE ORDER

TO: KAREN ROBB, Farm Advisor
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
SUBJECT: Approval of Consent Agenda (See End of Summary of Proceedings)
CA-4 Approve an Agreement with University of California Regents to Support the Master Gardener Program and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement; Approve Budget Action Reducing General Funds Contingency by $5,500 and Transferring $3,000 within the Cooperative Extension Budget to Fund the Program ($8,500)
RESOLUTION: 08-81

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ADOPTED THIS Order on March 4, 2008

ACTION AND VOTE:

Approval of Consent Agenda (See End of Summary of Proceedings)
NOTE: The Consent Agenda consists of items that are generally viewed as non-controversial and routine by the department. If the Board wishes to discuss an item, it will be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to the end of the timed agenda; or at the Chair’s discretion, may be taken in conjunction with another item scheduled by the respective department. Otherwise, the Consent Agenda items are generally approved in one single motion. This is the appropriate time for the public to advise the Chair of any comments to the Consent Agenda or request to have an item removed from the Consent Agenda.
BOARD ACTION: Chair Turpin advised of a correction in the Action Form for item 4 to reflect a reduction in the General Fund Contingency by $5,500. Supervisor Bibby provided input on information she obtained on item 4 relative to the salary. (M)Pickard, (S)Aborn, all items were approved/Ayes: Unanimous.

CA-4 Approve an Agreement with University of California Regents to Support the Master Gardener Program and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement; Approve Budget Action Reducing General Funds Contingency by $5,500 and Transferring $3,000 within the Cooperative Extension Budget to Fund the Program ($8,500) (4/5ths Vote Required) (Farm Advisor) (Continued from February 26th, 2008); Res. 08-81

Cc: File
Chris Eby, Auditors
Mary
Master Gardener Coordinator for Mariposa County

The Master Gardener Program was established to be a support to the Mariposa County Cooperative Extension Farm Advisor in extending University of California research-based horticulture information, through education, to the home gardening public.

A Master Gardener Program Coordinator was initially hired by the University of California from November 2004 until December 31, 2007, as a 50% FTE. The funding for this position is no longer available. The funding requested from Mariposa County Board of Supervisors is for the employee only. Our department has sufficient space and operating expenses to cover the costs of the Master Gardener Program. We are prepared to shift $3,000 in our current budget to this item, so that only $5,500 is being requested from contingency funds.

The first Master Gardener training class in Mariposa County was initiated in January, 2005 and graduated in May of 2005. In 04/05 (prior to inaugural Mariposa MG class graduating) contacts by existing Master Gardeners were 825. Following graduation of the first class of MGs, 05/06 contacts were 5,498 and hours of volunteering exceeded 3000. Volunteer time is valued by the IRS at $17/hour. However, trained volunteers, like the Master Gardeners are valued by the IRS at $27/hour. This puts the value of the MGs in service to Mariposa County in excess of $86,000/year when there were 23 MGs. The numbers of MGs almost doubled with the offering of this second class; the county now has 42 active MG volunteers and the volunteer hours and public contacts will be enormous. We are on target for the value of the service of Master Gardeners to Mariposa County to exceed $180,000 for this fiscal year.

Current projects for 2007-2008 include
- Mariposa Creek Parkway
- Evaluation of additional native plants for suitability in the foothills
- School Gardens
- Quarterly Public Workshops
- Mariposa County Fair
- Farmers Market
- Home and Garden Show
- Library Indoor Plant Test Site
- Nursery Displays
- Telephone Help Desk
- Master Gardener office in North County
- Adopt a Weed education program

The Master Gardeners are also working to secure a site for a demonstration garden for greater outreach and hands on education of the public.

A Master Gardener Program Manager and Coordinator will maintain the momentum of the Master Gardener Program, develop new program thrusts, e.g. the demonstration garden, water quality and conservation, composting, and landscaping amongst the oak
trees while continuing to free up time for the Farm Advisor to address commercial ag production.

Responsibilities/Tasks of the Coordinator
1. Provide research-based information and knowledge to home horticulture clientele.
2. Train and guide Master Gardener volunteers in the organization of their activities, duties and events.
3. Recruit volunteers and provide training to those volunteers.
4. Provide a liaison between UCCE and the community relative to home horticulture and the Master Gardener Program.
5. Design, develop and implement education outreach programs appropriate for the county and the community needs.
6. Develop information for and prepare necessary reports, newsletters and correspondence with the Master Gardener clientele, Master Gardeners, and for those that are involved in the supervision of this position.
7. Implements Master Gardener outreach and publicity efforts in the community. Promote in all ways consistent with the other responsibilities of the position, accomplishments of the Affirmative Action goals established by UCCE.
8. Provides and coordinates training activities for volunteer Master Gardeners in the areas of communication, horticulture, pest management, presentation and leadership.
9. Participate in statewide Master Gardener Program Management activities and training opportunities.
10. Evaluate, track and report Master Gardener Program activities in the county. Develop and recommend new or modification to activities and events.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUND</th>
<th>DEPT/DIV</th>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td>$8,500</td>
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**TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS**

**TOTALS**

$0 $0

ACTION REQUESTED: (Check all that apply)

( X ) Budget appropriation by Board of Supervisors (4/5ths Vote Required): Amending the total amount available in the county budget, or in any one fund of the budget, or appropriating Reserve for Contingencies;

(  ) Transfer by Board of Supervisors (3/5ths Vote Required): Moving existing appropriations from one budget to another, or between categories within a budget unit;

JUSTIFICATION: To fund the Master Gardener Coordinator position through June 30, 2008.

DEPT HEAD SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE 2-20-08

APPROVED BY RES NO. 08-81 CLERK ______ DATE 3-4-08

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

AUDITOR’S USE ONLY

BA #