RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes___ No_X) 

Discuss and provide direction relative to the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for Mariposa County.

Don Cripe has served as Agricultural Commissioner for Mariposa County since 1977; originally in conjunction with Madera County, and since 1994, in conjunction with Stanislaus County. Mr. Cripe is retiring from Stanislaus County. An agreement has been in place with Stanislaus County for Mr. Cripe’s services.

The Board has the following options for filling the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer position:

1) The Board could choose to contract with Don Cripe directly for services as Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer. The agreement would need to include consideration for training that is required of the position.

2) The Board could choose to negotiate a contract with Stanislaus County for services.

3) The Board could choose to contact other surrounding counties to see if a contract can be negotiated.

4) The Board could choose to recruit to fill the position.

A retirement party is scheduled for Don Cripe on April 6th. Depending on the option the Board selects, it is requested that direction be given relative to recognizing Mr. Cripe for his services. If the Board continues to contract with Don Cripe, perhaps a Courthouse book could be presented from the County. If the Board chooses another option, it is requested that a resolution be adopted to be presented to Mr. Cripe at the retirement event.

1) Approve
2) Provide alternative direction
MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER 02-94

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DONALD O. CRIPPE ON HIS SERVICE TO MARIPOSA COUNTY AS AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

WHEREAS, DONALD O. CRIPPE started his 25 year career with Mariposa County as the Mariposa County Agricultural Commissioner in August, 1977 when he was the Madera County Agricultural Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, DON developed the Agriculture program in Mariposa County literally from the ground-up and actively pursued funding from all possible sources to support and develop the office; and

WHEREAS, in 1979 the office became full time, and in 1990 DON also became the first ever Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures for Mariposa County; and

WHEREAS, DON has worked in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture on many joint projects for Mariposa County, providing a level head and a knack for problem-solving; the Hydrilla eradication project in the Chowchilla River system and Eastman Lake; the pest detection trapping programs, beginning with Medfly in 1981 and ending with the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter; biocontrol programs for both insects and noxious weeds throughout the County; and implementation and funding of the integrated weed management program to help Mariposa County landowners in the eradication of yellow star thistle and other noxious weeds; and

WHEREAS, DON’s photograph of an old green barn on Highway 140 in Catheys Valley graced the cover of the very first crop report in 1978 for Mariposa County showing off DON’s lifelong passion and avocation towards photographing old barns as well as the significance of agriculture to Mariposa County’s economy; and

WHEREAS, DON served as Vice President of the California Agricultural Commissioner and Sealers Association (CACASA) in 1982/83 and President in 1983/84. He also represented Mariposa County as a member of the San Joaquin Valley Commissioners and Sealers Association area group; and

WHEREAS, in June, 1994, DON was appointed Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for Stanislaus County, retaining his contract as Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for Mariposa County. He had come full circle, returning to the Stanislaus County where he had first started his career as an inspector in 1969; and

WHEREAS, DON is an avid San Francisco 49ers football fan and retirement may find him at their training camp in Stockton, at their home games, at away games that fit into his itinerary, and even at their next (hopefully soon) Super Bowl; and

WHEREAS, DON and his wife Sharon plan to enjoy their retirement and travel wherever their RV and the open road take them. He will pursue his interest in golfing, his passion for photography, his love of family and his zest for life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County, a political subdivision of the State of California, hereby commends DON O. CRIPPE for his service to Mariposa County as AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES and wishes him a long and happy retirement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County this 2nd day of April, 2002, by unanimous vote.

PATTI A. REILLY, District I Supervisor

DOUG BALMAIN, District II Supervisor

ROBERT C. STEWART, District III Supervisor

GARRY R. PARKER, District IV Supervisor

BOB PICKARD, District V Supervisor
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: SUPERVISOR STEWART
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Direction Relative to the Agricultural Commissioner-Sealer for Mariposa County
Resolution No. 02-94

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on April 2, 2002

ACTION AND VOTE:

Discuss and Provide Direction Relative to the Agricultural Commissioner-Sealer for Mariposa County
(Chairman Stewart)

BOARD ACTION: Chairman Stewart initiated discussion relative to this matter, and he advised of his
discussion with Don Cripe relative to possibly having him continue on a contractual basis with the County
after he retires from Stanislaus County. Discussion was held relative to the options for filling the position.
Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer, provided input relative to his discussions and research on this
matter, and he advised that Stanislaus County currently covers the training and meeting expenses for the
position with an estimated cost of $4,000 to $6,000 a year. He advised that the Executive Officer for
Stanislaus County is interested in continuing with the current arrangement, with an option for having a
direct contract with the County and this would cover gaps with changes in the position. Supervisor
Balmain suggested contracting with Stanislaus County directly, with the condition that the Board knows
who the Agricultural Commissioner is and has some knowledge of the Commissioners skills. Board
concurred with directing the County Administrative Officer to work with Stanislaus County to continue
providing this service. Discussion was held relative to the upcoming retirement event for Don Cripe.
(M)Parker, (S)Balmain, Res. 02-94 was adopted recognizing Don Cripe upon his retirement, with direction
given for the Clerk to prepare the retirement resolution and the Chairman to present the resolution and tile
plaque/Ayes: Reilly, Balmain, Stewart, Parker; Excused: Pickard.

cc: Greg Iturria, County Administrative Officer
    Jeff Green, County Counsel
    File