DEPARTMENT: Auditor-Recorder
BY: Chris Ebie
PHONE: 966-5719

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes, No X)

Adopt this resolution recognizing Merco Credit Union as an official financial institution and allow the Auditor to make payroll deductions and submit payments monthly to Merco Credit Union. This is a full service credit union for governmental employees located in Merced. Merco Credit Union would be available to all Mariposa County employees. The acceptance of Merco Credit Union would have no effect on employees who wish to continue using existing credit unions associated with the county. This action will give approval for the Auditor to sign the application and other documents in order to implement the Merco program.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has adopted prior resolutions approving the use of other financial institutions as recipients of payroll deductions.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
The one credit union we currently have available to all county employees is rather limited in the services it provides.

COSTS: (X) Not Applicable
A. Budgeted current FY
B. Total anticipated costs
C. Required additional funding
D. Internal transfers

SOURCE: ( ) 4/5ths Vote Required
A. Unanticipated revenues
B. Reserve for contingencies
C. Source description:
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:
Merco Information

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 3
Vote - Ayes: 5
Absent: 
Abstained: 
Noes: 
Meeting Order Attached: 
No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:
Recommended
Not Recommended
For Policy Determination
Submitted with Comment
Returned for Further Action

Comment:

By:
Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
Deputy

A.O. Initials:

Action Form Revised 5/92
How is Merco Credit Union Different from a Bank?

Well, while we may offer some similar (and we believe superior) services, credit unions are vastly different from banks!

Credit unions are not owned by an outside group of stockholders who are惟利是图 to make a profit. Credit unions are owned by credit union members, and all our "profits" are returned to our members in the form of lower loan rates, higher dividends, and reduced costs for services.

Credit unions are governed by elected and appointed volunteers, who serve on our Board of Directors, Credit Committee, and Supervisory Committee without pay.

Credit unions lend money only to credit union members, and we only make specific kinds of loans. We don't lend money to foreign countries. We don't make risky loans for massive real estate speculation. We exist only to serve our members and to help them build a secure financial future.

How Safe is your Money at Merco?

Merco Credit Union is on very solid financial footing. Just take a look at a copy of our annual report which is available from the office. And just as important, we are governed by policies designed to keep us that way.

The Board of Directors (elected from the membership) and the management are charged with seeing that Merco operates in a financially prudent manner. In some circles, our money management practices would be called too conservative. We call them responsible.

Merco is prohibited from investing in such high-risk ventures as stocks, futures contracts, or speculative real estate developments. Most of our investments are loans to members. Other than that, we invest only in securities backed by the U.S. government or backed by institutions insured by the U.S. government. The kind of freewheeling investments made by many now-insolvent financial institutions are simply not allowed.

Your money in the credit union is insured up to $100,000 by the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF), which is independent of the FSLIC and FDIC and is in top-notch shape. Given our operating policies and the regulations under which we are chartered, there is virtually no chance you would ever need the resources of our deposit insurance. But it's nice to know it's there.

Special Discounts for Merco Members

When it is time for a family outing to an amusement park, Merco can take a bit of sting out of the price of admission with free discount cards available to all Merco members. We have discount cards available for:

- Disneyland
- Disneyworld
- Knott's Berry Farm
- Marine World Africa USA
- MovieLand Wax Museum
- Queen Mary/Spruce Goose
- San Diego Zoo
- Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk
- Sea World
- Universal Studios

Or if you plan to visit Magic Mountain (Valencia), Great America (Santa Clara), or Disneyland (Anaheim) we can save you money AND time, because we have discounted tickets for sale at the Merco Office.

Other Services

- American Express Travelers Cheques (no fee)
- Automated teller machine service
- Christmas club accounts
- Discount buying club membership referrals
- Drive-up window
- "Everybody's Money" - money management magazine
- Group legal service referrals
- Life insurance
- Money orders
- Night depository
- Western Union Commercial Money Orders
- Wire Transfers

Holidays Closed

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- Presidents Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Columbus Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day
- (3rd Monday of January)
- (3rd Monday of February)
- (3rd Monday of May)
- (1st Monday of September)
- (2nd Monday of October)
- (4th Thursday of November)
- (closed at noon)

The MERCO Difference

1911 "M" Street
Corner of 19th and "M"
P.O. Box 2955
Merced, CA 95344-0955

Phone (209) 723-4285
Loans (209) 723-8403

Lobby Hours

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Friday

Drive Up Hours

9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Friday

(4th Thursday of November)
(closed at noon)