RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2012-422

MEETING: August 14, 2012

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: Elections for National Forest Safety Net Payments

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a Resolution Electing to Receive the Full County Payment Under the One-Year Reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS) and of the Full County Payment to Allocate 8-Percent to Title II Projects and 7-Percent to Title III Projects. On July 6, 2012, the SRS was reauthorized for federal fiscal year 2012 as part of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP 21) legislation - S1813. Counties must adopt a resolution electing to receive the traditional harvest receipt shares (25-percent payment) or the safety-net payment. The majority of counties in California will receive more funding electing the safety-net payment, which is what Mariposa County has traditionally done. The funding will at approximately ninety-five percent of what was received in the previous fiscal year. Last fiscal year the Road fund received $160,000.

Counties must also elect to allocate between twenty to fifteen percent of their safety-net payment for Title II and/or Title III projects however no more than 7-percent of the safety-net payment can be applied to Title III projects. Title II projects must be submitted to and approved by a Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), while Title III projects are decided upon by the Board of Supervisors. Mariposa County is a member of the Tuolumne-Mariposa RAC.

Traditionally, Mariposa County has elected to receive the safety-net payment, with eighty-five percent being allocated and split equally between the Road Fund and the local school district, with the remaining fifteen percent being divided with eight percent to Title II projects and seven percent to Title III projects.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
On September 6, 2011, the Board adopted Resolution 11-438 electing to receive the full safety-net payment, and allocating fifteen percent to Title II/III projects, and specifically allocating eight percent to Title II projects and seven percent to Title III projects.
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ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

FISCAL IMPACT:
The Road Fund and local school district will receive approximately $150,000 each in funding. With approximately $25,000 available each for Title II and Title III projects.

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Allen, District V Supervisor
SECONDER: Lyle Turpin, District II Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Turpin, Bibby, Cann, Allen
MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION 12-422

A RESOLUTION FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2012 ELECTIONS FOR NATIONAL FOREST RELATED SAFETY-NET PAYMENTS

WHEREAS, Congress enacted in 1908 and subsequently amended a law that requires that 25-percent of the revenue derived from National Forest lands be paid to states for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of public schools and roads; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress recognized a need to stabilize education and road maintenance funding through predictable payments to the affected counties; and to achieve that goal enacted the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, which has been amended and re-authorized for federal fiscal 2012; and

WHEREAS, Title I of S1813 gives each eligible county the right to elect to receive either its traditional share of revenue from the National Forest lands pursuant to the Act of May 23, 1908, and Section 13 of the Act of March 1, 1911 (the “25-percent payments”), or instead to receive a guaranteed minimum share of the State payment pursuant to Sections 102(a)(1)(B) and 103 (the “full county payment amount”); and

WHEREAS, any county electing to receive the full county payment that is $100,000 or more, must further elect to expend an amount not less than 15-percent nor more than 20-percent of its full county payment amount as project funds; and

WHEREAS, counties electing to receive the full county payment of $100,000 or more must allocate its project funds for projects in accordance with Title II and Title III, and return the balance of project funds unspent under Title II and Title III to the Treasury of the United States, and communicate such allocation to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Title II provides for special projects on federal lands or that benefit resources on federal lands, and are recommended by local resource advisory committees (“RACs”); and

WHEREAS, RACs recommend projects for consideration by the Secretary of Agriculture, with project funding supplied in whole or in part out of monies allocated for such purposes by participating counties; and

WHEREAS, Title III provides for county projects, some of which are associated with federal lands, with Title III authorizing expenditures for search, rescue, and emergency services on federal lands, fire prevention and planning under the Firewise Communities program, and development of community wildfire protection plans; and

WHEREAS, a county with a full county payment amount of $350,000 or more may not allocate more than 7-percent of its full county payment for Title III projects.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Mariposa hereby elects to receive the guaranteed minimum full county payment amount.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County of Mariposa has elected to receive the full county payment amount that is $100,000 or more, and hereby allocates 15-percent of its full county payment amount for expenditures on projects under Title II and Title III. The County of Mariposa will return none (zero-percent) of its full county payment amount to the Treasury of the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, of the 15-percent allocated to Title II and Title III projects, the County of Mariposa further allocates between Titles for FFY 2012: 8-percent of full county payment amount for expenditure on Title II projects and 7-percent of the full county payment amount for expenditure on Title III projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 14th day of August 2012 by unanimous vote.

JANET BIBBY, Chair

ATTEST: 

Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel