

DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Promoting and protecting agriculture, environmental quality, and ensuring equity in the marketplace.

Stacy K. Carlsen
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND
MEASURES

December 10, 2013

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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
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SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO AMEND AND/OR ESTABLISH THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CERTIFIED PRODUCER CERTIFICATE (CPC); NEW CERTIFIED PRODUCER INITIAL SITE INSPECTION; PEST CONTROL OPERATOR (PCO) COUNTY REGISTRATION; FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR (FLC) COUNTY REGISTRATION; FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE; AND ELECTRIC METER/SUBMETER, PLATFORM SCALE, VEHICLE METER, PROPANE METER, AND JEWELRY/PRESCRIPTION DEVICE REGISTRATIONS

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt resolution amending and/or establishing various Agricultural and Weights and Measures fees listed below as authorized under California Food and Agricultural Code Sections 5202, 6303(d), 11734 and 47020; California Labor Code Section 1695(9)(b); California Business and Professions Code Section 12240(a); Marin County Code Title 5 (Chapter 5.44 and 5.45) and Title 23 (Chapter 23.11 and 23.20); and other provisions of the law to establish a schedule of fees for various inspections, certificates, registrations, and services made, issued and provided by the County Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures is requesting the Marin County Board of Supervisors approve various Agricultural and Weights and Measures program fee increases to help offset a portion of the actual costs to issue these certificates, registrations, and/or perform these inspections. Proposed fee increases will result in revised cost recovery rates varying from approximately 10% (for inspection of new certified producer sites) to 90% (for registration and inspection of Pest Control Operators). The Department determined these fee increases are modest and will have minimal impact on industry.

Agricultural Division:

- Certified Producer's Certificate for the sale of fruits, nuts and vegetables at certified farmer's markets would increase from \$15 to \$20 for growing grounds inspection, market sales inspection, data input and computerized issuance of the certificate. There are approximately 25 certified producers in Marin County.
- A New Certified Producer's Initial Site Inspection to inspect a new producer site and verify it is capable of growing stated products would increase from \$10 to \$15 (one-time fee). We estimate we will have one to two new Certified Producer sites to inspect each year.
- Pest Control Operator County Registration (excluding Structural Operators) to register businesses would increase from \$70 to \$75. There are approximately 60 Pest Control Operators performing work in Marin County.
- Federal Phytosanitary Certificates for shipments of agricultural commodities to foreign countries would increase from \$20 to \$30 to determine if the commodity meets entry requirements of the importing country, inspection of commodity, supervision of any required treatments that the country may impose, and issuance of the certificate. We issue approximately ten (10) Federal Phytosanitary Certificates per year.
- The Farm Labor Contractor County Registration fee to register Farm Labor Contractors and review of requirements relating to field worker safety would increase from \$0 to \$30. There are about two Farm Labor Contractors that perform work in Marin County each year.

Weights and Measures Division:

- Electric Meter/Submeter Device Registration (permit) to register and inspect electric meters and submeters would increase from \$2 to \$3. There are approximately 3,500 electric meters and submeters in Marin County. Ten percent of these meters are inspected each year by the department; 100% of meters at a site are inspected over a ten-year period.
- Platform Scale (100-1,999 lbs.) Device Registration (permit) to register and inspect these platform scales would increase from \$20 to \$50. There are approximately 75 platform scales with this capacity in Marin County.
- Vehicle Meter Device Registration (permit) to register and inspect vehicle meters would increase from \$25 to \$75. There are currently three vehicle meters in Marin County.
- Propane (LPG) Meter Device Registration (permit) to register and inspect propane meters would increase from \$175 to \$185. There are approximately 20 propane meters in Marin County.
- Jewelry/Prescription Device Registration (permit) to register and inspect jewelry/prescription scales would increase from \$20 to \$80. There are approximately two (2) jewelry scales in Marin County.

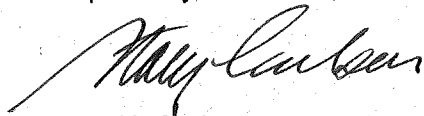
The proposed fee adjustments are estimated to increase annual fee revenues by \$6,800. See Attachment A.

FISCAL IMPACT: The proposed fees will result in approximately \$6,800 in revenues in the current fiscal year to offset existing staff costs and have been budgeted as part of the department's FY 2013-14 budget reduction.

ALTERNATIVE TO RECOMMENDED ACTION: Not adopting the proposed fees by resolution would result in the department continuing to use its existing fee schedule and not allow the recovery of additional revenue to help cover program costs.

REVIEWED BY:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy K. Carlsen
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

Attachment