

LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS/CLERK OF THE BOARD

The Board of Supervisors' budget supports the Board's policy-making role and its local legislative functions. The transition from a suburban county to a rapidly urbanizing environment, plus growing constituent requests, increased this budget unit's need for resources. The Clerk of the Board provides administrative support to the Board, prepares agendas, processes claims, and manages the county's pipeline, transmission, and cable television activities. The proposed budget funds 62 positions (including the Board, Clerk of the Board, and Assessment Appeals) with a total of approximately \$7.4 million in revenue from cable television licenses, reimbursements for services, and the county general fund.

The Clerk of the Board faces the continuing challenge of processing assessment appeals. While there has been a reduction in staff, the number of appeals continues to be well above historic averages. The department with assistance of County Counsel has determined that a fee may be charged for filing assessment appeals and it is estimated that the County could recoup its processing cost of at least \$540,000 for appeals. In May, 2011 the Board approved a new filing fee of \$30, to take effect on July 1, 2011. The fee is to be refunded in cases where the property owner prevails.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The county Executive Office is responsible for managing all county departments, agencies, and special districts under the Board's jurisdiction. The budget (including Executive Office and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) funds 28 positions, with a combination of funding from administrative fees and the general fund.

The Executive Office – a relatively small department – cut two positions and reduced net county cost support by 25 percent, while the average general-fund cut was about 19 percent.

LITIGATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The budget funds annual membership dues in the California State Association of Counties, National Association of Counties, Urban Counties Caucus, Southern California Association of Governments, Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and Western Riverside Council of Governments. The budget also includes funding for lobbyists in Washington, D.C., and Sacramento, and funding for legal costs associated with existing and pending lawsuits.

CFD/AD ADMINISTRATION

This fund supports the administrative activities of the county's land-secured finance districts, which include community facilities districts and assessment districts. The budget fully or partially funds 4.5 permanent positions within the Executive Office and requires no general-fund support.