


Date: December 13, 2005

To: Colleagues, Yolo County Board of Supervisors

From: Helen M. Thomson, Chair 

Re: Board's Key Accomplishments – 2005

I knew it was a strenuous and sometimes difficult year, but it was not until I began to review this year's actions that I realized how hard we have all worked and what we have actually accomplished. It is an amazing list in which we can each take pride.

Thank you to the Board Clerks, Supervisor's Deputies, CAO, CAO staff, County Counsel, department heads and each County employee who make things work on a daily basis. And Supervisors, a special thank you for your cooperation and support during this year of many challenges.

Budget/Finance

- Adopted a \$278 million balanced budget which did not use any General Fund Reserve. In fact, we increased the reserve by approximately \$3.0 million.
- Provided for much needed additional positions for some departments.
 - Sheriff (6.0 positions).
 - Added one position (1.0) to the District Attorney, Public Defender, Clerk of the Board, Agriculture, Human Resources, Central Services, and County Counsel.
 - Library (+0.8), and Probation (4.0).
- Finalized revenue sharing (pass through) agreement with City of West Sacramento.
- Finalizing new Development Impact Fees including updating rates and establishing new fees for roads, parks and open space.
- Began exclusive purchasing program with Corporate Express, estimated to save \$133,000 annually.
- Allocated \$3,894,456 in Tribal Mitigation Funds for the impacts associated with Cache Creek Casino expansion.
- Contracted for the first time with a Federal advocate.

Capital Projects

- Completed and opened the new 90-bed juvenile hall, which includes Public Art.
- Began construction of a new Health and Mental Health building.
- Relocated Information Technology from the Administration building to 120 W. Main Street.
- Relocated Public Guardian-Public Administrator's office to 624 Court Street.
- Authorized Clerk-Recorder/Elections office expansion to ground floor of Administration building.
- Authorized architect to begin design development and cost assessment for expansion of jail, including upgrade of its health and mental health facilities. Total expansion of 116 beds.
- Authorized construction of new Probation office building at Jail/Juvenile Detention facility location.
- Adopted Yolo County Facilities Master Plan.

Planning, Resources & Public Works

- Won right to acquire Conaway Ranch via eminent domain.
- Received commendation from California Department of Conservation recognizing Yolo County's successful agriculture and open space policy through implementation of the Williamson Act.
- Reorganized Planning & Public Works department to Planning, Resources and Public Works. Funded needed additional staffing with greater breadth and depth of experience at this most critical time for our County.
- Continuing process to update the County General Plan.
- Adopted the Countywide Parks and Open Space Master Plan in concept – now in CEQA review.
- Established One-Stop Shop for joint processing of applications between PRPW and Environmental Health.
- Began second phase of Integrated Water Management Plan. Worked with WRA to gain \$500,000 grant from DWR.
- Transitioned YCCP (Yolo County Conservation Program) from a State to a county-run program. In first session, youth have worked on projects located throughout the County.
- Successful participation in, and implementation of the SACOG Blueprint Regional Plan.

- Awarded \$195,000 grant from Proposition 50 funding for Cache Creek park improvements.
- Hosted Land Use Summit for all elected officials to provide fiscal information and to discuss Yolo County's land use decisions.
- Adopted Greenprint tree program for Yolo County.
- Opened the new Dunnigan Park.
- Brought HCP/NCCP into PRPW and obtained federal Section Six grant of \$600,000 to continue into the second phase.
- Initiation of the HCP/NCCP Science Advisory Committee of biological experts which submitted a completed technical report with recommendations.
- Worked with Assemblywoman Lois Wolk in AB 1328, Cache Creek "Wild & Scenic" legislation to include Yolo County's interests.
- Worked with Assemblywoman Lois Wolk to host a Woodland Flood Control workshop.

Public Health

- Adopted a clean syringe program in participation with pharmacies in Yolo County, supported by law enforcement.
- Increased recruitment and retention efforts for public health nurses, including incentives for educational advancement.

First 5 Yolo

- First 5 Yolo has set aside \$350,000 per year to pay for health insurance premiums for 0-5 year olds.
- Yolo Children's Health Initiative (Yolo CHI)- First 5 Yolo and the Children's Alliance (reorganized) joined forces to secure the following funds to cover health care premiums for children 6-18 year olds:
 - \$100,000 from Yolo County Tobacco Funds
 - \$100,000 from The California Endowment
 - \$48,000 from First 5 CA
- School Readiness Program - First 5 Yolo leveraged the following funds to provide a second full-time home visitor position at its Woodland SR site:
 - \$30,000 from Woodland Joint Unified School District
- Universal Preschool for West Sacramento (UP 4 WS)- First 5 Yolo contributed \$100,000 per year for five years and leveraged these funds to bring in an additional:
 - \$500,000 from the City of West Sacramento
 - \$688,700 from First 5 CA
 - \$685,494 in-kind set aside from Washington Unified School District

Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services

- Reorganized department under new leadership.
- Worked on Prop 63 service plan now online at www.yolocounty.org/docs/MHSA-CSS-Plan.pdf for 30-day public review. Plan will come to the Board for approval in January.
- Obtained a SMSHA grant of \$1.2 million for diversion of the mentally ill from jail.
- Obtained a \$5,000 grant from NACO for training of law enforcement officers.

Personnel Re-organization

- Successfully recruited for, and filled key administrative positions: Interim CAO (Phil Bachelor), permanent CAO (Sharon Jensen) and Assistant CAO (Pat Leary).
- Responded immediately to Grand Jury report regarding the Department of Employment and Social Services. Authorized independent investigation by Judge Rick Gilbert. Moved rapidly on issues raised. Asked for DESS employee input on what issues should be addressed first. Made organizational changes.
- Successfully hired Chief Probation Officer (Don Meyer) and Assistant County Counsel (Robyn Drivon).
- Transferred responsibilities of County Veterans Service Office to Public Administrator/Public Guardian.
- Increased responsibilities of County Administrative Office by adding the following Divisions: Economic Development and Intergovernmental and Public Affairs.
- Consolidated offices of Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector, effective January 2007.
- Established new county departments: General Services, Information Technology, and Human Resources.
- Appointed Interim DESS Director (Diana Williams) followed by permanent DESS Director (Pamela Miller).
- Reached agreement with Deputy Sheriff Association and Sheriff Management Association.
- Reached tentative agreement with In-Home Supportive Services providers.

Go Team Yolo!