

SUBJECT: Approve an Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture regarding Standardization Inspections.

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Approve an Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, to provide State funding of \$43,799.95 to offset costs of providing fruit and vegetable inspection services for the State Standardization program for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.
- 2. Authorize the Chairman to sign two copies of the Agreement.

SUMMARY:

In 1915, the California Legislature established minimum standards for all fresh fruits, nuts and vegetables, marking the beginning of Standardization. Standardization came at the behest of California fresh fruit and vegetable industry to protect consumers and industry from substandard products. Under the Standardization program today, over 30 major commodities must meet specific standards, while all other commodities must meet at least minimum standards established by the Food and Agriculture Code. Prior to 1992, the Standardization program was entirely funded by the State General Fund. Today, the program is funded entirely by industry. Funding is derived from a set container fee assessment.

This Agreement is intended to render financial aid to the County to provide fruit and vegetable inspection services for the State Standardization program. These services will ensure that agricultural products sold in the County meet the requirements of the State Standardization program, so that all immature, stolen

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and/or excessively damaged fruit is kept off the market and that only wholesome fruit will be sold to consumers.

This Agreement has been approved as to form by County Counsel. The following terms deviate substantively from the standard County boilerplate:

1) Neither party to the agreement will indemnify the other.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

No additional net county cost to the General Fund. The County will receive funding up to \$43,799.95 for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 from the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Revenues and the associated expenditures for this program will be included in the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer's Fiscal Year 2019/2020 budget.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Economic Well-Being Initiative to promote economic development opportunities, effective growth management, and a quality standard of living. This request to authorize an Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture for the purpose of regulating produce being sold and/or processed in the county will insure timely continuance of a long-standing program of protecting the County's agriculture-based economy by insuring all immature, stolen and/or excessively damaged fruit is kept off the market so that only wholesome fruit will be sold to consumers.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Jonathan D. Bixler Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) California Department of Food and Agriculture Standardization Agreement for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 (19-0023-000-SA)

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGARDING STANDARDIZATION INSPECTIONS

Resolution No. _____ Agreement No. _____

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISO	R,	SECONDED	BY
SUPERVISOR	, THE FOLLOWING	WAS ADOPTED BY	THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OF	FICIAL MEETING HE	ELD	

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____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/ CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY:

Deputy Clerk

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