



**Agricultural  
Commissioner/Sealer  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One  
PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two  
AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three  
EDDIE VALERO  
District Four  
DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** April 28, 2020 - **REVISED**

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Tom Tucker    PHONE: 684-3350				

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing to consider changes to the fee schedule of the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

**REQUEST(S):**  
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Conduct a Public Hearing for the proposed fee changes for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.
2. Approve the attached proposed fee schedule, effective July 1, 2020, for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.
3. Approve the new Industrial Hemp Inspections and Permitting Fee, effective April 28, 2020, for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.

**SUMMARY:**  
The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer performs certain functions for which fees may be charged to recover incurred costs. These functions include charges for inspection, and certification fees to recover costs associated with issuing Phytosanitary Certificates for citrus, stone fruits, and other exportable commodities. Legal authority for assessing these is found in the California Food and Agricultural Code sections 5202-5204. A fee for "Other Services" is used when a voluntary service is requested by industry. This year, the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer is requesting an increase on High Intensity certifications, the Field Inspection hourly rate, the Seed Inspection hourly rate, and the hourly rate for Other Services, to bring the fees up to 100% cost recovery. The department is requesting a decrease in the Regular certification fee to better reflect the actual cost of providing the service.

The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer also inspects weighing and measuring

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**DATE:** April 28, 2020

devices, for which a fee is charged. The legal authority for these inspections is found in the California Business and Professions Code section 12240. The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer is requesting that the fees for inspecting electric sub meters and vapor submeters be raised from \$2.00 each to \$3.00 and \$4.00 each, respectively. The increased fees still represent well under full cost recovery, but are the maximum allowed by the Code.

Lastly, the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer wishes to add two new fees for inspection work and permitting. The first is the addition of a fee to test Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE). Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment is a new technology and Tulare County is experiencing new devices entering into the local marketplace. These will need to be tested and an appropriate fee charged to offset the costs. The legal authority for this fee is found in the Business and Professions Code section 12240. The second new fee is for Industrial Hemp inspections and permitting. This is a new program fee and the Commissioner wishes to charge for cost recovery with an hourly rate, effective April 28, 2020. Mileage reimbursement, shipping, and other related expenses will be invoiced as direct reimbursement costs. The legal authority for these inspections is found in the California Food and Agricultural Code section 81005.

The County Auditor has reviewed the proposed fees and believes the methodology used appears reasonable. The attached fee schedule includes these changes.

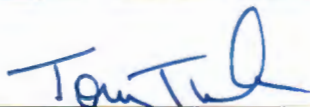
**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The approval of this action will result in an estimated fiscal impact of \$51,851 of increased revenue in the FY 2020/21 budget.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

The County's Five-Year Strategic Plan includes the Organizational Performance initiative to provide for the stability of County operations through periods of economic fluctuations and changing priorities and service demands.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**



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Tom Tucker  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s)

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County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

**DATE:** April 28, 2020

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Summary of proposed Fee Changes  
Notice of Public Hearing



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

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING )  
TO CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE FEE ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHEDULE OF THE TULARE COUNTY ) Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

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

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Conducted a Public Hearing for the proposed fee changes for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.
2. Approved the attached proposed fee schedule, effective July 1, 2020, for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.
3. Approved the new Industrial Hemp Inspections and Permitting Fee, effective April 28, 2020, for the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.

