June 2, 2015

Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Recommendation of Supervisors Bennett and Long Regarding Authorization of Chair to Sign and Send a Letter to the Area Housing Authority Board of Commissioners Requesting Information

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Chair to sign and send the attached letter to the Area Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

DISCUSSION:

The County of Ventura is a participating member of the Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura ("AHA") formed pursuant to Health and Safety Code sections 34240.1 and 34241. The formation agreement, as well as generally applicable law, provides that AHA shall be governed in the exercise of its powers by the provisions of the Housing Authority Law set forth in the Health and Safety Code, at section 34200 et seq.

While the County, as well as the participating cities, have appointed commissioners on the AHA Board of Commissioners, the County has the duty and responsibility to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of the AHA to ensure that the purposes motivating the County's desire to partner with cities in operating area housing programs are being achieved to the fullest extent possible. To facilitate that public goal, the Health and Safety Code provides that "[a]n authority shall supply to the governing body of its respective city or county, on request, such information relating to its activities as are public records." (Health & Safety Code, sec. 34283.)
The recent hearing of our Board regarding the appointment of a new member of the AHA Board of Commissioners involved a number of questions regarding the AHA. In order to appropriately inform our Board and appropriately discharge our duties under State law, we recommend that the attached letter seeking information be sent to the AHA Board of Commissioners.

Cordially,

Steve Bennett  
Supervisor, First District

Attachment:  
Chair's Letter to AHA Board of Commissioners