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**Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, September 23,
2025**

Item Number: 1.4

MEETING DATE: 09/23/2025

DEPARTMENT: COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Gracie Rodriguez

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Esperanza Colio Warren

SUBJECT:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE - E. COLIO WARREN

1. Approve a retroactive contract with the Regents of the University of California in the amount of \$104,434.00 to provide general program support for the UC Extension Program, as outlined in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Budget for the term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, aligning with the State-County fiscal cycle for billing purposes; and
2. Authorize the Board Chair, or their designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the County.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 119

AGENDA SECTION:

CONSENT AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

During the FY25/26 Budget Hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved continued funding for the UC Cooperative Extension Program. This program operates in partnership with the Regents of the University of California to provide general program support. The attached contract with the Regents is retroactive to July 1, 2025, aligning with the State’s fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), as required for UC’s billing purposes.

UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) is a statewide network of UC researchers and educators who deliver science-based solutions to address local challenges in agriculture, natural resources, youth development, and nutrition. Housed within the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR), UCCE advisors live and work in every California county, applying UC research to support local

communities and businesses.

OVERVIEW

Across California, the University of California's 64 Cooperative Extension offices are local problem-solving centers. They are the Bridge between local issues and the power of UC research. The county base staff are a part of the community who live and work in the areas served.

More than 300 campus-based specialists and county-based farm, home, and youth advisors work as teams to bring practical, unbiased, science-based answers to problems across California.

As part of the agricultural community, UC Cooperative extension helps farmers develop more efficient growing methods, solve pest management problems and develop crops and irrigation methods that use less water.

As stewards of the land, they help develop smart water use strategies, wildfire education, and help preserve natural areas and farmland.

As advocates for healthy communities, they promote health diets and exercise for better health, help Californians learn to choose the most nutritious foods and help shape the citizens of tomorrow through the 4-H development program.

The division of Agricultural and Natural Resources (ANR) people, programs and science-based solutions bridge conflicting interests by bringing knowledge, targeted research and local education to complex problems and by preparing common ground for informed and responsible decisions. Within UC, ANR's mission is to:

- Maintain and enhance connections that fully engage UC with people of California,
- Achieve innovation in fundamental and applied research and education that supports sustainable, safe, nutritious food production and delivery,
- Achieve economic success in global economy,
- Achieve a sustainable, healthy and productive environment,
- Science literacy and youth development programs.

With ANR's help, agricultural producers have increased yields, improved water efficiency, reduced pesticide loads, become more sustainable, and made food safer. ANR research has helped agriculture stay ahead of new introductions of invasive insects, pests, and diseases, saving producers millions of dollars per year and keeping export markets open. UC AES scientists pioneered the concept of integrated pest management and classical biological control. ANR's Integrated Pest Management Program revolutionized pest management practices in the state, resulting in substantially reduced pesticide use over nearly three decades.

Making a Difference: Healthy Communities UC has a physical presence in each of California's 58

counties, providing access to the research and education within UC as well as the direct delivery of knowledge and services at the community level. ANR academics contribute to the health and viability of agriculture and natural resources by providing direct services at the community level. These direct services are augmented by thousands of associated volunteers. For example, supported by campus faculty in youth development, ANR houses the 4-H Youth Development Program, one of the largest youth development programs in the nation. In California, 4-H teaches youth (ages 5 to 19) through afterschool and classroom enrichment programs, science literacy, and traditional club programs delivered in every county. Twenty thousand 4-H volunteers serve as social agents of the University of California in virtually every community in the state. 4-H alumni have learned valuable science, citizenship, and healthy lifestyle skills that serve them in their adult lives. This linkage between human development and physical and life science faculty ensures strong science-based curriculum and effective delivery to youth in all parts of the state. ANR is also responsible for the Master Gardener Program, which is supported by environmental horticulture faculty from the campuses. ANR academics train volunteers with the most advanced information on landscape management and horticulture. UC Master Gardeners interact directly with communities by providing homeowners, and backyard gardeners with research-based information and advice on plant selection, alternatives to pesticides, water conservation, and environmentally sound solutions for pest problems. In 2007–08, over 4,100 UC Master Gardeners volunteered over 300,000 hours, which represented 145 full-time positions.

FISCAL IMPACT:

General Fund, Budgeted for FY25/26 under 101.15.1110.1000.619.250

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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2. Authorize the Board Chair, or their designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the County.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Contract - UC Regents FY 25-26](#)

[Budget Performance Report 101.15.1110.1000.619.250.](#)

[Agenda Fact Sheet-UC Regents](#)