ACTION MINUTES

LAND USE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 15, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Louis Boitano, Supervisor, District IV
Richard Forster, Supervisor, District II

Supervisor Boitano called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA: Approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The February 16, 2012 minutes were approve as submitted.

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

ITEM 1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING FOOD FACILITY INSPECTIONS—Environmental Health
(Present: Mike Israel, Environmental Health)

Discussion took place regarding the posting of food facility inspections on the County's website for viewing by the public. Mike Israel said it was not the intent to rate facilities but rather to post the violations occurring at a facility. It is the Department's goal to encourage businesses to comply with regulations by cleaning up and eliminating any violations they may have. Posting information on the County's website would enable the public to make an informed decision as to where they would like to eat or shop.

Committee Action: The Committee supported the posting of food facility violations on the County's website and recommended obtaining the approval of the full Board.

Also discussed was the desire by the Department to increase food program annual permit fees, and eventually all program annual permit fees, in an attempt to achieve cost recovery. Currently Amador County's food program fees are 60 percent of the overall average as compared to five comparable counties. The food program is at 65 percent of cost recovery. Mike Israel proposed increasing fees gradually; i.e., a percentage per year until full cost recovery is attained.

Response to the recent Norovirus outbreak was approximately 50 hours and that cost was not recovered. Posting violations on the website would be a minimal cost; however, it could increase the demand for reinspections. Therefore, in the future, it is the Department's desire to be able to bill for reinspections in order to recover such costs. In addition, other counties target 2 inspections per year for restaurants where Amador County performs one inspection per year.

The Committee supported:

- Charging reinspection fees based on time required to perform the inspection.
- Phasing in 2 inspections per year by 2013.
- Gradually increasing fees over a period of 5 years.

Committee Action: The Committee directed Mike Israel, before bringing this matter back to the Committee, to:

- Provide a breakdown of direct costs.
- Provide suggested fee increases.
- Check with counsel to determine if it is legal to subsidize one area with another.
- Do a fee comparison with 5 counties and with 4 counties (eliminate Yolo).
- Substantiate the Department's $96 hourly rate.
- Provide a breakdown on the amount of time required to do an inspection per facility.
- Look at statewide or national statistics on the number of inspections performed per year.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.