

MEMORANDUM

COPY

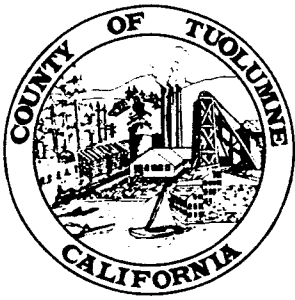
9/15/98

TO: MELA TURNES
FROM: JUDGE DuTEMPLE
RE: GRAND JURY RESPONSES

Attached are Responses from Tuolumne County Library, and from Twain Harte Community Services District. Please keep a file of all the Responses received and, after the period of time allotted for responses to the Grand Jury Report, please give me the file containing the responses received, along with a list of those agencies that have not responded by that date. Thank you.

ELD:km

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E L D' followed by a stylized flourish.



Tuolumne County Library

SHIRLEY OLLER
County Librarian

480 Greenley Road
Sonora, California 95370
Phone: (209) 533-5507
Fax: (209) 533-0936

September 3, 1998

Eric L. DuTemple, Judge of the Superior Court

RESPONSE TO FY 1997/98 GRAND JURY REPORT

It was a pleasure to meet with the FY1997-98 Grand Jury Committee, and discuss the many changes at the Tuolumne County Library. There are a few minor corrections or updates to the final report:

P.28, Staffing: In addition to the staffing listed, the Main Library has one additional thirty hour per week position.

P.28, Automation: Branch automation has taken longer than anticipated, and Miwuk and Jamestown branch libraries will not be on line until October 30, 1998, three months later than we had planned.

P.29, Public Internet Access: Our branch libraries are very small, and finding space for the necessary equipment presents a challenge. Beginning this month, the California State Library and the Gates Foundation will be working with the California State Library to possibly supply California libraries with equipment for public Internet access.

P.29, Volunteers/Friends of the Library: The Main Library and the Groveland Branch have many dedicated volunteers who contribute a very significant number of hour every year. Friends of the Library is a separate, fund raising organization whose members work very hard to raise money for special library projects and materials. Volunteers may or may not be members of the Friends of the Library.

P.29, Skate Park: The installation of a portable toilet at the Skate Park has alleviated use of library restrooms by park and skate park users.

SO.

Submitted by Shirley Oller, Director of Library Services

TWAIN HARTE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 649
TWAIN HARTE, CA 95383
209 586-3172
Fax 209 586-0424

September 8, 1998

The Honorable Eric DuTemple
Judge of the Superior Court
41 West Yaney Avenue
Sonora, Ca 95370

Dear Judge DuTemple;

Twain Harte Community Services District thanks you for the opportunity to respond to the 1997-98 Grand Jury Report.

We would like to make the following comments regarding that report.

1. In the first paragraph under "Findings:" it is reported that our water and sewer has been included in the computer upgrade which, in fact, at present we are still working on these two systems for mapping.

2. In paragraph three under "Sewer Department:" it states that Twain Harte has 6" sewer lines except at the golf course. In fact, most of our laterals are either 4 " or 6" lines. Our trunk lines on Golf Club Drive and Twain Harte Drive are between 8" and 12".

3. In the paragraph concerning the Fire Department it states that Tuolumne County collects the funding of \$365,765 through a fire tax assessment on property within the Service District. In actuality we collect approximately \$83,000 through the fire tax and the remainder is from general property tax funds.

Respectfully,



Robert E. Sandberg
General Manager

RES/cr

Grand Jury Final Report

Twain Harte Community Services District

Overview:

Twain Harte Community Services District (THCSD) was formed August 1, 1996. The District oversees the operation of Water, Sewer, Fire, and Parks for the Twain Harte area. The Water Department portion of the District has existed since 1946 and Parks since 1941. THCSD has over 1,500 water and sewer connections.

Reason For Investigation:

Since THCSD is rather new as a District, the Special Districts Committee elected to review their progress. The purpose was to determine the efficiency of operation and services.

Methodology:

A meeting was held with THCSD October 8, 1997 between Committee members and Bob Sandberg, THCSD Manager, and THCSD staff. Interviews were held and a copy of the 1997-98 budget was obtained.

Findings:

The combined budget for the fiscal year is \$1,032,287. They have a total of 10 staff members for all divisions of the District. The District is currently compiling a policy and procedure manual and organizational chart. A new computer system and software programs have been installed at a cost of \$30,000. In addition to running the Districts business accounts, the software includes mapping and sewer programs. The District has been able to reduce insurance costs by combining all the divisions into one unit.

The Board of Directors consists of five members who were appointed by the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors. The appointees were all selected from the previous separate components of Water and Sewer, Parks, and the Fire Department. Their terms will expire in 1999. Then the voters within the district will elect new board members.

Because the District is so diverse, each segment will be addressed separately.

Water Department:

The Water Department is budgeted for \$380,683 of the above total. Income is derived solely from user fees. Three staff members perform the maintenance on both the water and sewer systems.

The new Black Oak School had a combined charge for water and sewer hook ups. The

charge was based on a per-family unit equivalent at \$1,900 per family. The total fee collected by THCS D from the Twain Harte School District was \$90,000.

Sewer Department:

The Sewer Department's budget is \$265,308. Income is derived solely from user fee charges. Maintenance is shared with the Water Department.

The District Director stated that there might be problems in the future as more low-flow toilets are installed because this type of toilet does not provide sufficient water to flush the sewer lines properly. At present, THCS D is able to minimize this problem by diverting water from the required routine flushing of fire hydrants, into and through the sewer system.

Twain Harte has 6" sewer lines except at the golf course, which has 8" lines. Due to the incline, there are no problems handling the capacity. The raw sewage is then piped to TUD facilities for treatment.

Fire Department:

The Fire Department has a budget of \$365,765. Tuolumne County collects the funding through a fire tax assessment on property within the Service District. These funds provide for a staff of four and equipment. The purchase of used equipment from the State and other Fire Districts reduces equipment costs.

Parks Department:

The budget for the Parks Department is \$20,531, of which approximately \$19,000 is funded by the County. They offer the only public tennis courts in the county. The tennis courts are in poor condition and there are plans to refurbish them. The cost to refurbish them is \$74,000. The County will provide \$30,000 of this cost. The district has applied through the Sonora Area Foundation to help with some of the cost. More funding will be needed before it can be finished.

The County is discussing whether or not to have THCS D take over the care and maintenance of the swimming pool. The District does not currently have funds for this.

THCS D has a working agreement with the golf course. THCS D receives free mowing services for the ball field in exchange for allowing the golf course to use a small portion of District property.

Conclusion:

It is the Grand Jury's opinion that the Twain Harte Community Services District is properly staffed, maintained, and operated in an efficient manner.

Recommendations:

Recommend if the County wishes THCSD take over the care and maintenance of the swimming pool, that the County provide the necessary funding.

Recommend THCSD and the County work together to provide the needed funding for refurbishing the tennis courts.

Recommend a future Grand Jury follow up on the above suggestions and to also ascertain if a policy and procedure manual and organizational chart have been completed.

- Vacation-Olson**

7.

Resolution No. 218-98 setting public hearing for October 4, 11:00 a.m., to consider vacation of two, ten foot wide public easements, lying five feet on each side of the common boundary between Lots 89 and 90, and Lots 90 and 91, Pine Mountain Subdivision Unit No. 2, for John V. and Janet E. Olson.
- Offer to Dedicate-PG&E**

8.

Resolution No. 219-98 accepting an Irrevocable and Perpetual Offer to Dedicate, a portion of road and public utility easement, named Nugget Boulevard, as described in Exhibits "A" and "B", accepting said described road and public utility easement, for public use, by rejecting said road easement for inclusion into the County-maintained road systems, for Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a California Corporation.
- Offer to Dedicate-TUD**

9.

Resolution No. 220-98 accepting an Irrevocable and Perpetual Offer to Dedicate, portions of road and public utility easements, as described in Exhibits "A", "B", "C" and "D", named Nugget Boulevard, and to be named Camage Avenue, accepting for public use, said public utility easement, but rejecting said road easement, for public use, as described in Exhibits "A" and "B", accepting said described portion of road and public utility easement, named Nugget Boulevard, for public use but rejecting said road easement, named Nugget Boulevard, for maintenance and inclusion into the County maintained road system, as described in Exhibits "C" and "D" for Tuolumne Utilities District, a County water district.
- Offer to Dedicate-Sierra Pacific Industries**

10.

Resolution No. 221-98 accepting an Irrevocable and Perpetual Offer to Dedicate, portions of road and public utility easements, as described in Exhibits "A", "B", "C" and "D", to be named Camage Avenue, accepting said described public utility easements, named Camage Avenue, for public use, but rejecting said described road easements, for public use, for Sierra Pacific Industries.
- NOC-Probation Parking Lot**

11.

Notice of Completion for the Probation Department parking lot reconstruction project, authorizing the Chairman to sign.
- Reclassif-Court Exec & Assist Exec Officers**

12.

Court Executive Officer and Assistant Court Executive Officer class specifications and related reclassifications.
- Agreement-Eligibility Wrkr Induction Training**

13.

Agreement with Kings County to provide eligibility worker induction training, authorizing the Human Services Director to sign.
- Agreement-Accept of Fed Block Grant Funds**

14.

Agreement with the State EMS Authority for acceptance of the federal block grant funds, in the amount of \$18,600 for FY 1998/99, authorizing the Chairman to sign.
- Response to 97/98 Grand Jury Report**

(15)

Recommended response to the FY 1997/98 Grand Jury Final Report.

AGENDA REQUEST AND SUMMARY

For 9-22-98 Agenda

Deadline for Action 9-22-98 Consent Calendar: Yes No

1. WORDING FOR AGENDA (Include precise wording for required action, authorizing, etc. as it is to appear on the Board Agenda)

Recommended Response to the FY 1997-98 Grand Jury Final Report

2. FINANCING-ESTIMATED COUNTY COST: (Enter "none" if no cost)

3. FUNDS BUDGETED: Yes ___ Acct. # or Fund ___
No ___ Requested from ___ Fund

4. REVIEWED WITH: COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER-YES NO ___
COUNTY COUNSEL -YES ___ NO ___
OTHER DEPARTMENTS (List) _____

5. THE FOLLOWING OUTSIDE AGENCIES OR INDIVIDUALS TO BE NOTIFIED OF BOARD ACTION: (Include complete mailing address and indicate number of copies of each)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

6. Number OF COPIES REQUIRED BY REQUESTING DEPARTMENT: (Indicate Minute Excerpt, Resolution, Agreement, etc.)

7. COMMENTS: _____

Requesting Department: CAO

Submitted by: C. Brent Wallace

Approved by: _____ Date: 9-14-98

(Department Head Signature)

Department: Retain 2nd copy; submit original to Board Clerk



County Administrator's Office

C. Brent Wallace
County Administrator

Tuolumne County Administration Center
2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370
Phone (209) 533-5511
FAX (209) 533-5510

September 14, 1998

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: C. Brent Wallace, County Administrator *C. Brent Wallace*

SUBJECT: Recommended Response to the FY 1997-98 Grand Jury Final Report

Attached is the recommended response to the FY 1997098 Grand Jury Final Report for your approval.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board approve this recommended response so it may be transmitted to the presiding judge of the superior court.

CBW:ele
Encs.

RESPONSE TO THE FY 1997-98 GRAND JURY REPORT

Animal Control (Page 7)

Recommendation

Recommend a review of the lease and the problems with the building. The County should consider a more cost-effective facility, which could expand to accommodate future growth.

Response

As noted in the Grand Jury Report, the County is committed to the current facility via its long-term lease with the Humane Society. As long as the County is a tenant at the facility, it will continue to evaluate the facility and take actions to correct deficiencies and make improvements when appropriate.

Recommendation

Recommend if a more cost effective facility is not possible, the building not be accepted until the contractor fully corrects the drainage problems and location of pipes protruding into animal spaces.

Response

Since issuance of the Grand Jury's report, the contractor for the County's tenant improvements has made significant progress towards finishing the project. Accordingly, the project has been determined to be substantially complete. What little work remains will be completed by the contractor or completed by a demand on the contractor's bond.

Recommendation

Recommend Animal Control and the Humane Society install separate utility meters.

Response

For clarification, separate meters currently exist for propane and electric power. The County is researching alternatives for separate metering of water. Separate metering of sewer does not appear feasible at this time.

Recommendation

Recommend the front door be changed to open both directions.

Response

Done

Recommendation

Recommend a larger budget to allow for one full time attendant and one full time officer.

Response

The Final FY 1998-99 Budget included increased funding to allow for: 1) conversion of 1 FTE of relief Shelter Attendant to 1 permanent, full-time Shelter Attendant. This should improve stability of shelter staffing; 2) a slight increase in overall Shelter Attendant hours; and 3) the addition of a relief Office Assistant whose main purpose will be to pursue a more aggressive spay/neuter program, but who will also be able to help with general office coverage. This position is being funded by the spay/neuter trust fund. Staff is also researching the use of Cal Works workers, Probation crews, volunteers like those of the Sheriff's CSU unit, outside contracting of dead animal pick-up and conversion to a new computer system and licensing program to enhance service and free existing staff to pursue more technical and/or demanding functions. Progress towards and the effectiveness of these actions will be evaluated as part of the County's mid-year budget review process. Depending on the findings of this review, additional staffing may be recommended to the Board of Supervisors.

Office of Auditor-Controller (Page 9)

Recommendation

Recommend staffing be restored to an adequate level so that internal financial audits of County departments can resume.

Response

Concur.

Recommendation

Recommend travel and expense reports of individual department heads are reviewed and reported with the same level of visibility and disclosure as the Board of Supervisors.

Response

All travel and expense reports are available to the public and the same rules apply to all who submit these claims.

Recommendation

Recommend the 1998-99 Grand Jury follow up on the progress of the new departmental performance and financial audits.

Response

Concur.

Recommendation

Recommend the 1998-99 Grand Jury review the status of the accounting interface between TGH and the County's computer system.

Response

• Concur.

Building Department (Page 13)

Recommendation

Recommend the additional inspector requested be approved.

Response

An additional inspector was added during budget hearings.

Health & Welfare, Social Services (Page 16)

Recommendation

Recommend all the accused involved in a Child Abuse case be notified at the time a Child Welfare Services report is filed with the State Department of Justice.

Response

As of January 1, 1998, under SB 644 and AB 1065, a child protective agency is required to provide the suspect with written notification that he/she has been reported to the Child Abuse Central Index, upon completion of an investigation. All suspects who are the subjects of substantiated or inconclusive reports are provided written notification. Tuolumne County Child Welfare Services is in current compliance with these amendments to the penal code.

While every effort is made to expedite child abuse investigations, there are times when an investigation could exceed a 30 day time frame, particularly is there is a concurrent criminal investigation. With the introduction of the Child Welfare Services computerized statewide data base (CWS/CMS), supervisory personnel are now able to track all investigations to ensure they are completed in a timely manner.

Information Systems & Services (Page 20)

Recommendation

There will be a need for additional qualified IS&S personnel to properly implement the strategic plan during the next few years. The Grand Jury recommends capable personnel be hired as the success of ISS affects all County departments.

Response

The FY 1998-99 Budget included substantial increases in relief System Analyst/Programmer and Technician staffing, conversion of 2 FTE of relief Data Entry Clerk to permanent, full-time Technician positions are well as funding to implement a new series plan for ISS staff. At the end of FY 1998-99, the composition and level of staffing at ISS will again be re-evaluated. The functions of Network Administration and Database Administration will be a special focus at that time. ISS in concert with the County's Human Resources Division has and will continue to solicit and hire fully qualified staff.

Library Services (Page 29)

Recommendation

Recommend Internet access at the branches be accomplished as soon as possible.

Response

The branch libraries are very small, and finding space, as well as funding for the necessary equipment, presents a challenge.

Recommendation

Recommend the County consider providing additional parking and permanent restroom facilities for the park and skate park.

Response

The installation of a portable toilet at the Skate Park has alleviated use of library restrooms by park and skate park users.

Planning Department (Page 30)

Recommendation

The Planning Department, realizing the need to project a more “user friendly” image to the building and development community, should continue to develop methods that would simplify the permit application process.

Response

See attached response from Planning Director.

Sheriff's Department and Jail (Page 45)

Recommendation

The Grand Jury recommends adequate funding for a centralized Law & Justice Center which will house the entire Sheriff's Department Operation.

Response

See attached response from Sheriff.

Recommendation

Grand Jury recommends applying for Federal, State and local grants for additional Sheriff's Deputies to give more coverage to outlying areas of our County.

Response

See attached response from Sheriff.

Recommendation

The Grand Jury recommends salary scales commensurate with other counties of our size.

Response

See attached response from Sheriff.

Treasurer/Tax Collector (Page 48)

Recommendation

The new software requested is needed and the Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors approve its purchase. Benefits derived will provide more comprehensive information and better management tools to help increase collection revenue.

Response

Concur. The software is in the process of being ordered and should be installed this fiscal year.

Tuolumne General Hospital (Page 50)

Recommendation

Get the new computer system up and running by December 31, 1998.

Response

Hospital staff, County Auditor's staff and County ISS staff are working on a January, 1, 1999, "go-live" date for the computer system. Vendors are working toward this target. Training is ongoing. The infrastructure cabling has been installed. Date General hardware is installed at ISS.

Recommendation

Fill the CFO and Controller/Analysts positions with hospital-experienced, qualified candidates without further delay.

Response

The Controller position was filled on June 24, 1998, and the CFO position was filled on July 5, 1998.



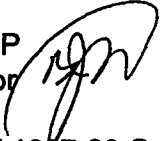
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

BEV SHANE, AICP
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

August 18, 1998

A. N. Francisco Building
48 West Yaney Street
MAILING:
2 South Green Street
Sonoma, CA 95370
(209) 533-5611

TO: C. Brent Wallace,
County Administrator

FROM: Bev Shane, AICP
Planning Director 

RE: Response to FY 1997-98 Grand Jury Final Report

The following is the response to the recommendation made by the Grand Jury in their FY 1995-96 report for the Planning Department which concerns the simplification of the permit application process:

Recommendation: *The Planning Department, realizing the need to project a more "user friendly" image to the building and development community, should continue to develop methods that would simplify the permit application process.*

Response: In adopting the Tuolumne County General Plan in 1996, the Board of Supervisors made a commitment to streamline the development permitting processes and provide the highest quality of public service. This commitment is iterated throughout the General Plan but is best exemplified by the following Implementation Programs contained in the Economic Development Element:

10.A.c Streamline and Improve Permit Processing

Assist businesses by streamlining application and permit review processes by identifying a single point of contact for each development project and continuing to coordinate improvements in the efficiency of the respective development departments. Establish a priority for responses by staff to requests for data and assistance pertaining to land development projects that entail the creation of new jobs.

10.A.d Cross-train Staff and Review Staffing Levels

Reduce processing times for project review within County departments by cross-training and integrating staff from different departments to encourage a broad understanding of the various application review processes. Review staffing levels to determine if adding staff will reduce delays in permit processing.

10.A.e Improve Communication Skills

Provide training in public relations to all County staff who interact with the public to improve communication skills.

10.A.f Develop a Permit Tracking System

Develop an automated computer tracking system, common to all development departments, to enable applicants to access information regarding project status and to improve the efficiency of the respective departments through automation.

10.A.g Simplify Development Entitlement Applications

Create a single countywide land development application form, where practical, that would enable an individual to apply for all necessary permits for a development project on a single form.

10.A.h Provide Handouts to Assist Businesses

Provide easy to understand visual aids, flow charts and handouts explaining the County's various land development permitting processes, with a minimal amount of technical jargon, to the local Chambers of Commerce, trade associations, service clubs, business leagues and other government officers where potential applicants would be likely to review these materials. Include information on the requirements, processes and fees for obtaining licenses, permits and other entitlements. Periodically update all handouts to reflect changes in ordinances, policies and procedures.

10.A.i Implement Customer Service Surveys

Implement follow-up customer service surveys, for all development departments, to gauge public satisfaction and to suggest changes to permit processing.

10.A.j Create Standardized Development Requirements

Maintain a well defined set of standards that are to be required for each generalized type of development, such as commercial or industrial, to provide greater certainty to applicants of the regulations and conditions that can be anticipated for the

Mr. Brent Wallace
August 18, 1998
Page 3

respective types of development projects.

Concurrently with the adoption of the General Plan, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 231-96 committing the County to an expeditious implementation of the policies and programs contained in that Plan, constrained only by available staff and resources, and designating the Planning Department as the agency responsible for the implementation.

Since the adoption of the General Plan in December, 1996, the Planning Department has spearheaded its implementation. Planning Staff has drafted changes to ordinances and resolutions and assisted other departments in their efforts to update the County's development regulations to comply with the General Plan policies and programs.

This effort will continue in the coming year with a focus on improved customer service and efficiency. In adopting the County's budget for Fiscal Year 1998-99, the Board of Supervisors gave the Planning Department and other development related departments more resources to bring the permit streamlining program to fruition. These resources include funds for a permit tracking system, the establishment of a one-stop permitting center, customer service training, and improved coordination in the permitting process through the establishment of the Community Development Department. This new department, which will be comprised of six divisions, including Building and Safety, Code Compliance, Planning, Fire Prevention, Engineering, and Clerical, will provide enhanced opportunities for cross-training of employees, consolidated public handouts, and standardization of procedures, forms, and service, all of which will serve to meet the County's goal of providing the best possible service to the public.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this response to the Grand Jury's comments concerning the permitting process.

BJS




SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Richard Nutting
Sheriff-Coroner

Michael M. Costa
Assistant Sheriff
Lee Sanford
Assistant Sheriff

August 10, 1998

To: C. Brent Wallace, County Administrator

From: Richard Nutting, Sheriff/Coroner 

Subject: Response to FY 1997-98 Grand Jury Final Report

GRAND JURY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation: *The Grand Jury recommends adequate funding for a centralized Law and Justice Center, which will house the entire Sheriff's Department operation.*

Response: The Sheriff's Department agrees completely with this recommendation. The need for the Law and Justice Center was documented in the 1996 Long Range Jail Needs Study Report. Co-locating the Sheriff's Department with the other criminal justice agencies allows a cost-effective means to address the space needs of these agencies. Management of the Sheriff's Department would be significantly enhanced by having all Divisions co-located; including Operations Division, Jail and Boat Patrol.

The Sheriff's Department encourages long range County planning to develop, design and construct the Law and Justice Center.

Recommendation: *The Grand Jury recommends applying for Federal, State and local grants for additional Sheriff's Deputies to give more coverage to outlying areas of our County.*

Response: The Sheriff's Department has sought grants to increase deputy coverage. In 1993, the Department received a Federal COPS grant for four additional deputy positions. The grant allowed \$25,000 per year for a three year period for each of the positions (\$300,000). Unfortunately, the cost of a deputy sheriff in 1993/4 was around \$53,000 per deputy, plus operational costs. Thus the grant would cover only about 48% of the basic personnel costs. After several discussions with the Board of Supervisors, it was determined that the County could not provide the needed match funding. The grant was declined.

In May, 1998, the Sheriff's Department completed a COPS UNIVERSAL HIRING grant application. As part of the application process, the Department

secured a Board of Supervisors Resolution pledging the necessary match funding. The Department is currently waiting action by the Federal COPS office on the grant application.

It should be noted, however, that Federal COPS grants are limited to use of the additional deputies for Community Oriented Policing activities. The Department's plan for these positions is to station one COPS deputy in each Community Services Office in Twain Harte, Jamestown, East Sonora and Tuolumne. The deputies would work with their respective communities and the elementary schools that serve the communities. The current School Resource Officers would be reassigned to cover Columbia, Bellview, Soulsbyville and Curtis Creek elementary schools.

The Department has not located any grants that will permit additional deputies for general coverage in outlying areas. Most grant opportunities do not fund for continuing services. Generally they are for limited periods of time that require the County to continue employment after the period of the grant. This has been difficult to "sell" to the Board of Supervisors. Other grants provide one-time funding that can be used only for specific purposes. The Department has applied for and received the following grants.

- Local Law Enforcement Block Grant - 1996. This was a \$18,000 grant requiring a 10% local match. This grant was used to purchase a standardized sidearm for uniformed personnel.
- Local Law Enforcement Block Grant - 1997. This was a \$41,000 grant requiring a 10% local match. This grant was "earmarked" to apply to the purchase of laptop computers for field deputies to prepare crime reports. The system is not yet available and the funds have not been expended.
- Local Law Enforcement Block Grant - 1998. This is a \$72,000 grant requiring a 10% local match. The funds have not yet been received. If a COPS MORE grant (described below) is not awarded, these funds will be used to complete the report laptop program described above. If COPS MORE grant is received, the funds will be utilized for 1) improvements to the Department's training program and to enhance Community Oriented Policing, 2) equipping a crime lab, and 3) replacing or improving the Department's mobile command center and using it in support of Community Oriented Policing.
- COPS MORE. This is a grant for equipment. An application was submitted in May, 1998 and has not yet been awarded. The grant application was to provide each field deputy with a laptop computer, docking stations in each of the CSU offices and the software to connect to the Department's Record Management System. This grant application is for \$66,000 toward the \$91,000 project.

- Department of Corrections Violence Prevention Grant. This State grant of \$66,000 is to make changes to J and K housing units in the Jail to enable 10 existing cells to be used as single cells for potentially violent inmates.
- State COPs Funding. The State of California has made \$100 million available for local law enforcement. It was passed by the legislature in 1996, 1997 and is in the current State Budget. The Sheriff's Department receives \$20,500 for the jail and \$112,000 for law enforcement each year. The Department has utilized this funding to add one investigator to the K.I.T. program and two school resource officers.
- Byrnes Drug Grant. This grant was received by the Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne Narcotic Enforcement Taskforce until the unit disbanded in 1995. The County established a local taskforce consisting of the Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office and Probation Department, known as the Tuolumne Narcotics Team (TNT). A grant application was prepared and received to partially fund this unit. For the 1998-99 fiscal year we receive \$168,000. The funds cover the salaries and benefits for one Sheriff's sergeant, one investigator, two deputy/investigators and a Sheriff's Clerk. Operational costs are contained in the Department's General Fund budget.

It should be noted that the Sheriff's Department does not have a grant writer to search for other grant opportunities. The grants noted above were prepared by Sheriff Nutting. Larger departments, that can afford a grant writer, have been more successful in locating and receiving grants, but most small agencies are limited.

Recommendation: *The Grand Jury recommends salary scales commensurate with other counties our size.*

Response: The salaries of Sheriff's personnel are commensurate with that paid in other counties our size. Unfortunately, the Sheriff's Department is in competition for sworn personnel with the larger valley counties. The Department competes with State agencies, Stanislaus County, San Joaquin County and Merced County for deputies. We cannot match the salaries and benefits of the larger agencies.

It should be noted, however, the Department rarely loose personnel to these larger agencies. We lost an deputy/investigator in 1997 to San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department. His reasons for leaving were only partially related to salary. We lost a civil/coroner deputy to Monterey County in 1998 due to higher salary. These are the only deputies lost to higher paying counties in

the past four years. Most deputy loses have been to disability retirement, service retirement or dismissal. Two jail deputies have been lost to the Department of Corrections over the past 4 years. Both have expressed disappointment in their new positions.