

County Fee – Full Cost Recovery

Proposal – Establishment of Fee Level.

This proposal would create a statute that contains all county administered fees. This statute would provide for actual cost recovery for each fee and would set forth a period of review (likely not more than every two to three years) to ensure that fees are properly maintained and indexed to actual costs. The methodology for determining actual cost is already well established by auditing principles established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which include the calculation of administrative overhead (A-87 charges). This statutory change would allow all counties to fully recover the cost of providing the specified service as required by state law.

Background

Many county fees, which are set by statute, no longer come close to full cost recovery. Since these are required services, this results in a subsidy by the county to cover the actual costs. In Yolo County, for example, they have calculated that current fee schedules set by the state cost the county \$492,543 in 2008/09.

Proposal – Cost Recovery

A second proposal is really a variation of the first. Specifically, allow counties to establish fee levels based on actual costs, excepting only those items where the state has determined that there is an overriding state interest in uniformity of fees. In that case, the state should fund the difference between actual cost recovery and the fee level set by the state.

Background

This will allow the state to more appropriately and consciously make policy decisions backed by the use of state funds, rather than local funds.

Yolo County Fees Set by the State

Agriculture Commissioner

Pesticide Use Enforcement Fees

<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Pest Control Advisor Registration, Home County	1974	F&A 12034	\$10.00	\$22.19
Pest Control Advisor Registration, Additional County	1980	F&A 12034	\$5.00	\$22.19
Pest Control Operator Registration	1967	F&A 11732, 11734	\$25.00	\$22.19
Pest Control Pilot Registration, 1st County	1979	F&A 11923	\$10.00	\$22.19
Pest Control Pilot Registration, Additional County	1979	F&A 11923	\$5.00	\$22.19
Structural Pest Control Registration Fee	1984	F&A 15204	\$10.00	\$22.19

Testing Fees

Structural Applicator Exam Fee	1985 or 1980	B&P 8674	\$15.00	\$71.00
Service Agent Exam Fee	2005	B&P 12540, 4 CCR 4083	\$35.00	\$71.00

Agriculture Commissioner Cost Summary

Rasing testing and pesticide use fees to fully cover costs would result in an estimated \$8,000 of additional revenue annually.

Auditor Fees

<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Accounts Receivable, Non-installment	1992	PC 1205(d)	\$35.00	higher
Accounts Receivable, Installment	1983	PC 1205(d)	\$30.00	higher
Process Installment Payments, Adult Felony Charges	1985	PC 1203.1(h)	covers costs	
Restitution Collection	1985	PC 1203.1	10%	15%

Auditor Cost Summary

While cost information is not readily available for these fees, the county often does not pursue restitution collection for victims because the 15% fee charged by the county's collection agency is higher than the 10% maximum fee set by statute.

Clerk-Recorder Fees

<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Share</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Documentary Transfer Tax (per \$1,000)	1991	R&T 11911		covers costs	
File Certificate of Process Server	1991	B&P 22352		covers costs	
File Certificate of Professional Photocopier	2002	B&P 22453		covers costs	
Notice of Determination -- Fish and Game Doc. Handling	2007	F&G 711.4		covers costs	
Fish and Game -- Environmental Impact Report on NOD	2008	F&G 711.4, 713		covers costs	
Fish and Game -- Negative Declaration on NOD	2008	F&G 711.4, 713		covers costs	
Documents Requiring Additional Indexing (per book and page)	1969	GC 27361.2		\$1.00	\$3.50
Filing Maps Additional Pages (per page)	1957	GC 27372, 27361a, c, 2		\$2.00	\$3.50
Filing Maps First Page	1947	GC 27372, 27361.4		\$8.00	\$12.50
Filing Paper not to be Recorded	1991	GC 27380, 27361.4		covers costs	
Indexing 10 or more names	1980	GC 27361.8		\$1.00	\$17.50

Non-Conforming Sized Documents	2002	GC 27361(a)(4)(5)	covers costs
Penalty print	1971	GC 27361(a)(1)	\$1.00 \$3.50
Recording Fee Additional Pages (8 1/2" x 11")	1991	GC 27361, 27361.4	covers costs
Recording Fee First Page (8 1/2" x 11")	1984	GC 27361(a)(d) 27361	\$8.00 \$8.75
Release of State Lien	1994	GC 27361(a)(c), 2736	\$11.00 \$8.75
Release of Unsecured Property Tax	1988	R&T 2191.6	covers costs
Search Fee for Federal Tax or County Liens	2001	CCP 2103	\$15.00 \$26.25
Survey Monument Preservation	2001	GC 27584, 27585	no local cost
Copy of Birth Record (public)	2006	H&S 100430, 103625	\$5.85 \$17.00 \$11.38
Copy of Birth Record (government entity)	2006	H&S 100430, 103625	\$5.45 \$10.00 \$11.38
Copy of Death Record	2006	H&S 100430, 103625, \$5.55	\$12.00 \$11.38
Copy of Marriage Record (gov't entity)	2007	H&S 103625, 100430,	\$9.00 \$11.38
Copy of Regular or Confidential Marriage Record	2002	H&S 103625(c), (f)	\$13.00 \$11.38
Certification of Affidavits	1994	EC 2167	\$1.50 + 6/pg unknown
Clerk-Recorder Cost Summary			
Based on FY 2007-08 fees and processing times estimates, an increase of fees to reflect local processing costs would result in an additional \$118,507 of revenue. [Note: Some county shares are less than the total fee charged.]			
Planning and Public Works Fees			
Title	Year Raised	Authority	Fee Cost
Transportation Permit (Annual blanket)	1994	VC 35795	covers cost
Transportation Permit (Single trip)	1989	VC 35795	\$16.00 \$35.00
Planning and Public Works Cost Summary			
Raising transportation permit fees to the cost of providing the service would result in an estimated additional \$20,000 in annual revenue for the public works department.			
Probation Department Fees			
Title	Year Raised	Authority	Fee Cost
Adult Record Clear Fee	2005	PC 1203.4(c), W&I 903.3(a)	\$120.00 \$159.02
Fingerprint Application Fee	2007	PC 13300.10(e)	\$10.00 \$24.08
Juvenile Record Clear Fee	1994	W&I 903.3(b)	\$120.00 \$270.16
Juvenile Hall Fee	1984	W&I 850, 903, 904	\$25.90 \$45.77
Installment Payment Fee	1995	PC 1203.1 (h)	\$50.00 \$57.34
Plea Change/Verdict Set-Aside Fee	1994	PC 1203.4(d)	\$120.00 \$161.91
Record Sealing Order Fee	1994	PC 1202.45(g)	\$120.00 \$161.91
Probation Department Cost Summary			
Based on FY 200708 revenues, if fees were raised to cover costs the Probation Department would raise an additional \$211,572 of revenue annually.			
Public Defender Fees			

<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Cost</i>	
Registration Fee (all adult cases)	1996	PC 987.5	\$25.00	\$50.00	
Public Defender Cost Summary					
Changing the registration fee to \$50 to better reflect costs would raise an estimated \$24,000 of additional revenue annually.					
Public Health Fees					
<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>County Share</i>	<i>Total Fee</i>	<i>County Cost</i>
Birth Certificate – government agency	1977	H&S 100430, 103625	\$5.45	\$10.00	\$13.18
Birth Certificate – public	1977	H&S 100430, 103625	\$5.85	\$17.00	\$13.18
Permit for Disposal of Human Remains	2005	H&S 103065	\$2.00	\$11.00	\$16.48
Death Record	1977	H&S 100430, 103625	\$5.55	\$12.00	\$19.78
Public Health Cost Summary					
Based on an estimate of FY 2008-09 revenues, increasing vital records fees to reflect local processing costs would result in an additional \$110,465 of revenue for the Public Health Department. Currently, the shortfall that results from the inadequate county share of vital records fees is filled using Health Realignment funds. This money could be used for other public health purposes if fees were increased to cover local processing costs. [Note: County shares are less than total fee charged. 100% of the recommended increase would have to go to Yolo County in order to cover processing costs.]					
Treasurer and Tax Collector Fees					
<i>Title</i>	<i>Year Raised</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Cost</i>	
Bond Registration/Re-Registration	1961	GC 5008	\$17	\$1k par value	
Release of Lien	1984	R&T 2191.6, GC 27361.3	\$5.00		
Treasurer and Tax Collector Cost Summary					
Detailed cost information was not readily available for the Treasurer and Tax Collector Fees.					