

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
7018 Pine Street • P.O. Box 9
Hughson, CA 95326
(209) (209) 883-4054 Fax (209) 883-2638



Ramon Bawanan
Mayor
rabawanan@hughson.org
www.hughson.org

March 1, 2010

Honorable Presiding Judge Jack M. Jacobson
Stanislaus County Superior Court
P.O. Box 3488
Modesto, CA 95353

RE: City of Hughson Civil Grand Jury Final Report Response (Case No. 010-04C)

Honorable Presiding Judge Jacobson:

In meeting the deadline and content of response requirements per California Penal Code §933(c), the following is the City Council's response to the Findings and Recommendations indicated in the City of Hughson Civil Grand Jury Final Report Case No. 010-04C:

Recommendations:

- **The Civil Grand Jury recommends Councilmen A, B and C resign or be removed by the Attorney General of the State of California, the FPPC or a recall by the citizens of Hughson.**

Councilmen A, B and C have been advised to respond as individuals to this recommendation.

- **The Civil Grand Jury recommends the City Council practice due diligence in initiating an outside search for any city manager hired in the future.**

The respondent agrees with the finding. Respondent will hire an outside recruiting resource to recruit for qualified applicants for the open position of city manager. The outside recruiting resources will screen and provide names of the top qualified applicants. Respondent will endeavor to form an interviewing panel

comprised of the Mayor, a City Council Member, a member of either the Planning Commission or Parks and Recreation Commission and two Hughson residents (selected by the Mayor). This recruiting team will interview and recommend the most qualified candidate to be selected by the entire City Council.

- **The Civil Grand Jury recommends the City provide more detailed workshops for the City Council on the Brown Act, especially in relation to emails and serial meetings, as well as applicable FPPC regulations.**

The recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation. Refresher Brown Act training including all Council members, members of both the Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. Included in this training will be Staff members as necessary. Brown Act training will focus on e-mails and serial meetings. Refresher training will include Fair Political Practices Commission regulations. We will attempt to complete training by March 31, 2010.

Attendance sheets with signatures will be required at this training. Those who are not in attendance will be required to attend the same training within thirty (30) calendar days.

- **The Civil Grand Jury recommends City Council members follow the practice of open and transparent decision-making in the spirit of the Brown Act.**

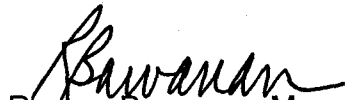
During the January 25, 2010, City Council meeting the above topic was addressed and no objection was registered.

1. If a request for information is made by a Council member it must be in accordance with Hughson Municipal Code 2.08.230. Any information requested beyond or other than the topic(s) included in the agenda packet, proper completion of a Public Records Request is required and payment would be mandatory as required by any member of the public. Information will be provided as defined within state law. As provided by State law, the City has ten (10) working days to respond back with information regarding the existence of the record and when the information will be provided.
2. If request for information from a Council member deals with personnel issues, City Manager will respectfully decline and bring request to entire City Council in either open or closed session as appropriate. City

Manager will refuse request if in his/her opinion it violates the Hughson Municipal Code or any established personnel policies.

3. Any legal questions requested of the City Attorney should be handled in a manner consistent with the adopted Code of Conduct.
4. Council members will be reminded that any and all investigations will only be completed in the manner as defined in the Hughson Municipal Code.

Respectfully Submitted,


Ramon Bawanan, Mayor
City of Hughson