



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held September 5, 2006, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“On November 18, 1997, the Board approved changes to the County’s Surplus Property Program. One of the changes established the option to make County surplus property available to approved, nonprofit, organizations. Currently, there are forty-three such organizations.

“Each year, thousands of County PCs and other types of computer-related equipment such as printers, monitors and scanners become surplus property. Although some of this surplus is made available to approved organizations, departments often salvage the equipment. Given the out-of-date nature of the equipment, the proceeds from the salvage process are minimal.

“Some of the surplus PCs and other computer-related equipment can be refurbished and provided to individuals and organizations that do not require state-of-the-art hardware and software.

“Recently, the Department of Children and Family Services, working with both a nonprofit organization that refurbishes donated PCs and community volunteers, ran a pilot program that provided refurbished PCs and training to emancipated foster youth living in County-sponsored transitional housing. Ten emancipated foster youth were given PCs and printers and were trained on how to setup the PCs and effectively use them at their homes. All the participants, especially the ten emancipated foster youth, responded very positively and with great enthusiasm. As a result of this pilot program, ten emancipated foster youth have full-time access to a PC at home to complete homework assignments (some of the youth are in high school and college) and improve work skills. Clearly, the pilot program was a success.

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“In order to further support programs similar to the pilot program and in view of the public good that results from the refurbishment of PCs that are then provided, at little or no cost to needy individuals, I believe the County should not be salvaging surplus PCs and related equipment as a preference for disposal. Instead, the preference for disposal of surplus PCs and related equipment should be to post their availability on the Surplus Property Website site for claiming by our approved organizations. Also, I am aware of at least one approved organization that will refurbish systems and is authorized by the State Department of Toxic Substance Control to dispose of hazardous materials in an environmentally-appropriate manner.”

Therefore, Supervisor Burke made a motion that the Board take the following actions:

1. Encourage Los Angeles County departments to post their surplus PCs and related computer equipment on the County’s Surplus Property Website for claiming by approved nonprofit organizations with the condition that the claiming organization demonstrates they can dispose of hazardous materials in an environmentally-appropriate manner; and
2. Direct the Director of Internal Services to revise the surplus property procedures to reflect the County’s preference for first posting surplus PCs and related electronic equipment on the County’s Surplus Property Website for claiming by nonprofit approved organizations.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisor Burke’s motion be amended to direct all departments to work closely with the Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Information Officer and Director of Internal Services to ensure that all PCs and related computer equipment is properly purged of all data in memory or data storage devices prior to being offered and made available for non-County uses. Supervisor Burke accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s amendment.

Supervisor Burke’s motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, was unanimously carried.

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