

# NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

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For more information, contact  
David Wert, Public Information Officer  
(909) 387-4717

[dwert@sbcounty.gov](mailto:dwert@sbcounty.gov)



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## Board makes sure Devereaux remains CEO until 2017

SAN BERNARDINO – In an effort to ensure county government remains on its current positive and productive track, the Board of Supervisors today unanimously extended Chief Executive Officer Greg Devereaux's contract until March 2017.

Mr. Devereaux was originally contracted to serve as chief executive for five years, until 2015. The two-year extension includes an "evergreen" clause keeping Mr. Devereaux in the chief executive position after 2017 until either the board or Mr. Devereaux take alternative action.

"Greg's recommendations to the board and his management of the county organization have been invaluable in our efforts to foster effective government and to focus on building a strong, resilient local economy," said Board of Supervisors Chair Janice Rutherford. "The board today made sure we and the county will benefit from his advice and leadership as we continue this endeavor."

The board met several times in recent months to evaluate Mr. Devereaux's performance and concluded the county would benefit from having him remain as chief executive well beyond 2015.

Mr. Devereaux was hired as the county's top executive in January 2010 after the board declared it wanted to move county government in a new direction.

Rather than continue trying to improve county government through single policies and ordinances each aimed at addressing specific problems as they arose, Mr. Devereaux proposed and received board direction to pursue measures that have redefined the county's operating culture.

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During the past three years county government has:

- Established clear lines of authority within the organization, and defined and upheld the board's policy-making role and differentiated it from the role of county staff.
- Ensured board authority exists for all actions taken by county staff and connected all recommendations to the board and budget proposals to specific goals and objectives established by the board.
- Seen the board govern as a body with decisions made in public and not as individual board members giving direction out of public view.
- Enabled the board to address the needs of the county as a whole rather than as five separate districts.
- Worked with all sectors of the county community to identify a countywide vision and assisted the board in defining county government's role in achieving the vision.
- Negotiated effectively with employee associations to achieve cost savings necessary to avoid layoffs and service reductions.
- Achieved ongoing budgeting that accounts for all potential liabilities.
- Fostered an environment that attracts the investment needed to maintain systems and create opportunities for county residents.

Each year Mr. Devereaux continues to serve in his present role after 2015 rather than as "special advisor" as called for in the original contract saves the county \$91,000 plus the costs of retirement and insurance premiums.