



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo County Investments Safe Amidst Turmoil in Financial Markets

(Woodland, CA) – This week, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors received a report affirming that the county’s portfolio of \$264 million consists of top quality investments, which are well diversified and remain safe amidst the ongoing turmoil in national and worldwide financial markets.

The looming financial crisis that originated from the sub-prime mortgage market has spawned a general credit and liquidity squeeze, which in turn has caused a sharp downturn in home sales, leading to further instability in financial markets. This deterioration in the credit market has reverberated through all sectors of the financial market, causing large credit-related losses at financial industry giants such as Merrill Lynch, Citigroup and AMBAC. Governments holding investments that are collateralized by mortgages have suffered credit downgrades.

Amidst this turmoil in the financial market, Yolo County’s Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector, Howard Newens, and the county investment advisor, PFM Asset Management LLC, affirmed to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors this week that the county portfolio does not include mortgage-related investments and is safe and sound. They reported that the county portfolio of \$264 million consists of top quality investments and is well diversified.

Nancy Jones of PFM Asset Management reported to the Board of Supervisors that the conservative investment policy the Board has instituted and maintained since it assumed the investment responsibility ten years ago has served the county well and protected its investments during a turbulent period.

“The citizens and taxpayers of Yolo County have been well served by our Board’s prudent investment policies,” said Yolo County Supervisor Mariko Yamada, who serves with her colleague, Duane Chamberlain, on the Board’s Treasury Oversight Committee. “We are pleased by the excellent advice given to us by our team of financial advisors.”

Yolo County’s Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector, Howard Newens, administers the county investment program under the direction of the Board of Supervisors and the oversight of an independent treasury oversight committee. Newens reports monthly to the Board on the status of investments during regularly scheduled Board meetings.

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