



**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

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AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/  
SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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ASST. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/  
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

March 18, 2026

**INVITATION - FEE PROPOSAL WORKSHOPS  
Price Accuracy and Requested Device Inspections**

The County of San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures (AWM) is committed to providing important services that support consumer confidence and fair business competition for the San Diego region.

Recognizing that many customers are managing economic uncertainties due to possible interruptions to their business operations and rising input costs, AWM continues to leverage the essential use of technology and business process streamlining to limit cost increases, improve customer service, and promote regulatory compliance. AWM strives to enhance program effectiveness and efficiency to achieve positive outcomes and a collective impact. Over the last seven fiscal years, we've delivered about \$95,000 in cost savings directly reducing pressure on fee-supported programs. Without these ongoing efficiencies, current fees would be 3% or \$6 higher than they are currently. AWM is continuing to build on this momentum and planned efficiencies for FY 2026-27 are expected to generate \$23,000 in savings for the price accuracy and requested device inspection fee programs. Examples of these efficiencies include new digital workflows, staff realignment, and focused process redesign. Without these efficiencies, the proposed fees would be roughly on additional 2% or \$4 higher.

This Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27 Fee Proposal demonstrates our commitment to the Board of Supervisors (Board) that cost recovery is a regular part of business, ensuring compliance with Board Policy B-29 - *Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery*. This Policy directs departments to recover the cost of services from those who receive and benefit from the services provided; any exceptions require the Board's approval. The Board approved the last fee proposal for the current FY 2025-26 in May 2025. This Fee Proposal aligns the resources needed with quality service for customers and represents cost recovery as a regular part of AWM's fiscal management. In addition, you, as our customers, have stated your preference for annual fee updates to plan for changes.

You are invited to attend one of the workshops below to learn more and ask questions about these proposed fees. The content of these workshops will be the same, with two times to accommodate your schedule.

In-Person Meeting	Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Time:	<b>3 PM – 4 PM</b>
Meeting Location:	5560 Overland Ave., Room 172, San Diego, CA 92123
Website	<a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/</a>
RSVP:	(858) 694-2778 or <a href="mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov">sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>

Virtual Meeting	Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Time:	<b>5 PM – 6 PM</b>
Meeting Location:	<a href="https://sdcounty-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/85417298127?pwd=3mO4z7rXfj0Sbe4vy8nbE9fGL4cZZp.1">https://sdcounty-ca-gov.zoom.us/j/85417298127?pwd=3mO4z7rXfj0Sbe4vy8nbE9fGL4cZZp.1</a>
Website:	<a href="https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/">https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/awm/</a>
RSVP:	(858) 694-2778 or <a href="mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov">sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>

The Board approved the last fee proposal for the current FY 2025-26 in May 2025. The fees proposed for FY 2026-27 will be necessary to address projected cost increases and to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29. The fees proposed listed below are for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and address cost increases based on negotiated labor agreements and the County’s standard assumptions. The proposed fee increases for FY 2026-27 will be necessary to partially address cost increases based mostly on projected negotiated labor agreements.

Based on this year’s cost review, AWM is proposing increases to 6 fees, while leaving 39 fees unchanged due to these being capped by the State. This proposal is applicable to fees associated with the registration fees and re-inspection hourly rates for Price Verification and the hourly rate for the requested inspection of water submeters and non-commercial devices.

We will present the following fee adjustments for the Programs below to the County Board of Supervisors on May 6 and 20, 2026, for approval to be effective July 1, 2026. The fee adjustments are as follows:

Price Accuracy Annual Registration Fees	Current Fee	New Fee	Change
<b>Tier 1 Registration</b> (1-3 Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$173	\$178	\$5
<b>Tier 2 Registration</b> (4-9 Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$235	\$242	\$7
<b>Tier 3 Registration</b> (10 or more Point-of-Sale Stations)	\$293	\$302	\$9
<b>Re-inspection Hourly Rate</b> for Non-compliance	\$174	\$179	\$5
<b>Commercial Weights &amp; Measure Devices</b>			
Non-Commercial Device Inspection Hourly Rate	\$188	\$196	\$8
Non-Registered Water Submeter Fee Hourly Rate	\$188	\$196	\$8

If you have questions regarding the fees, please contact Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures Austin Shepherd by phone at (858) 614-7726 or by email at [Austin.Shepherd@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Austin.Shepherd@sdcounty.ca.gov).

**Language Access:**

If you need this notice translated, please email [sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov) to request a copy in your preferred language. Translation will be available at the public meeting if requested 72 hours prior to the meeting. Please send translation requests and any questions to [sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov).

لطلب نسخة من هذا الإشعار بلغتك المفضلة، يرجى إرسال بريد إلكتروني إلى [sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov) ساعة من الاجتماع. يرجى إرسال طلبات الترجمة وأي أسئلة إلى 72سكون الترجمة متاحة في الاجتماع العام إذا طلبت قبل [sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdcawm@sdcounty.ca.gov).

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. Why is AWM proposing fee adjustments when businesses are impacted by economic uncertainty?

This proposal addresses projected cost increases provides the resources needed for AWM to continue providing services that support public health and safety, a resilient food supply, agricultural trade, consumer confidence, and a sustainable environment for the region. Through these services, the County balances environmental, community, and economic interests to enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors. The proposal would provide the resources needed for quality services that support your business continuity and the regional economy. In addition, our customers have stated their preference for annual fee updates to plan for fee changes. This Proposal also demonstrates AWM's commitment to the Board that cost recovery is a regular part of business to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 *Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery*. This policy directs departments to recover the cost of services from those who receive and benefit from the services provided; any exceptions require the Board's approval. This Fee Proposal aligns the resources needed with quality service level and represents cost recovery as a regular part of AWM's fiscal management.

### 2. What has AWM done to contain costs?

Recognizing that many customers are managing economic uncertainties due to possible interruptions to their business operations and rising input costs, we continue to leverage the essential use of technology and business process streamlining to limit cost increases, improve customer service, and promote regulatory compliance. AWM continues to seek opportunities to contain costs where possible through efficiency gains that leverage technology to streamline operations, improve customer service, and increase regulatory compliance. Over the last five fiscal years, we've delivered about \$95,000 in cost savings directly reducing pressure on fee-supported programs. Without these ongoing efficiencies, current fees would be 3% or \$6 higher than they are currently. AWM is continuing to build on this momentum and planned efficiencies for FY 2026-27 are expected to generate \$23,000 in savings for fee-based programs. Examples of these efficiencies include new digital workflows, staff realignment, and focused process redesign. Without these efficiencies, the proposed fees would be about an average of 2% or \$4 higher.

### 3. How was the Fee Proposal developed?

The methodology used to develop fees for AWM is an approach that is consistent across the County of San Diego (County) enterprise and is followed by other groups with fee proposals, such as the Health and Human Services Agency and the Public Safety Group. AWM conducts annual analysis of its programs including a review of State mandates, program operations, inspection frequencies, service levels, and benchmarking to obtain a comprehensive understanding of how our fees compare to similar counties. We looked at the projected program costs for Fiscal Year 2025-26, cost savings due to operational efficiencies, and available County and State funding sources to limit increased costs where applicable to come up with the proposed fee changes.