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MICHAEL J. RUBIO

SUPERVISOR - FIFTH DISTRICT

March 15, 2005

Night Meetings Approved by Board of Supervisors

Kern County Supervisor Michael Rubio is proud to announce that the Board of Supervisors today unanimously approved a request by Rubio to establish an annual Board of Supervisors night meeting in each supervisorial district in Kern County, except District 3. District 3 was excluded from this request since the district is entirely within Bakersfield's sphere of influence; there are no outlying cities within S.D. #3. The first meeting will most likely be held in Arvin at the city council chambers within Supervisor Rubio's district. As such, Supervisor Rubio fulfills one of the first promises he made during his campaign to make government more accessible to the hardworking taxpayers of Kern County.

The Board's commitment to serve its constituents in Kern has been exemplary with their efforts to expand KGOV throughout most incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County. These night meetings would complement these efforts in effectively providing a convenient forum by which constituents in outlying areas in the county may also voice their concerns and questions directly to the Board. Many of our constituent's job schedules prohibit them from attending the long established 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. sessions. Since some of them are not able to come to us because of time or distance constraints, we must make an effort to go to them.

As such, night meetings will begin to bridge the gap between county government and its constituents. I look forward to working with the Clerk of the Board as she begins to coordinate these night meetings.