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April 14, 2021

Mr. Jeff Hawkins

RE: Request for Funding of a Proposed Ag Center Project

Dear Mr. Hawkins:

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I am sending this letter in response to your request for funding of a proposed Ag Center Project.

First we would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with this committee to present your requests.

Please know that our board members are not against the idea of an Ag Center, and the County's position regarding a proposed Ag Center has nothing to do with the viability of the project. It is simply an issue of "want" versus "need". We understand the proposed project is strongly desired by certain individuals within the County, however we have a responsibility to weigh this "want" against the many current and future "needs" of the County.

During your presentation to the Finance Committee, you requested that the County provide funding to prepare architectural plans for the proposed project. By committing current resources toward the preparation of architectural plans at an estimated cost of \$250,000, the county would thereby be creating a substantial obligation for future resources. It is for this reason we must deny your funding request for this project.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Matthew Denton'.

Matthew Denton
County Manager