



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

C-4

For the meeting of: October 14, 2014

Date: October 10, 2014
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Supervisor, Rex Bohn
Subject: Letter to US Postal Service Requesting Financial Breakdown and Perceived Cost Savings Related to Possible Closure of the Eureka Mail Processing Center

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors authorize the chair to sign the letter.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: The Eureka area is large and complex with a number of populated cities and unincorporated communities. These communities rely on timely, dependable mail services such as the delivery of prescription medications, live cargo and mail-in ballots for local elections. The fragile road system between Eureka and Medford will cause significant delays if the proposed consolidation is implemented. The service impacts and loss of employees goes far beyond any acceptable level. The Board is send a letter requesting the US Postal Service provide the financial breakdown and perceived cost savings as it relates to any proposed consolidation of the Eureka mail processing center with Medford, Oregon.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

Prepared by Kathy Hayes

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

REVIEW: Auditor County Council Personnel Risk Manager Other

TYPE OF ITEM:
XX Consent
Departmental
Public Hearing
Other

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor
Seconded by Supervisor
And unanimously carried by those members present,
The Board hereby adopts the recommended action
contained in this report.

SEE ACTION SUMMARY

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.

Meeting of:

Dated:
Ana Hartwell, Deputy Clerk of the Board

By:



October 14, 2014

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

Theresa Lambino, Manager Consumer and Industry Contact
United States Postal Services
San Francisco District
P.O. Box 193000
San Francisco, CA 94188-3000

Congressman Jared Huffman
317 Third Street, Suite #1
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear Ms. Lambino and Congressman Huffman:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors strongly objects to the consolidation of Eureka's mail processing facility with Medford, Oregon, and we are requesting that the US Postal Service provide us with a financial breakdown of any perceived cost savings related to this proposed consolidation.

The Humboldt County area is large and complex with a number of populated cities and unincorporated communities. They rely on timely, dependable mail service. Sadly, there are already postal changes that have impacted levels of service and yet we continue to hear of the US Postal Service's plans to move mail processing from Eureka to Medford, Oregon. This is completely unacceptable.

The fragile road system between Eureka and Medford will cause significant delays if the consolidation is implemented. Winter weather has impacted travel on Highway 199 for long periods of time. Those predictable delays could dramatically affect critical prescription medication deliveries, live cargo and even elections as we rely on more mail-in ballots.

Sadly, we sent Board representatives to Washington, DC to meet with the Postal Service on this very important issue and your office refused to meet with us. We are extremely frustrated that the Postal Service continues to move forward with plans to move the Eureka mail processing facility to Medford without engaging the local stakeholders. We believe this to be a disingenuous attempt to sidestep local input in the decision making process.

While we understand the current financial situation of the US Postal Service, we do not believe that moving Eureka's mail processing facility to Medford, Oregon will result in significant cost savings for the US Postal Service. In fact, given the ongoing problems with weather conditions and fragile road systems during winter months, will only serve to increase Postal Service costs overall.

It is our hope that the US Postal Service will realize that the Eureka mail processing facility provides processing and delivery services to a very large rural county that relies heavily on prompt and efficient mail service, and we do not believe that the cost savings projections justify the consolidation. Once again, as stated in our letters dated July 15, 2014 and August 22, 2014, we are requesting that you abandon any decision to move the Eureka mail processing facility to Medford, Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Bohn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rex Bohn, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

RB:kh