



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.
C-13

For the meeting of: July 25, 2017

Date: July 18, 2017
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Kelly E. Sanders, Clerk/Recorder/Registrar of Voters *KS.*
Subject: Resolution Requesting Election to Propose a Renewal of Voter-Approved Funding with Existing Tax Rate

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Registrar of Voters to conduct, and give notice of, an election to propose renewal of the voter-approved funding with existing tax rate;
2. Consolidate this election with the Consolidated District Election to be held on November 7, 2017;
3. Direct Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District to reimburse the County of Humboldt for costs incurred pursuant to this request; and,
4. Request the Clerk of the Board forward the signed Board Order and copy of Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District Resolution No. 17:12 (Attachment 1), to the Humboldt County Office of Elections.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District

Prepared by Lucinda Jackson

CAO Approval *[Signature]*

REVIEW: Auditor _____ County Counsel *JME* Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor *Wilson* Seconded by Supervisor *Fennell*
Ayes *Fennell, Wilson, Sundberg*
Nays _____
Abstain _____
Absent *Bass, Bohn*

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: *July 25, 2017*

By: *[Signature]*
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

DISCUSSION:

On July 17, 2017, the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District (District) passed Resolution 17:12 (Attachment 1). Resolution No. 17:12 proposes continuation and renewal of the existing tax within the boundaries of the District pursuant to Government Code, Section 53730.01, subject to the approval of a 2/3 majority of votes cast by voters voting on the measure. The existing tax will expire on July 1, 2018. If approved, the renewed tax will be effective for 11 years, beginning July 1, 2018. Resolution No. 17:12 further requests the Board of Supervisors direct county election officials to conduct the necessary election, consolidating the matter for consideration by the voters with the Consolidated District Election to be held on November 7, 2017, pursuant to Elections Code, Section 10403.

The question to be submitted to the voters shall read:

“Shall the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District renew its expiring parcel tax to continue providing local access to emergency room care, acute hospital care, community clinic, skilled nursing facility, laboratory services, physical therapy, CT, x-ray, mammography imaging services, visiting nurse, program and other health care services, and new or improved facilities? The renewed tax will be at the current rate of \$125 per year on all qualified parcels, annually providing \$1.2 million dollars per year for 11 years beginning July 1, 2018.”

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This item will not affect the General Fund. All funds advanced by the General Fund will be fully reimbursed by the District.

This item meets the Board of Supervisor’s 2017 Strategic Framework by providing appropriate levels of community service and building interjurisdictional and regional cooperation.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Your Board could require this election be conducted as a separate, mail-ballot only special election. This option is not recommended as it would unnecessarily increase election costs incurred by the affected district.

Your Board could also decline to call for this election. This option is not recommended as it would halt the continuation of existing taxes that provide necessary levels of medical care to the affected community.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution No. 17:12



733 CEDAR STREET
GARBERVILLE, CA 95542
(707) 923-3921

RESOLUTION 17:12

RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE VOTER-APPROVED FUNDING WITH EXISTING TAX RATE

WHEREAS, The Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District ("District") was formed in 1978 following a successful election in June of 1978, consistent with the powers granted by Health and Safety Code section 32000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code sections 50075 et seq., the District has the authority to impose a special tax, as it has been doing since 2007; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Election Code sections 4000 et seq., on May 8, 2007 the registered voters within the boundaries of the District in both Humboldt County and Mendocino County approved the imposition of a special tax ("Existing Tax") to provide adequate funding to ensure continued local access to emergency room care, acute hospital care, and other health care services and facilities for residents of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Existing Tax expires on June 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code section 53730.01 authorize a health care district to impose and levy a special tax for specified purposes upon approval of two-thirds of the electorate voting on the measure;

WHEREAS, existing community funding has been instrumental in ensuring residents 24-hour emergency access to a doctor on duty, and maintaining additional locally-based healthcare clinics and services throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, the District finds it necessary to propose a renewal of the Existing Tax ("Measure") at the rates set forth herein to eligible voters for approval; and

WHEREAS, to ensure all funds are spent efficiently and as promised, this Measure requires public disclosure of all expenditures and oversight by the District's Board of Directors elected by local voters; and

WHEREAS, District finds it necessary to continue the Existing Tax for another 11 year period; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of this Board of Directors ("Board"), following public hearing and comment, it is advisable to request that the Humboldt County and Mendocino County Registrars of Voters submit to the District voters on the Tuesday, November 7, 2017 election ballot the question whether the District shall renew the special tax for the purposes set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the District held a properly noticed public hearing regarding this matter as required by law; and

WHEREAS, a special tax requires approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by voters voting upon the Measure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of the District hereby continues the Existing Tax (hereafter referred to as "the Tax") within the boundaries of the District, subject to the approval of 2/3 of the votes cast by voters voting on the Measure as set forth below, for the purpose of assisting the District in meeting the costs of providing adequate local access to emergency room care, acute hospital care, community clinic, skilled nursing facility, laboratory services, physical therapy, CT, x-ray, mammography imaging services, visiting nurse, program and other health care services and facilities for residents of the District as set forth in paragraph 3 of this Resolution as follows:

1. The District hereby proposes to renew the parcel tax, as authorized under Section 53730.01 of the California Government Code that it will use to ensure, all together, or individually to one of these purposes: continued local access to hospital emergency room care, acute hospital care, other healthcare services, and new or improved healthcare facilities for residents of the District.

2. The District hereby sets the full text of the measure to be placed on the ballot, in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters for the election of Tuesday, November 7, 2017, as follows:

**SOUTHERN HUMBOLDT COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT PARCEL TAX FOR
EMERGENCY ROOM CARE, ACUTE HOSPITAL CARE AND OTHER HEALTH SERVICES AND
NEW OR IMPROVED FACILITIES**

The Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District will renew the special tax on each taxable parcel of land within the District at the annual rate of \$125 on all qualified parcels within the District's boundaries, for a period of eleven years (11) years beginning July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2029

The term "qualified parcel" as used in this resolution shall be defined as every assessor's parcel for the applicable tax year, except those parcels which have a low value exemption as determined by the County Board of Supervisors and those vacant parcels which are determined by the County Assessors to be wholly or partially within a Timberland Production Zone or under an Agricultural Preserve Contract.

The purpose of this parcel tax will be to ensure, all together, or as individual uses of the tax funds, continued local access to emergency room care, acute hospital care, community clinic, skilled nursing facility, laboratory services, physical therapy, CT, x-ray, mammography imaging services, visiting nurse, program and other health care services, and new or improved facilities for residents of the District and visitors to the area. The revenues raised by this special tax will only be used to defray operating expenses, capital improvement and facility related expenditures and debt repayment to accomplish the foregoing purposes.

The amount of money to be raised annually by the parcel tax levy is estimated to be \$1.2 million dollars.

The special tax revenues shall be deposited into a separate account held by the Mendocino or Humboldt County Treasurer, as appropriate, in accordance with Government Code Section 50075.1, and shall be expended solely for the above-stated purposes and according to a plan developed annually by the District staff and approved and adopted by the District's Board of Directors.

The District will cause to be filed an annual report with its Board of Directors, which report shall include the amount of special tax revenues collected and expended, and which shall otherwise comply with the accountability measures established in Government Code Sections 50075.1 *et seq.*

3. The District hereby sets the abbreviated ballot form of the measure appearing in Paragraph 3 as follows:

Shall the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District renew its expiring parcel tax to continue providing local access to emergency room care, acute hospital care, community clinic, skilled nursing facility, laboratory services, physical therapy, CT, x-ray, mammography imaging services,

visiting nurse, program and other health care services, and new or improved facilities? The renewed tax will be at the current rate of \$125 per year on all qualified parcels, annually providing \$1.2 million dollars per year for 11 years beginning July 1, 2018.

4. The renewal shall take effect for eleven (11) years on July 1, 2018 and shall be assessed against each taxable parcel of land within the District at the rate of \$125 per parcel. The term "qualified parcel" as means every assessor's parcel for the applicable tax year, except those parcels which have a low value exemption as determined by the County Board of Supervisors and those vacant parcels which are determined by the County Assessors to be wholly or partially within a Timberland Production Zone or under an Agricultural Preserve Contract.

5. The tax shall be collected by the Humboldt or Mendocino County Tax Collectors, as appropriate, at the same time, in the same manner and subject to the same penalties as ad valorem property taxes collected by the Treasurer-Tax Collector. Unpaid taxes shall bear interest at the same rate as the rate for unpaid ad valorem property taxes until paid. The collection of the parcel tax shall not decrease the funds available from other sources of the District in any period from the effective date hereof.

6. The District shall bear the cost of the election.

7. The Chair of this Board or designees are hereby authorized to prepare and file with the Registrars of Voters a ballot argument in favor of the tax measure, or act as an author of any ballot argument prepared in connection with the election, including a rebuttal argument, each within the time established by the Registrars of Voters, which shall be considered the official ballot arguments of this Board as sponsor of the measure.

8. The Chair of the Board or designees are hereby authorized to execute any other document and to perform all acts necessary to place the tax measure on the ballot, including making alterations in the ballot language stated in Paragraphs 3 and 4 hereto, and to comply with requirements of law and election officials.

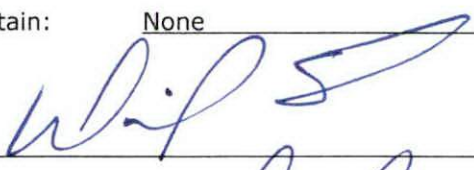
9. The District shall levy the tax upon approval of two-thirds of the votes cast by voters voting upon the measure.

10. The authority for ordering this election is contained in Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code sections 53730.01 and 50075 et seq.

11. The Clerk of this District Board is ordered to deliver copies of the Resolution to the Registrars of Voters.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED upon motion of Director Jack Foster Seconded by Director Gary Wellborn at a special meeting on Monday, July 17, 2017, by the following roll call vote:

- Ayes: Gary Wellborn, Dave Ordoñez, Jack Foster and Corinne Stromstad
- Noes: None
- Absent: Board President, Alison Rivas
- Abstain: None

, Chair of the Board of Directors

Attest: , Secretary of the Board of Directors