



# **RESOLUTION**

## **OF THE**

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

#### **COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

**WHEREAS**, on May 26, 1998 Amy S. Nilsen began her career as an extra help Medical Office Assistant I for the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) – Behavioral Health; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002 Amy Nilsen was promoted to Administrative Analyst in DHHS; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006 Amy Nilsen accepted a position in the County Administrative Office to serve as an Administrative Analyst II; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008 Amy Nilsen was promoted to Senior Admin Analyst; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011 Amy Nilsen was promoted to Deputy CAO/Interim Risk Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016 Amy Nilsen accepted the position as County Administrative Officer (CAO) where she led her team and the organization with grace, dignity and professionalism for more than 5 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy has been integral in implementing many programs and policies around the county's long-range vision to improve services, to better the county's financial standing and reporting, and to improve the safety of our community. Amy Nilsen has a long list of accomplishments and contributions, including:

- Development and adoption of the County of Humboldt Strategic Framework;
- Providing the Board of Supervisors with balanced budgets each year, even while the county's budget grew from \$350 million in 2016-17 to more than \$500 million in 2021-22, and through difficult budget years.
- Developing the General Reserve or Rainy Day Fund Policy, Pension Funding Policy, Debt Management Policy, Deferred Maintenance Policy, CalCard Policy, and Expense and Reimbursement or Travel Policy.
- Led and championed the county's efforts to earn its first- and second-ever Government Finance Officer Association Distinguished Budget Award.

- Provided leadership through the implementation and renewal of Measure Z, which received broad approval from voters and has provided funding for nearly 200 public safety projects in every corner of the county.
- Led the county through its long-standing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Consent Decree, and developed a new ADA team, fund and related policies to ensure all of the county's facilities and programs are accessible to all.
- Led the study and creation of the county's Aviation Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy Nilsen tirelessly led the county throughout the COVID-19 pandemic which presented challenge after challenge and required nimble and prompt response to ever-changing economic conditions, regulations and health guidance; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy Nilsen expanded the Economic Development Team from four staff members and two programs to a diverse division that provides support to the cannabis community, new and current business partners, Aviation, underserved populations, those impacted by COVID-19 and much more; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy Nilsen has been an innovative leader willing to take risks and try new things, an approach that has earned statewide recognition in the form of multiple CSAC Challenge awards for the Budget Roadshow and All Hands Training Day, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, Amy Nilsen has provided leadership through the implementation of Measure S, a cultivation tax measure which has been a model for other agencies and a vital source of funding for county infrastructure and services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes Amy Nilsen's 23 years of services and contributions to the County of Humboldt that have pathed the way for the future of the organization that is sure to be bright, financially sustainable and service oriented. We wish her well in her new adventures and hope that she will remain a friend and partner for the years to come.

June 29, 2021



*Virginia Bass*  
Virginia Bass, Chair