



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 12/10/2024

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File #: 24-1577

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Sheriff

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Deputization Agreement between the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe, the County of Humboldt, and the Sheriff of Humboldt County for the Deputization of Qualified Blue Lake Tribal Police Officers

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve Deputization Agreement between the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe, the County of Humboldt, and the Sheriff of Humboldt County (Attachment 1) for the Deputization of qualified Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Police Officers in compliance with California Penal Code Sections 830.6 and 830.8; and
2. Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair and the Sheriff to sign the Deputization Agreement and all amendments, extensions or revisions to the document for the term of the Agreement upon review and approval by County Counsel, the County Administrative Office, and Risk Management.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Safe & Healthy Communities

Strategic Plan Category: 1001 -Support and sustain partnerships between public safety and partner agencies to enhance public safety in our communities

**DISCUSSION:**

The County of Humboldt, the Sheriff of Humboldt County and the Blue Lake Rancheria have utilized cooperative agreements between the County of Humboldt, the elected Sheriff and the Blue Lake Rancheria for the enhancement of public safety services within the boundaries of the Blue Lake Rancheria. These cooperative agreements have been valued by all parties in order to increase law enforcement resources on the Blue Lake Rancheria and to enhance appropriate enforcement of state laws pursuant to Public Law 280.

Because of the unique culture and history of the Blue Lake Rancheria, the geographic location of the Blue Lake Rancheria, and the structure of tribal and federal laws within the exterior boundaries of the Blue Lake Rancheria, implementation of this agreement would greatly enhance law enforcement on the Rancheria.

Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Council agrees to the terms of the agreement and Tribal Council resolution (Attachment 1), in compliance with California Penal Code Sections 830.6 and 830.8. Once approved by your Board, the Sheriff agrees to deputize qualified Blue Lake Tribal Police (BLTPD) officers who have successfully completed a standardized background investigation acceptable to the Sheriff and the Regular Basic Course (RBC) for peace officers prescribed by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and

**Training (POST).**

To maintain reserve deputy status, newly deputized BLTPD officers must pass the standard 720 hour formal Field Training Program with the Sheriff's Office. Upon successful completion of the Field Training Program, BLTPD officers will be recognized as solo beat officers with full reserve deputy status with the Sheriff's Office. The Tribe agrees that all deputized BLTPD officers will come under the authority of a Sheriff's Office supervisor, watch commander, and/or the Sheriff's designee while performing his or her state law enforcement functions and duties.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

During the term of the agreement, all costs associated with the fulfillment of the agreement will be covered by Blue Lake Rancheria. Any out-of-pocket costs to the county for background investigations, pre-employment testing, training or other activities required for deputization will be reimbursed by Blue Lake Rancheria.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

There may be minimal existing staff time necessary for completion of background investigations and field training supervision. No additional staffing is requested.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

Blue Lake Rancheria Tribal Council

**ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Board of Supervisors may choose not to approve the Deputization Agreement between the County of Humboldt, the Humboldt County Sheriff and the Blue Lake Rancheria, however, this is not recommended. If not approved, the sole responsibility for law enforcement activities on the Blue Lake Rancheria will fall to the Sheriff's Office, requiring additional county funded Deputy Sheriffs at the county's expense.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1- Deputization Agreement and Resolution

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Meeting of: 6/5/18

File No.: 18-529