



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 6/3/2025

File #: 25-727

To: Board of Supervisors

From: County Administrative Office

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Appointment of the Humboldt County Director of Aviation and Approval of an Advanced Salary Step

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the appointment of Ryan Cooley as the Humboldt County Director of Aviation effective June 9, 2025; and
2. Approve an advance salary step placement to Step B.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommended actions support the following areas of the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Plan:

Area of Focus: Workforce & Operational Excellence

Strategic Plan Category: 3003 - Enhance employee recruitment and retention

DISCUSSION:

Ryan Cooley brings over twenty (20) years of experience in aviation management, including, without limitation, leadership roles at rural and regional airports. Most recently, Mr. Cooley served as the Airport Director for the Border Coast Regional Airport Authority, where he oversaw commercial and general aviation operations, led infrastructure improvement projects and ensured compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements. Mr. Cooley's proven track record in airport operations, regulatory compliance and community engagement makes him well-suited to support the Department of Aviation's ongoing goals. Accordingly, staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve the appointment of Ryan Cooley as the Humboldt County Director of Aviation, effective Monday, June 9, 2025, at salary step B.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Airport Enterprise Fund (3530)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (3530)	FY24-25	FY25-26 Projected*	FY26-27 Projected*
Budgeted Expenses	\$18,837.00	\$226,048.00	\$231,130.00
Total Expenditures	\$18,837.00	\$226,048.00	\$231,130.00
Funding Sources (3530)	FY24-25	FY25-26 Projected*	FY26-27 Projected*

IGS-Airport Enterprise Fund	\$18,837.00	\$226,048.00	\$231,130.00
Total Funding Sources	\$18,837.00	\$226,048.00	\$231,130.00

**Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

The annual salary and benefits for the Director of Aviation with an advanced salary step is anticipated to be Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$18,837.00) for the remainder of fiscal year 2024-2025 and Two Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand Forty-Eight Dollars (\$226,048.00) for fiscal year 2025-2026. This cost has been included in the adopted fiscal year 2024-2025 budget and the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 budget.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Position Title	Position Control Number	Monthly Salary Range	Additions	Deletions
Director of Aviation	ADH1	Step B	0	0

The Director of Aviation is a critical position required to maintain the continuity of operations in the County of Humboldt's airport system. This position allocation has been previously approved.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: None

File No.: None