



## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

**C-3**

For the meeting of: January 10, 2017

Date: December 30, 2016  
To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Supervisor Estelle Fennell  
Subject: Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District request to hold Special Mail-Ballot Election on May 2, 2017 to Continue Voter-Approved Funding with New Tax Rate

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors approve the request and refer to the Election Department.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: The Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District's Board of Directors passed Resolution #16:28 at its December 27, 2016 Meeting, calling for a mail-ballot election to go forward on May 2, 2017, pursuant to Election Code Sections 4000. The election is to be conducted within the boundaries of the Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District in both Humboldt and Mendocino counties with the election administered by Humboldt County.

The Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District shall reimburse Humboldt County for all costs incurred in the mail-ballot election.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution #16:28.

Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ Kathy Hayes

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW:**

Auditor \_\_\_\_\_ County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel \_\_\_\_\_ Risk Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF ITEM:**

☒ Consent  
☐ Departmental  
☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

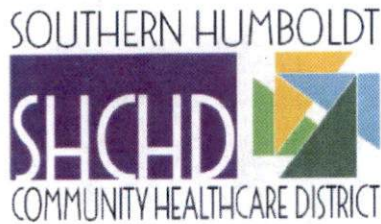
Upon motion of Supervisor Fennell Seconded by Supervisor Wilson

Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn, Wilson  
Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstain \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dated: Jan. 10, 2017

By: Kathy Hayes  
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board



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(707) 923-3921

## **RESOLUTION 16:28**

### **RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE VOTER-APPROVED FUNDING WITH NEW 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 1988; 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, this Measure will increase the tax rate currently paid by voters; 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 and increase the Existing Tax for another 45 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 Registrar of Voters call a special election by all-mail ballot to submit to the District voters the question whether the District shall levy a 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

WHEREAS, the District acknowledges that the election will be conducted in the manner as prescribed in Elections Code section 4108; 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, 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 and improved healthcare facilities for residents of the District.
2. Pursuant to Elections Code Section 4108, the Board does hereby call a special election on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, by all-mail ballots, on the measure set forth in Paragraph 4.
3. The District hereby sets the full text of the measure to be placed in the ballot, in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters for the election of Tuesday, May 2, 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 levy a special tax on each taxable parcel of land within the District at the annual rate of \$170 on all qualified parcels within the District's boundaries, a special tax for a period of forty-five (45) years beginning July 1, 2018 and ending on June 30, 2065.

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 care, acute hospital care, other health 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, including a new hospital, and debt repayment to accomplish the foregoing purposes.

The District's appropriations limit will be increased by the amount of this voter-approved tax.

The amount of money to be raised annually by the parcel tax levy is estimated to be \$1.63 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.*

4. 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 hospital emergency care, physician clinic services, other healthcare programs and services, including a new hospital and new or improved healthcare facilities? The renewed tax will be at a new rate of \$170 per year on all qualified parcels, annually providing \$1.63 million dollars per year for 45 years beginning July 1, 2018.

5. The tax shall take effect for forty-five (45) years on July 1, 2018 and shall be assessed against each taxable parcel of land within the District at the rate of \$170 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.

6. The tax shall be collected by the Humboldt or Mendocino County Tax Collector, 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.

7. The District requests that the Registrars of Voters take all steps necessary to hold the election by all-mail ballot pursuant to Division 4 of the Elections Code (commencing with Section 4000).

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

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. The Board hereby proposes to increase its appropriations limit under Article XIII B of the California Constitution in an amount equal to the amount of proceeds of taxes for the first year the parcel tax is imposed.

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

13. 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.* The authority for holding an all-mail ballot election is contained in Section 4000 of the Elections Code. The Board hereby authorizes the use of mailed ballots for this election.



14. 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 Gary Wellborn.  
Seconded by Director Corinne Stromstad at a special meeting on Tuesday, December 27, 2016, by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Dave Ordoñez, Alison Rivas, Corinne Stromstad, and Gary Wellborn

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Board President Barbara Truitt who was out of state at the time of the vote.

\_\_\_\_\_, Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_, Board Member/Finance Committee Chair