



Fee Hearing

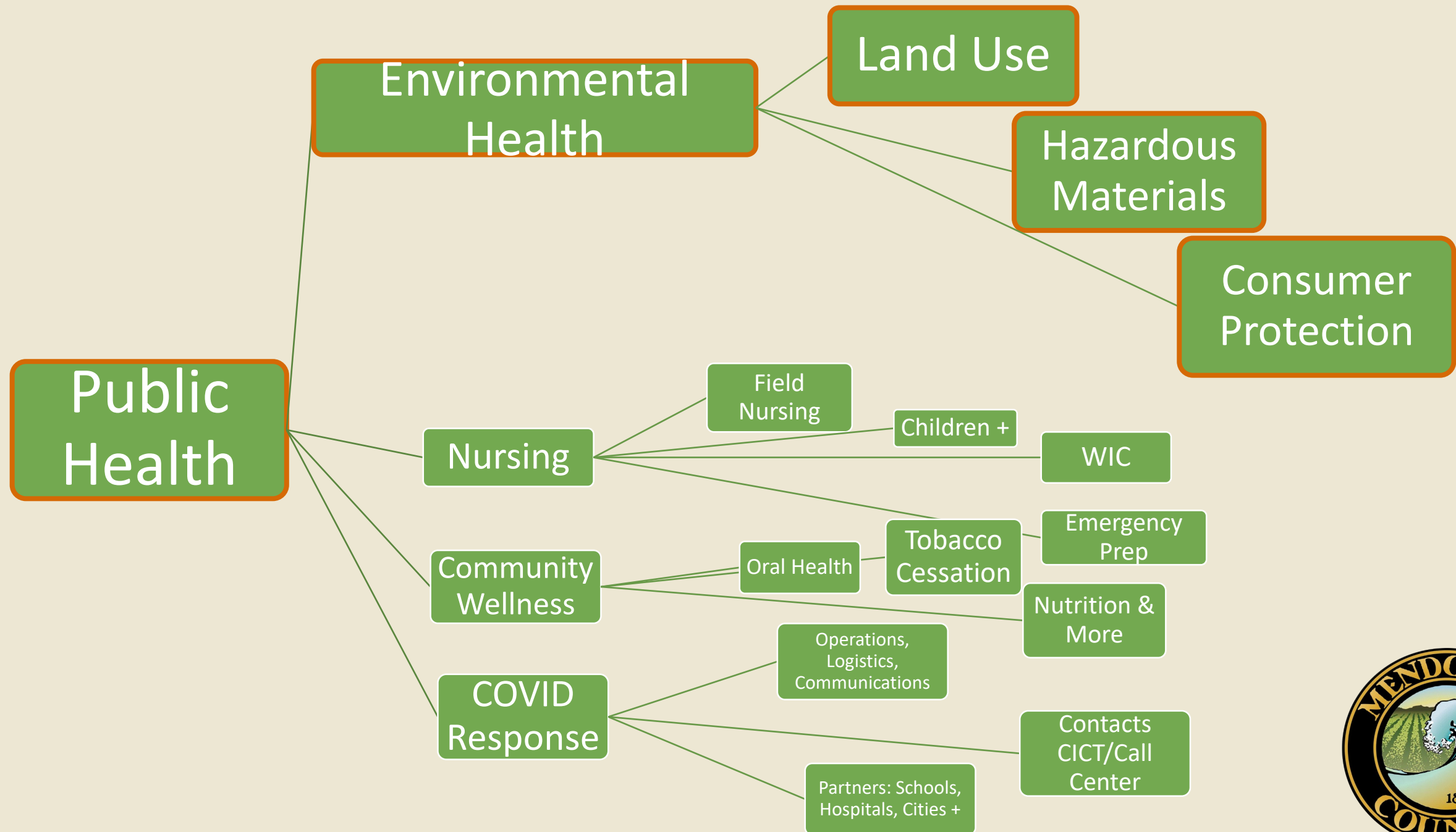
Held by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
December 14, 2021

*To review and adjust fees of the
Environmental Health Division of Public Health*



The increased revenue from these fee adjustments
will enable Environmental Health
to meet operating costs in order to
ensure adequate staffing to perform mandated services
and better protect public health and the environment.







EH Responsibilities: **Land Use Team**

Permitting and inspection of septic systems

Permitting and inspection of water wells

Proof of Water review and approval

Review of building permits

Review of land division and boundary adjustment applications

Review of Coastal Development permits and use permits

Review of Environmental Impact reports

Sample collection for state ocean water monitoring program

Sample collection for state shellfish poisoning program

Complaint response and resolution



EH Responsibilities: **Hazardous Materials Team**

Hazardous material spill response

Permitting and inspection of underground storage tanks

Permitting and inspection of hazardous waste generators

Registration, permitting and inspection of solid waste facilities

Oversight of solid waste facility closure

Permitting and inspection of underground tank removal

Permitting and inspection of monitoring well construction

Permitting and inspection of monitoring well removal

Complaint response and resolution



EH Responsibilities: **Consumer Protection Team**

Retail Food Facilities and Cottage Food Facilities

Food Handler Education and Certification

Community Events and Farmers' Markets

Body Art Facilities and Practitioners

Organized Camps

Detention Facilities (County Jail and Juvenile Hall)

State Small Water Systems (5 to 14 connections)

Pools and spas

Foodborne Illness Investigations

Complaint response and resolution



Most EH Fees Fail to Meet Cost Recovery

Many EH fees were last adjusted in 2010,
but failed to achieve 100% cost recovery at that time

Food Facilities – 83% unchanged since 2010

Domestic Water (wells) – 90% unchanged since 2010

Septic Systems – 93% unchanged since 2010

Land Use – 60% unchanged since 2010

The cost recovery gap has widened since 2010
due to higher operating costs



Methodology Behind the Calculations

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Annual Salary} \\ & + \text{Benefits} \\ & + \text{Services \& Supplies} \\ & + \text{A-87} \\ \hline & = \text{Weighted Hourly Rate (WHR)} \end{aligned}$$



Methodology Behind the Calculations

$$\text{WHR} * \text{Average Hours Spent on Fee Activity} = \text{Fee}$$

The tool was developed by the Auditor's office,
and is the same methodology
used in the past for prior fee revisions.



Overview of this proposed fee adjustment

- 11 fees were eliminated.
- 13 fees were lowered due to increased efficiency of staff.
- Increases capped at 50%
- 28 fees were capped below actual costs in the following programs to lessen impact on regulated community:

Septic – 11

Domestic Wells – 6

Land Use/Planning – 3

Food – 6

Pools & Spas – 1

Solid Waste - 1

**Cannabis related fees were left unchanged
pending future changes to that program.**



County Comparison: Septic Systems

	Current	Proposed
Sonoma fees are:	93% higher	58% higher
Lake fees are:	10% lower	27% lower
Humboldt fees are:	167% higher	142% higher



County Comparison: Body Art

	Current	Proposed
Sonoma fees are:	206% higher	159% higher
Lake fees are:	130% higher	95% higher
Humboldt fees are:	84% higher	56% higher