

RESOLUTION NO. 25-216

RESOLUTION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CERTIFYING AND ADOPTING FINDING OF CRITICAL NEED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7522.56, IN ORDER TO APPOINT KATHARINE ELLIOTT AS INTERIM COUNTY COUNSEL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 12, 2026

WHEREAS, the office of County Counsel became vacant on December 6, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 7522.56 subdivision (c) provides, in pertinent part, that a person who retires from a public employer may serve without reinstatement from retirement or loss or interruption of benefits provided by the retirement system upon appointment by the appointing power of a public employer either during an emergency to prevent stoppage of public business or because the retired person has skills needed to perform work of limited duration; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 7522.56 subdivision (f) requires a one-hundred eighty (180) day separation period, as established by the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act, unless the employer's governing body finds and certifies the nature of the employment and the appointment is necessary to fill a critically needed position before the one-hundred eighty (180) day separation period has passed; and

WHEREAS, the office of County Counsel is critical to the effective functioning of the County Mendocino as an organization and the Board of Supervisors wishes to timely fill this department head level position with an experienced County Counsel in an interim role for a limited duration; and

WHEREAS, Katharine Elliott served as County Counsel for Mendocino County from 2015 until 2019 and served as County Counsel for Nevada County from 2019 until her anticipated retirement concurrently from Mendocino, Nevada, and Tulare counties effective December 20, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Katharine Elliott is an experienced County Counsel who has the skills necessary to perform as the Interim County Counsel for a limited duration while the County considers the recruitment of a successor County Counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that the nature and specialized skills of office of County Counsel requires the appointment of Katharine Elliott effective January 12, 2026, to fill this critically needed position of Interim County Counsel, and that Ms. Elliott has the skills necessary to perform work of a limited duration while the County considers the recruitment of a successor County Counsel.

The foregoing Resolution introduced by Supervisor Williams, seconded by Supervisor Norvell, and carried this 16th day of December, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Cline, Mulheren, Haschak, Norvell, and Williams
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Resolution adopted and SO ORDERED.

ATTEST: DARCIE ANTLE
Clerk of the Board

JOHN HASCHAK, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Deputy

I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
BRINA BLANTON
Acting County Counsel

BY: DARCIE ANTLE
Clerk of the Board

Deputy