



Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

Healthy People, Healthy Communities

HHSA Advisory Board

Patty Bruder, Chairperson



May 18, 2020

The Honorable John Haschak, Chairperson
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
Electronically Submitted

Dear Chairperson Haschak and Members of the Board:

The Executive Committee of the Health and Human Services Advisory Board supports Dr. Joseph Iser's appointment to serve as County Health Officer.

The advisory board, through an ad hoc committee, has participated in the recruitment process and followed the search for a new County Health Officer since last fall.

- In September 2019, the full board met with Dr. Karen Smith to learn the statutory requirements for the position and review the history and objectives of public health.
- We formed an ad hoc leadership committee, which met in October, to further develop the position criteria and job description. Recruitment for the position opened in December.
- Dr. Iser was introduced to the HHSA Advisory Board at our May 13 meeting, following the interview and selection process and upon the recommendation of HHSA Director Tammy Moss-Chandler and Dr. Karen Smith. He gave a self-introduction during which we learned that although he has worked in big cities, he grew up on a farm and has a heart for rural life. He answered the board's questions regarding his approach to the current global pandemic and was both forthcoming and knowledgeable.

Dr. Iser has a long and impressive CV, and Mendocino County can benefit from his qualifications and experience. We are pleased that Neil Davis, RN, has been hired as Deputy Director of Public Health Nursing, as his familiarity with the culture, people, and geography of Mendocino County, when partnered with Dr. Iser's knowledge of medicine and experience in governmental public health, will create a strong team to guide decision making during this critical time.

We are pleased that Dr. Iser has agreed to step into this leadership role, and encourage his appointment to the County Health Officer post.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Bruder".

Patty Bruder, Chair

Health and Human Services Advisory Board
For the HHSA Advisory Board Executive Committee