



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 20-0797, Version: 1

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**To: Board of Supervisors**

**From:** Supervisor Haschak, Supervisor Gjerde, and Sheriff-Coroner

**Meeting Date:** September 1, 2020

**Department Contact:** Supervisor Haschak

**Phone:** 463-4441

**Department Contact:** Supervisor Gjerde

**Phone:** 463-4441

**Department Contact:** Matt Kendall

**Phone:** 463-4411

**Item Type:** Regular Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** 30 Min

**Agenda Title:**

Discussion and Possible Action Including Direction to County Counsel to Draft Necessary Framework to Establish a Public Safety Advisory Board Consistent with Appropriate Legal and Labor Requirements (Sponsors: Law Enforcement Oversight Ad Hoc (Supervisors Haschak and Gjerde) and Sheriff-Coroner)

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Direct County Counsel to draft necessary framework to establish a Public Safety Advisory Board consistent with appropriate legal and labor requirements.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

On June 23, 2020 the BOS set up an ad hoc committee of Supervisors Haschak and Gjerde to look into a Citizens Advisory committee for Law Enforcement Oversight.

**Summary of Request:**

The Ad Hoc Committee, formed by the BOS on June 23, has met frequently with Sheriff Matt Kendall and representatives of the County who represent the ethnic and geographic diversity of the county. Along with Sheriff Kendall, the Ad Hoc Committee is proposing a number of actions intended to improve public safety in Mendocino County and to increase communication and transparency between the public and the public servants who work every day to provide a safe community. The Board of Supervisors is asked to direct County Counsel to draft necessary framework to establish a Public Safety Advisory Board. In addition to proposing the creation of a Public Safety Advisory Board, Sheriff Kendall is also proposing to appoint a member of the public to the use of force review board in the Sheriff's Office. The following is the recommended structure of the public safety advisory board, along with goals and objectives for the advisory board.

**Structure**

1. Board of Supervisors (BOS) creates public safety advisory board
2. Composition;
  - a. One supervisor appointed by BOS for a one-year term at the first BOS meeting of the calendar year,
  - b. Five citizens appointed by BOS for one-year terms with the goal of ethnic and

community diversity. Each supervisor will appoint one member that is approved by the BOS at the first BOS meeting of the calendar year.

c. Sheriff or designee,

3. PSAB will meet monthly

### Public Safety Advisory Board Goals and Objectives

In order to improve public safety in Mendocino County, the overarching goal of the Public Safety Advisory Board is the identification of specific problems that affect Mendocino County and also identify solutions to deal with these issues. The main objective is to establish open lines of communication between public safety and the public creating greater transparency and educational opportunities in both directions.

1. Outreach to community and receive input from community in culturally and linguistically appropriate ways and provide options for community input.
2. Interagency cooperation - look at interdepartmental interactions/relationships/collaborations e.g. mental health and law enforcement
3. Review public safety concerns -

a. Ensure that complaints are appropriately dealt with for county employees;

b. Receive resident concerns, suggestions, complaints, and compliments about county employees and forward them to the appropriate department for review;

c. Produce a public report about the issues, concerns, complaints and recommendations on a summary level;

d. Consider public safety concerns and promote appropriate communication, interaction, and problem-solving strategies

4. Policies - review current law and policies for compliance

5. Review redacted reports presented to the use of force review board. Provide objective and independent evaluation of reviews of use of force.

6. Trainings-work to achieve greater outreach into the community about trainings done, trainings required, and trainings needed

7. Nominate member of the public to the use of force review board

The PSAB will not be authorized to:

1. Change the decisions made by the Sheriff's Office or any County department.

2. Decide policies for the Sheriff's Office or any County department.

3. Impose discipline on any Sheriff employee or any County employee.

4. Conduct its own investigations

5. Interfere with the performance of the Sheriff's Office or any County department

6. Compel by subpoena the production of any document or witness related to a Sheriff's Office or any county department.

Responsibility for administrative functions required for Brown Act compliance and proper functioning will be determined

### **Alternative Action/Motion:**

Take no action or provide alternative actions.

**Supervisory District:** All

**vote requirement:** Majority

**Supplemental Information Available Online At:** N/A

**Fiscal Details:**

**source of funding:** N/A

**current f/y cost:** N/A

**annual recurring cost:** N/A

**budget clarification:** N/A

**budgeted in current f/y:** N/A

**if no, please describe:**

**revenue agreement:** N/A

**Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel:** N/A

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**CEO Liaison:** Executive Office

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

**FOR COB USE ONLY**

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

Final Status: **Direction Given to Staff**

Date: September 3, 2020

