



Mendocino County

Legislation Text

File #: 20-0859, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Human Resources

Meeting Date: October 6, 2020

Department Contact: William Schurtz

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Department Contact: Katrina Bartolomie

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Item Type: Regular Agenda

Time Allocated for Item: 15 Minutes

Agenda Title:

Discussion and Possible Action Including Adoption of Mendocino County Employee Poll Worker Program, Authorizing Employees to Voluntarily Request to work at Polling Locations on Election Day
(Sponsor: Human Resources)

Recommended Action/Motion:

Adopt Mendocino County Employee Poll Worker Program, authorizing employees to voluntarily request to work at Polling Locations on Election Day.

Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:

None.

Summary of Request:

The Mendocino County Registrar of Voters has historically utilized a pool of trained community volunteers as Poll Workers to work at polling locations on Election Day. The pool is diminishing and it is becoming extremely difficult to recruit and retain these volunteers. Poll Workers work long hours and are paid a set stipend (\$70-\$80). These trained and experienced volunteers are critical to the conduct/integrity of elections.

Mendocino County employees, with their knowledge of public service are well qualified to serve as Poll Workers and provide a much needed reliable labor source.

The proposed Mendocino County Employee Poll Worker Program allows regular full-time and part-time County employees to serve as Poll Workers on Election Day. This program is not available to extra-help or contractors.

This program allows regular County employees, other than those employed by the Registrar of Voters, to request paid time to work at a polling location on Election Day. As an incentive, employees would receive their regular pay for the day, and the stipend. No overtime or compensatory time shall be earned or accumulated. County employees must receive prior approval from their supervisor/manager, and be trained by the Registrar of Voters office prior to Election Day.

Other counties, including Sonoma and Humboldt, have adopted similar programs to supplement their pool of

volunteers with county employees. These programs increase civic involvement of employees and further the county's commitment and responsibility to fair and efficient elections.

Upon approval of this agenda item, the Registrar of Voters will notify all regular full-time and part-time employees of the program for the upcoming November general election.

Human Resources has fulfilled its obligations with the affected bargaining units.

Note: Due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic, the Public Health Order will be followed. Social distancing will be monitored and maintained. County Poll Workers will receive personal protective equipment that includes, face shields, gloves, disinfecting spray for cleaning and they will also be given individual pens. Voting booths will be sanitized between each Voter. Hand sanitizer will be available to all.

Alternative Action/Motion:

Direct staff to study alternative options

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: Yes

CEO Liaison: Janelle Rau, Deputy CEO

CEO Review: Yes

CEO Comments:

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Executed By: Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

Date: OCTOBER 7, 2020

Final Status: Adopted

Executed Item Type: Resolution **Number:** 20-133

