



COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION
DRIVE, ROOM 102A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda Date: 7/9/2024

To: Board of Supervisors

Department or Agency Name(s): Regional Parks

Staff Name and Phone Number: Bert Whitaker, 707-565-2041

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supervisory District(s): Countywide

Recommended Action:

Approve the reappointment of Dr. Caryl Hart, Ph.D. to the Great Redwood Trail Agency representing Sonoma County for a two year term beginning July 12, 2024 and ending July 11, 2026. (Countywide)

Executive Summary:

The Board of Supervisors are responsible for appointments to over 75 Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces. Vacancies and upcoming expiring appointments are posted on the County's list of Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces website.

Rule 50 of the Board Rules of Procedures states that the Clerk of the Board shall convene staff to review prospective countywide appointments and make appointment recommendations to the Board. The current item recommends reappointment of Dr. Caryl Hart to the Great Redwood Trail Agency representing Sonoma County.

Discussion:

The Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA), a local agency established by the Great Redwood Trail Agency Act, Government Code § 93000 et seq., to develop and manage the Great Redwood Trail and discharge the duties of a rail common carrier before the Surface Transportation Board. The GRTA's service area is the former NCRA rail corridor in Mendocino, Trinity, and Humboldt Counties. The rail corridor in Sonoma and Marin Counties was transferred to Sonoma - Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART), who will be responsible for rail-with-trail development for the Southern Segment of the Great Redwood Trail. The GRTA replaced the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) in 2021.

The GRTA is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors composed of eight representatives (two per county) of Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Marin counties and one representative of the cities served by the rail line. Directors serve two-year terms and until their successors have qualified. Dr. Caryl Hart, Ph.D. is an attorney and expert in public lands and park policy, with over 25 years of advocacy, scholarship, and administrative experience. She is currently Vice-Chair of the California Coastal Commission, where she has served since 2019. Dr. Hart has served the GRTA since her initial appointment in December of 2017 and remains dedicated to the work of the agency. This item recommends her reappointment to serve a fourth term of service.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

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Prior Board Actions:

July 12, 2022, BOS reappointed Dr. Hart to a third term with the Great Redwood Trail Agency (previously the North Coast Railroad Authority).

February 4, 2020, BOS reappointed Dr. Hart to a second term with the North Coast Railroad Authority Board.

December 19, 2017, BOS appointed Dr. Hart to the North Coast Railroad Authority Board.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

N/A

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

N/A

Attachments:

N/A

Related Items “On File” with the Clerk of the Board:

N/A