



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: March 24, 2026

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Concurrent Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and the Board of Commissioners of the Community Development Commission, Authorizing Eligible Subsidiary Bodies to Use Teleconferencing for Meetings Pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.6

Whereas, the County of Sonoma, Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, and Community Development Commission (collectively, “the County”) are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act); and

Whereas, the Brown Act, California’s open meeting law, governs the conduct of public meetings by governmental bodies; and

Whereas, the County has formed various advisory committees which are also subject to the Brown Act; and

Whereas, Senate Bill 707 (Durazo, 2025), enacted by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Newsom, made certain changes to the Brown Act effective January 1, 2026; and

Whereas, among other provisions, Senate Bill 707 authorizes alternative virtual attendance via teleconferencing for “eligible subsidiary bodies”; and

Whereas, pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.6(b), an “eligible subsidiary body” is one that (1) was created by a “parent” legislative body by a formal vote, ordinance, resolution, or charter; (2) serves exclusively in an advisory capacity; (3) is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds; and (4) does not have primary subject matter jurisdiction on

elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, public library material access, or taxes or related spending proposals; and

Whereas, the County’s advisory committees listed on Exhibit A meet the definition of “eligible subsidiary body”; and

Whereas, the Board has considered the circumstances of the bodies listed on Exhibit A and finds:

- (i) Teleconference meetings of these eligible subsidiary bodies via two-way platforms (e.g., Zoom or the equivalent) would enhance public access to their meetings;
- (ii) The public has been made aware of the type of remote participation, including audio-visual or telephonic, that will be made available at a regularly scheduled meeting and has been provided the opportunity to comment at today’s in-person meeting; and

Whereas, the Board further finds that teleconference meetings of these eligible subsidiary bodies listed on Exhibit A would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members; and

Whereas, Government Code section 54953.8.6 requires the County to authorize its eligible subsidiary bodies to use teleconferencing, and such authorization must be renewed every six months and may be rescinded by the Board at any time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby:

Authorizes the advisory bodies listed on Exhibit A to use the teleconferencing provisions allowed under Government Code section 54953.8.6.

Supervisors:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Hermsillo:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.

EXHIBIT A

Authorized Eligible Subsidiary Bodies

Ag + Open Space Advisory Committee

Behavioral Health Board

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Charles M. Schulz - Sonoma County Aviation Commission

Community Development Committee

Dry Creek Valley Citizen Advisory Council

Emergency Medical Care Council

Historical Records Commission

Lower Russian River Municipal Advisory Committee

Mark West Area Municipal Advisory Committee

Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Advisory Board

North Sonoma Valley Municipal Advisory Committee

Public Authority Advisory Committee

Sonoma County Coast Municipal Advisory Committee

Springs Municipal Advisory Committee