



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: January 14, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Establishing The Measure H Oversight Committee

Whereas, in March 2024, the voters of Sonoma County passed the “Improved and Enhanced Local Fire Protection, Paramedic Services and Disaster Response” Transaction and Use Tax (Measure H) to supplement existing funding for wildfire prevention and preparedness, paramedic services, and emergency and disaster response, by establishing a countywide one-half-cent sales tax; and

Whereas, the Ordinance requires the Board of Supervisors to establish an oversight committee (“Committee”) consisting of eleven appointed members to provide transparency and ensure fiscal accountability of the use of the sales tax revenue;

Whereas, the Ordinance requires the Committee to review, at least on an annual basis, the receipt and expenditures of the revenue from the sales tax, including an annual report of each Agency’s use of the tax; and

Whereas, the Ordinance mandates that to preserve the integrity and independence of the oversight process, the Committee’s responsibilities shall not include decision-making on spending priorities, financing plans or tax rate projections or assumptions and the Committee shall have no authority to direct, nor shall it direct, County staff or fire agency staff or officials; and

Whereas, the Ordinance authorizes the Committee to recommend investigation into the misuse of public funds distributed under the Improved and Enhanced Local Fire Protection, Paramedic Services and Disaster Response Transactions and Use Tax Ordinance to the California State Attorney General, Sonoma County District Attorney, or Sonoma County Grand Jury; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors hereby creates and establishes an eleven-member Committee to be known as the Measure H Oversight

Committee; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Board shall appoint the following Committee members in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Ordinance as follows:

- a) All Committee members shall be independent County residents. "Independent County residents" shall not include active fire chiefs, active fire directors, County employees, or spouses to any such individual.
- b) The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors shall appoint six Committee members to sit on the Committee. Two of the Committee members will be selected from a list of names submitted by the Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association of Sonoma County. Two of the Committee members will be selected from a list of names submitted by the labor organizations responsible for collective bargaining on behalf of active duty firefighters employed by local agencies which receive funding through this Ordinance.
- c) The Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association will appoint three Committee members. One will be selected from a list of names nominated from the general public.
- d) The Sonoma County Fire Districts Association will appoint two Committee members. One will be selected from a list of names submitted by the Sonoma County Taxpayers Association.
- e) Committee members will serve a three-year term and are eligible to be reappointed by their appointing body.

Supervisors:

Hermosillo:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.