



# SONOMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

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

Susan Gorin, First District  
David Rabbitt, Second District  
Shirlee Zane, Third District  
James Gore, Fourth District  
Lynda Hopkins, Fifth District

Sheryl Bratton, County Administrator  
Robert Pittman, County Counsel

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

**8:30 AM**

**Board of Supervisors Chambers  
575 Administration Drive 102A**

## **Special Meeting**

This is a simultaneous meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Board of Commissioners of the Community Development Commission, the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, the Sonoma County Public Finance Authority, and as the governing board of all special districts having business on the agenda to be heard this date. The five District Supervisors also serve as the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, the Sonoma County Public Finance Authority, and as the Board of Commissioners of the Community Development Commission. Each of the foregoing entities is a separate and distinct legal entity. The Board welcomes you to attend its meetings which are regularly scheduled each Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

**AGENDAS AND MATERIALS:** Agendas and most supporting materials are available on the Board's website at <https://www.sonoma-county.legistar.com/>. Due to legal, copyright, privacy or policy considerations, not all materials are posted online. Materials that are not posted are available for public inspection between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 575 Administration Drive, Room 100A, Santa Rosa, CA.

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:** Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors office at 575 Administration Drive, Room 100A, Santa Rosa, CA, during normal business hours.

**DISABLED ACCOMMODATION:** If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (707) 565-2241 or [bos@sonoma-county.org](mailto:bos@sonoma-county.org) as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

**PUBLIC TRANSIT ACCESS TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER:** Sonoma County Transit: Rt. 20, 30, 44, 48, 60, 62; Santa Rosa CityBus: Rt. 14; Golden Gate Transit: Rt. 80. For transit information call (707) 576-RIDE or 1-800-345-RIDE or visit or <http://www.sctransit.com/>

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR:** The Consent Calendar includes routine financial and administrative actions that are usually approved by a single majority vote. There will be no discussion on these items prior to voting on the motion unless Board Members request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar. There will be an opportunity for the public to comment on the consent calendar prior to it being voted upon.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Any member of the public may address the Board on a matter listed on the agenda. Commenters are requested to fill out a Speaker Card and to come forward to the podium when recognized by the Board Chair. Please state your name and limit your comments to the agenda item under discussion. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.

**LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS:** Language services are available at all regular and special Board and Committee meetings if made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to help ensure availability. For more information or to request services: Contact (707) 565-2241.

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**BOARD CHAMBERS SECURITY SCREENING:** Security screening is conducted for all individuals attending Board meetings. Individuals planning to participate in Board meetings are advised to allow extra time to complete the screening process. The full policy can be found at <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Board-of-Supervisors/>

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## 8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER

8:34 A.M. The Board meeting was called to order.

Staff Present: Assistant County Administrator Christina Rivera and Deputy County Counsel Linda Schiltgen

**Present:** Susan Gorin, David Rabbitt, Shirlee Zane, James Gore, and Lynda Hopkins

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(Items may be added or withdrawn from the agenda consistent with State law)

8:35 A.M.

Board Action: Approved as recommended.

**Aye:** Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, and Hopkins

### II. REGULAR CALENDAR

#### 1. **8:30 A.M.** - 2019 Transient Occupancy Tax Appeal to the Board of Supervisors

[2019-1566](#)

Conduct a hearing to consider waiving penalties and interest on Transient Occupancy Tax and Business Improvement Area assessments for Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa for the reporting period covering October-December 2018, and provide direction to staff to prepare and return with written findings to support the Board's determination. (First District)

**Department or Agency Name(s):** Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector

8:35 A.M.

Presenters:

Erick Roeser, Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector

Jonathan Kadlec, Assistant Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector

Robert Pittman, Assistant County Counsel

8:53 A.M. Public Comment Opened

Public Speakers:

Martin Niles

8:56 A.M. Public Comment Closed

Board Action: The Board approved the waiving of penalties and interest on Transient Occupancy Tax.

**Aye:** Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, and Hopkins

2. **9:00 A.M. - Cannabis Tax Appeal to the Board of Supervisors for July 2017 - June 2018 Reporting Period** [2019-1665](#)

Conduct a hearing to consider waiving Cannabis tax, penalties, and interest for Thacksine Rattanasengchanh for the reporting period covering July 2017 - June 2018, and provide direction to staff to prepare and return with written findings to support the Board's determination. (Fifth District)

**Department or Agency Name(s):** Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector

9:08 A.M.

Presenters:

Erick Roeser, Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector  
Jonathan Kadlec, Assistant Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector  
Robert Pittman, Assistant County Counsel

9:19 A.M. Public Comment Opened

Public Speakers:  
None

9:19 A.M. Public Comment Closed

Board Action: The Board denied the request to waive taxes, penalties, and interest for Thacksine Rattanasengchanh for the reporting period covering July 2017-June 2018.

**Aye:** Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, and Hopkins

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

9:23 A.M. Public Comment on Closed Session Calendar Opened

Speakers:  
None

9:23 A.M. Public Comment on Closed Session Calendar Closed

### **IV. CLOSED SESSION CALENDAR**

1:06 P.M. Deputy County Counsel Linda Schiltgen reported out on closed session.

3. The Board of Supervisors will consider the following in closed session: Conference with Legal Counsel - Proceedings of the California Public Utilities Commission, including Existing Litigation pertaining to Investigation 19-06-015, Rulemakings 19-01-006, 18-10-1007, 18-12-005, and 17-05-010, and Application 18-12-009, (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)); and Anticipated Litigation pertaining to Investigation 19-09-016 (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)). [2019-1644](#)

Authority was delegated to the Board Chair to sign a potential settlement agreement regarding the CPUC investigation 1906015 regarding PG&E's role in causing the 2017 Sonoma Complex Fires and authorized the County to participate in CPUC proceeding investigation 1909016 regarding the rate setting and regulatory implications of PG&E's Chapter 11 bankruptcy and expanding the retention agreement for legal services to Megan Sumagi of Goodwin & McBride to represent the County in these additional proceedings.

**Ayes:** Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, Hopkins

**V. REGULAR AFTERNOON CALENDAR**

**VI. RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**VII. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

1:06 P.M. Deputy County Counsel Linda Schiltgen reported out on closed session.

**4. 1:00 P.M. - Building and Fire Code Amendments**

[2019-1560](#)

Conduct a public hearing and adopt Ordinances Amending Chapters 7 and 13 of the Sonoma County Code (Second reading-ready for adoption).

**Department or Agency Name(s):** Permit and Resource Management

1:07 P.M.

Presenters:

Nathan Quarles, Deputy Director, Permit Sonoma County  
Chief James Williams, Fire Warden/Fire Marshal  
Tennis Wick, Director, Permit Sonoma

1:51 P.M. Public Comment Opened

Public Speakers:  
Deborah Epstein  
Craig Harrision

1:57 P.M. Public Comment Closed

Board Action:

The Board of Supervisors conducted a public hearing to consider adoption of the ordinances to update Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 of the Sonoma County Code. After the close of the public hearing, the Board directed Counsel to make a few changes to the ordinances to respond to public comment and include additional findings to support the Board's. The Board directed Counsel to finalize the ordinances as directed and bring it back to the Board on consent calendar on December 2, 2019 for final adoption.

Straw Vote:

AYES: Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, Hopkins

The Board also considered whether to form an Ad Hoc Committee to consider whether the County may wish to make additional restrictions to the Fire Safe Standards in the next update to Chapter 13. The Board decided not to form an Ad Hoc Committee or community stakeholder group at this time. However, the Director of Permit Sonoma indicated that he would consider forming a community stakeholder group with experts in the industry and the Department of Emergency Planning, Department of Transportation and Public Works and the Office of Resiliency and Recovery to consider whether additional restrictions should be recommended in local fire safety regulations in the next

update to Chapter 13 and also to consider mandatory evacuation planning and emergency planning efforts to bring back to the Board with staff's recommendations.

Board Action: Approved as amended by ordinances 6295, 6296, 6297, and 6298.

**Aye:** Gorin, Rabbitt, Zane, Gore, and Hopkins

**VIII.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

2:35 P.M. The Board meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned to November 19, 2019 at 8:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Lowtrip,  
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board

NOTE: The next regular meeting will be held on November 19, 2019.

(All dates are tentative until each agenda is finalized)