



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA
FR: MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Ukiah, California... *February 15, 2012*

***THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF
CHUCK MORSE AS MENDOCINO COUNTY'S NEW
AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER AND COUNTY SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES***

In a unanimous vote of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, Charles "Chuck" Morse is Mendocino County's newly appointed Agriculture Commissioner/County Sealer of Weights and Measures, effective February 14, 2012.

Morse, who was appointed as the County's Interim Agriculture Commissioner in December 2011, has served as Mendocino County's Assistant Ag Commissioner since the fall of 2009. This appointment follows the resignation of Mr. Tony Linegar, former Ag Commissioner, who accepted a position with Sonoma County last fall.

"Chuck Morse brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the job and we are very fortunate that he has accepted appointment to the position of Ag Commissioner," stated Chair John McCowen, Second District Supervisor. *"Chuck understands the critical role a diverse and productive ag economy plays in maintaining our rural quality of life,"* concluded McCowen.

Morse graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Cal. State University, Northridge. He began his career with Lake County in 1985 as an Agricultural Biologist Aide. During his tenure there he worked his way through the Biologist I, II, and III positions and attained his Deputy licenses. He was appointed the Deputy Commissioner/Deputy Sealer for Lake County in 2002 and served in that capacity until 2008. In August, 2008, Chuck started employment with the Mendocino County Department of Agriculture as a Biologist III and was appointed the Assistant Commissioner/Sealer in October, 2009.



"Chuck has earned the respect and confidence of our members, and the unanimous support of our Board of Directors. We feel strongly he will carry on the fine tradition of the Ag Commissioner's Office," stated Mike Anderson, President of the Mendocino County Farm Bureau.

"I'm looking forward to this appointment. I plan on being a strong voice in support of agriculture and equity in the marketplace while working alongside the industry and the community with commitment and integrity," stated Morse.

First District Supervisor, Carre Brown, concluded that, *"this is an excellent appointment for the County of Mendocino, to have our assistant move up to the position of Ag Commissioner, and carry on the work of the office. It's great that Chuck's very familiar with the County's agriculture, being a local small farmer himself."*

Morse's appointment is for a four-year term pursuant to §12200 of the California Business and Professions Code.

Released by: *Carmel J. Angelo*
Carmel J. Angelo, Chief Executive Officer