



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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Ukiah, California... *September 9, 2014*

County Budget is "Something to Celebrate" – FY 2014-2015 Budget Approved

After five years of fiscal instability, the County's financial status is on the mend. Today, on the second day of the FY2014-15 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors voted 5–0 to approve the final budget submitted by the Chief Executive Officer. According to Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chair, John Pinches, "This is not only a budget to adopt; it is a budget to celebrate. This budget includes something for everyone".

CEO Carmel J. Angelo outlined her final budget recommendations within the framework of the Board's current goals of Fiscal Stability, Financial Sustainability, and Organizational Development. The County has been struggling to mitigate a deficit and balance the annual budget for the past few years. Ms. Angelo told the BOS, "With the adoption of today's final budget, the County will have a \$10M General Reserve, establish a \$1.5M Pension Gap Reserve and recognize the good work of our employees with one-time supplemental payments."


Employees in the SEIU bargaining group will receive a one-time payment of \$1200, in return for a one year contract. According to Ms. Angelo, "while the County is not able to restore the 10% wage concession employees took over the past few years, this is a positive first step in the process of giving back to our employees." Additionally, County employees will benefit from the \$1.5M allocation to establish a Pension Gap Reserve to ensure the County is able to meet its pension obligations to past, current, and future employees of Mendocino County.

Other highlights of the approved FY 2014/15 Final Budget include an allocation of \$1M for corrective maintenance on our County roads; paying off the Teeter Plan Debt which had grown to \$11M in 2009; and maintaining a \$500,000 contingency fund for unanticipated expenses that may occur during the fiscal year.

According to Deputy CEO Heidi Dunham, "This budget is balanced, innovative, fair, and most importantly, it indicates we have entered a period of fiscal stability for the first time in several years."

The final budget resolution is scheduled to be adopted, as a matter of process on September 23, 2014.

Budget materials are available on the County website, Executive Office page at:
<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/administration/BoardWorkshops.htm>

Released by: 
Carmel J. Angelo
Chief Executive Officer