



**MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ONLINE AGENDA SUMMARY**

**BOARD AGENDA # 8(a)**

- Arrangements for public hearings and timed presentations must be made with the Clerk of the Board in advance of public/media noticing
- Agenda Summaries must be submitted no later than *noon* Monday, 15 days prior to the meeting date (along with electronic submittals)
- Send 1 complete original single-sided set and 1 photocopy set – Items must be signed-off by appropriate departments and/or Co. Co.  
*Note: If individual supporting document(s) exceed 25 pages each, or are not easily duplicated, please provide 7 hard-copy sets)*
- Transmittal of electronic Agenda Summaries, records, and supporting documentation must be emailed to: [bosagenda@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:bosagenda@co.mendocino.ca.us)
- Electronic Transmission Checklist:  Agenda Summary  Records  Supp. Doc.  If applicable, list other online information below
- Executed records will be returned to the department within one week. *Arrangements for expedited processing must be made in advance*

**TO:** Board of Supervisors **DATE:** April 8, 2016

**FROM:** Supervisor Brown & Executive Office **MEETING DATE:** April 19, 2016

DEPARTMENT RESOURCE/CONTACT: Carre Brown **PHONE:** 463-4221 Present  On Call   
Carmel J. Angelo **PHONE:** 463-4441 Present  On Call

Consent Agenda  Regular Agenda  Noticed Public Hearing  Time Allocated for Item: 60 min.

■ **AGENDA TITLE:** Discussion and Possible Action Associated with a Presentation from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Regarding Charter Counties in California

■ **PREVIOUS BOARD/BOARD COMMITTEE ACTIONS:** None

■ **SUMMARY OF REQUEST:** Counties in California are classified in one of two ways: Charter counties or General law.

- Charter counties: 14 of the 58 counties are governed under a charter. They are Alameda, Butte, El Dorado, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Tehama.
- General law counties: the remaining 44 operate under the general law.

General law counties adhere to state law as to the number and duties of county elected officials. Charter counties have a limited degree of "home rule" authority that may provide for the election, compensation, terms, removal and salary of the governing board; for the election or appointment (except the sheriff, district attorney, and assessor who must be elected), compensation, terms and removal of all county officers; for the powers and duties of all officers; and for consolidation and segregation of county offices. A charter does not give a county official extra authority over local regulations, revenue-raising abilities, budgetary decisions or intergovernmental relations.

Charter Counties - A county may adopt, amend or repeal a charter with majority vote approval. In counties that do not have a charter, a complete charter can be proposed by the Board of Supervisors or a charter commission. Likewise, the amendment or repeal of an existing charter may be proposed by the Board of Supervisors or a charter commission. The amendment or repeal of a charter can also be proposed through an initiative petition.

Citizens of a county can put a question on the ballot to determine whether to draft or revise a charter and elect a charter commission using the initiative petition process. If this question receives majority approval, the 15 candidates for the charter commission that receive the most votes will organize into a commission to draft a charter. The initiative question on the ballot must be: "Shall a charter commission be elected to propose a new charter?"

**BOARD ACTION (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_):**  Approved  Referred to \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORDS EXECUTED:**  Agreement: \_\_\_\_\_  Resolution: \_\_\_\_\_  Ordinance: \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_



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The provisions of a charter are the law of the state and have the force and effect of legislative enactments.

Mr. Geoff Neill, CSAC’s Principal Policy and Fiscal Analyst, will be present to provide the Board with a presentation and overview of Charter Counties, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Overview of Charter Counties (what is a Charter County?)
- Overview of California Counties (how many are General Law vs. Charter)
- Authorities of Charter Counties
- Comparison between city and county charters
- Overview of the Charter County formation process
- If a Charter County initiative passes, what are the processes and outcomes?
- Components of the proposed charter initiative for Mendocino County and application to specific county scenarios

Mr. Neill was requested to provide a brief presentation regarding Charter Counties and to address any questions presented by the Board of Supervisors.

- SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FILE WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD (CHECKED BY COB IF APPLICABLE):

FISCAL IMPACT:			
Source of Funding	Current F/Y Cost	Annual Recurring Cost	Budgeted in Current F/Y
n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

- SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 1  2  3  4  5  All  ■ VOTE REQUIREMENT: Majority  4/5ths

■ **RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:** Receive the presentation regarding Charter Counties and provide direction to staff as determined appropriate by the Board of Supervisors.

- ALTERNATIVES: Do not receive the presentation.
  - CEO REVIEW (NAME): Janelle Rau, Deputy CEO PHONE: 463-4441
- RECOMMENDATION: Agree  Disagree  No Opinion  Alternate  Staff Report Attached

**BOARD ACTION**  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
 Records Executed \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Meeting** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Referred to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_