

# **Registrar of Voters**

# COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

LARRY MICARI District One

PETE VANDER POEL District Two

> AMY SHUKLIAN District Three

EDDIE VALERO District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND District Five

AGENDA DATE: May 2, 2023

| Public Hearing Required            | N/A |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk   | N/A |
| Published Notice Required          | N/A |
| Advertised Published Notice        | N/A |
| Meet & Confer Required             | N/A |
| Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached | N/A |
| Personnel Resolution attached      | N/A |
| Agreement(s) attached              | N/A |

CONTACT PERSON: Michelle Baldwin PHONE: 559-624-7300

SUBJECT:

East Orosi Community Services District switch from odd- to evennumbered year elections.

#### REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1. Find that the East Orosi Community Services District submitted a resolution requesting to switch its elections from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years.
- 2. Find that the Clerk to the Board has given notice to all districts in the County that the Board of Supervisors will be considering this agenda item.
- 3. Find that the Registrar of Voters has posted notice on the department website that the Board of Supervisors will be considering this agenda item.
- 4. Find that pursuant to the attached impact analysis and financial report, the district's election can be added to the General Election in November of evennumbered years without affecting the ability of the County to provide services for that statewide election.
- 5. Direct the Registrar of Voters to switch the elections for the district from November of odd-numbered years to November of even-numbered years, effective immediately.
- 6. Direct that the terms of the current board members be extended by one year.
- 7. Direct the Registrar of Voters to provide mailed notice to all registered voters in the district that the switch has been made.

#### **SUMMARY:**

California law has long provided that special districts, which traditionally held their elections in November of odd-numbered years, could request to switch to even-numbered years. All special districts in Tulare County have switched, other than the East Orosi Community Services District.

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numbered year elections.

**DATE:** May 2, 2023

The East Orosi Community Services District board adopted a resolution to make the switch in 2021, but district staff failed to file the resolution with the Board of Supervisors by the statutory deadline. The Board of Supervisors did not take action on the resolution at that time. (A copy of the resolution is attached.)

The Registrar of Voters would prefer to have this district moved to even-numbered year elections, as that would completely eliminate the need to hold an election anywhere in the County in November of odd-numbered years. County staff have consulted with the district and the district is willing to have the Board of Supervisors take action now based on the 2021 resolution.

The procedures under Elections Code section 10404 have been followed.

First, the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors notified all districts in the County that the Board would be considering the agenda item today and requested the districts' input on the effect of consolidation.

Second, the Registrar of Voters has posted on the department website a notice that the Board of Supervisors will be considering the agenda item today.

The Registrar of Voters has also prepared an impact analysis and financial report (attached). They conclude that switching this one remaining district from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years would not adversely affect the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity of the County for the statewide election in November of even-numbered years, and would save the County money by not having to plan for any regular elections in November of even-numbered years.

Approving the switch will also extend the board members' terms for one year as follows:

| Name or Position | Would Expire | Will Expire |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Carlos Sanchez   | 2023         | 2024        |
| Vacant           | 2023         | 2024        |
| Vacant           | 2023         | 2024        |
| Carmen Moreno    | 2025         | 2026        |
| Katie Lynn Icho  | 2025         | 2026        |

Ordinarily under section 10404, the final step is that, after the Board of Supervisors takes action, the district would pay for mailed notice to all registered voters in the district that the switch has been made. As the Registrar of Voters is bringing this agenda item, staff feels that the district should not be asked to pay for the notice. Since the number of voters in this district is small, and the benefit of switching is large, the Registrar of Voters is willing to pay for the mailing within the department's existing budget. Accordingly, the recommended actions include directing the Registrar of Voters to mail the notice at County expense.

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numbered year elections.

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## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

None. County costs can be met within the existing budget

### LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's Five-year Strategic Plan includes the Organization Performance Initiative to continuously improve organizational effectiveness and fiscal stability. Approving the consolidation of Local Contests/Measures with the General Election helps fulfill these initiatives by ensuring that we provide the public with quality services that are timely and responsive to our duties as Elections Officials.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

<u>/s/ Michelle Baldwin</u>
Michelle Baldwin
Registrar of Voters

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Impact Analysis and Financial Report East Orosi Community Services District Resolution