



## AGENDA ITEM 9A

**MEETING:** May 15, 2017  
**TO:** Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners  
**FROM:** Colette Metz, Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** CSDA Chapter Planning for Humboldt County Special Districts

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### BACKGROUND

In September 2015, a group of local special district staff and board members, along with California Special District Association (CSDA) representatives, held a meeting to discuss starting a CSDA chapter in Humboldt County. There are currently 14 CSDA-affiliated chapters in the state, forming regional networks of special district leaders. Some chapters meet only once a year to elect LAFCo representatives; others meet as often as monthly to share information, host educational events, and participate in grassroots advocacy efforts. CSDA chapters play an important role in advancing the interests of special districts at the local level. CSDA supports local chapters by providing speaker suggestions, legislative updates, communication tools, and other resources.

### DISCUSSION

A CSDA Chapter Planning Meeting was recently held on May 1<sup>st</sup> at McKinleyville CSD. This was the second organizational meeting to discuss the benefits and logistics of creating a Humboldt County Local Chapter of CSDA. It is envisioned that a local chapter would serve as a forum for special districts to network locally, share ideas, and engage in educational opportunities.

A local chapter could also function as the "Independent Special District Selection Committee" for LAFCo appointments. In certain counties, the call for nomination process is conducted by mail, either by the Selection Committee or by the LAFCo Executive Officer, and the election is held in conjunction with the chapter meeting. When there is a likelihood a quorum cannot be achieved, the election is conducted by mail. Currently, both the nomination process and the election itself is conducted by mail by the LAFCo Executive Officer.

Moving forward, there will be additional outreach and meetings to engage elected officials in the chapter. The next CSDA Chapter Planning Meeting will be held from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the NCUAQMD office in Eureka. The meeting will be focused on reviewing draft bylaws, including administrative responsibilities, meetings, and chapter dues.

### RECOMMENDATION

This item has been agendized for information only. The Commission is invited to discuss the item and provide direction to staff as needed.

Cc: Greg Orsini, CSDA Board Member for Northern Network  
Dane Wadle, CSDA Field Coordinator