

PROTEST HEARING AGENDA ANNEXATION OF GOODWILL RESPONSE AREA TO THE KNEELAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – 6:00 PM

Kneeland Fire House - 6201 Greenwood Heights Drive, Kneeland

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM

2. PUBLIC APPEARENCES

This is an opportunity for members of the public to speak on items that are not on the agenda.

3. PROTEST HEARING - KNEELAND FPD ANNEXATION

The Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approved the proposed Kneeland Fire Protection District Annexation at a public hearing on May 21, 2025 (Resolution No. 25-03). Approval of the annexation initiated a 30-day reconsideration period, followed by a protest hearing to provide landowners and registered voters within the affected territory the opportunity to file written protests against the Commission's action with the Executive Officer.

Under State law, an election must be called if 25-50% of registered voters protest or 25% or more of landowners protest. The 25% threshold for landowner protest refers to both the number of owners and the assessed value of land. Furthermore, the annexation must be terminated if 50% or more of registered voters submit valid written protests. Protest forms are available at the LAFCo office or online at www.humboldtlafco.org.

On June 20, 2025, the Executive Officer received a request for reconsideration submitted by a law firm representing Humboldt Redwood Company (HRC). In accordance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (CKH Act), the Commission is required to hold a public hearing to consider the request. This hearing must be publicly noticed a minimum of 21 days in advance, including publication and direct mail notification.

To accommodate this requirement, a special LAFCo meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 9:00 AM. This meeting would replace the regularly scheduled July 16 Commission meeting. Additionally, the previously scheduled protest hearing will be continued to a future date, to be announced in accordance with statutory deadlines.

As such, the LAFCo Executive Officer will conduct the protest hearing as follows:

- A. Describe the proposal and purpose of the hearing
- B. Summarize LAFCo Resolution No. 25-03
- C. Open the hearing
- D. Receive any oral or written protests, objections or evidence
- E. Note all written protests received prior to the hearing
- F. Continue the hearing to a future date no later than August 23, 2025, in compliance with the 60-day extension provision (Government Code Section 57050).

4. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Commission is tentatively scheduled for July 23, 2025, at 9:00 AM at the Eureka City Hall Council Chambers (second floor) located at 531 K Street, Eureka, CA.

For more information about the protest hearing, please contact LAFCo staff at 707-445-7508 or <u>colettes@humboldtlafco.org</u> (preferred).