

# State of the County 2022

Presented by:

Social Services, Child Support Services, Libraries, Health Services,  
Registrar of Voters, Behavioral Health Services

# Lake County Vision 2028 Principles

- ▶ Consider and promote the well-being and economic resilience of every Lake County resident
- ▶ Promote community collaboration
- ▶ Invest in our County's greatest resource: our people.

# Economic Resilience

- ▶ Grants applied for and received over \$8M the past 12 months.
- ▶ Nearly \$7M CalWORKs benefits issued.
- ▶ Over half of Lake County residents are receiving Medi-Cal benefits.
- ▶ Support of Hope Rising, a coalition that supports the improvement of health outcomes in Lake County through community-based efforts.

# Our People

- ▶ Increased public access to programs and services via telemedicine/telehealth, ballot drop boxes, Internet.
- ▶ Made available additional benefits to eligible community members as they dealt with the challenges of COVID.
- ▶ Wellbeing of our community has improved through intentionally enhanced access to health, social, and behavioral health services during the pandemic. Holistic mental & physical health is linked to economic resilience.

# Staff

- ▶ Class and Comp results improved the economic resiliency of our community through retention of trained staff maintaining the high level of county services to our community.
- ▶ As a result of the Board of Supervisors' commitment to the community, we have been able to enhance our efforts in service delivery and community-based collaboration.
- ▶ Worked together supporting Health Services' efforts around COVID vaccination.

# Collaboration

- ▶ Collaborated with Hope Rising to begin work on the triennial Community Health Needs Assessment.
- ▶ Promote community collaboration at county, tribal, state and federal levels. As a result, new resources are being brought to the community.
- ▶ Disaster response

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic design. The shapes are layered, with some appearing more prominent than others, and they extend from the edges of the frame towards the center.

Thank you

# LAKE COUNTY LEGAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS & GOALS


Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office,  
Probation, Animal Control, and County Counsel



- ▶ With Staffing Improvement, Implemented 24 hour response capability
- ▶ Working with Red Cross and DART
- ▶ Community Cat Program
- ▶ Working with Nat'l Organizations to home stray dogs



ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL

- 
- ▶ Hired PIO/Outreach Officer
  - ▶ Hired Emerg. Services Manager
  - ▶ Re-staffed 1 SRO
  - ▶ Increasing training and focus on Human Trafficking
  - ▶ Implemented ALPR system
  - ▶ Secured Gun Violence Reduction Grant

- ▶ Instituted Camera Registry Program
- ▶ Implemented COVID Protocol at Jail
- ▶ Re-staffed RMTF positions
- ▶ Hired 20 new employees
- ▶ Entered agreement with KV Riviera for additional siren
- ▶ Secured NG Armory

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



Hired 2 new DDA's

Worked with courts to address  
COVID related backlog

Participated in  
implementation of Video  
Court Appearance

Held Trials at Fairgrounds

▶ In process of establishing an  
outreach program with  
Empire Law School to improve  
recruitment efforts

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



- ▶ Drafted multiple ordinances and resolutions
- ▶ Researched and drafted opinions related to land use, liability, employment, litigation, work comp, contracts, juvenile matters, audits, regulatory issues and more
- ▶ Handled 10 complex civil litigation matters that fell outside scope of liability coverage

- ▶ Worked with various County Departments to overcome obstacles
- ▶ Reviewed hundreds of contracts for departments
- ▶ Handled 60+ ongoing juvenile dependency cases with weekly trials and writing appellate briefs as necessary
- ▶ Handled over 70 ongoing probate and conservatorship cases, with trials occurring throughout the year

# COUNTY COUNSEL

- ▶ In response to CJ System changes added additional field staff
- ▶ Implemented Program to deal with Pre-trial supervision
- ▶ Filling one SRO position

- ▶ Partnered with Office of Education to offer wraparound services for justice involved or at risk youth in Lake County

PROBATION

PROBATION OFFICE



- 
- \* Continue and Improve Recruitment Efforts
  - \* Increase participation in Road Map Task Force
  - \* Examine responses for Environmental Crimes—  
Civil and Criminal
  - \* Continue to Address backlog of court cases
  - \* Participate in Regional HT Task Force

COLLECTIVE AND COLLABORATIVE  
GOALS FOR THIS YEAR



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

**VISION 2028 – GROWING OUR ECONOMY, SPURRING JOB CREATION, IMPROVING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE AND CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES.**

PRESENTATION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER RESOURCES



## BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Community Development Department contributes to the Vision 2028 goals of growing our economy, job creation and caring for our environment through the reorganization of the Department, Streamlining our permitting process, managing our Cannabis Cultivation projects and conducting project evaluations of permits, complaints and processes.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

Various efforts by the Department include:

- ▶ Development of special resolutions and ordinances to streamline processes and protect the environment; such as CEQA/EIRs, Records Retention Schedules;
- ▶ Aggressive recruitment and hiring of staff to increase capacity of the Department; Filled 10 positions out of 17 vacancies;
- ▶ Review of in-house procedures and software packages, with an eye toward improving efficiency of project processing; Accela, Data Ticket, Adobe, GIS, Visibility Survey Requirements for SCDs
- ▶ Oversight of structured boards, such as AVA, Hazardous Vegetation, RMTF
- ▶ Writing thresholds for tree removal and water usage



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Community Development Department Continued Efforts Include:

- ▶ Hired a Cannabis Program Manager to oversee the 234 cannabis applications; made a presentation on the Cannabis Revised Ordinance and the Restructuring of the CDD Department;
- ▶ Hired two code enforcement officers, advertising for a cannabis code enforcement officer and CDD Tech
- ▶ Hiring a CDD (Customer Complaint Representative) to begin in April 2022
- ▶ Writing thresholds for water usage, tree removals, etc. to protect environment
- ▶ Implementing procedures and software packages to improve efficiency of project processing



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Special Districts Department contributes to Vision 2028 goals primarily through the implementation of capital projects aimed at improving water and sewer infrastructure which has cascading benefits to our environment and natural resources and which contribute to growing our economy by providing employment opportunities for consultants and contractors in the local and regional areas

The following is a summary of the more notable projects of the more than \$29 million in grant funded projects the department is currently undertaking to improve water and sewer infrastructure in the County and to enhance protections for groundwater sources, the lake, and the rest of our natural resources.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

Recently completed and soon to be completed capital projects include:

- ▶ Two new bolted steel tanks in the Soda Bay water district to replace aging redwood tanks. This \$750k project was fully funded with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding.
- ▶ The department is also finalizing the installation of battery backup systems at 7 of the department's larger locations. Potential savings of 10%-15% on energy costs are anticipated at those locations due to peak energy shifting. This equipment will create resiliency in the power source for treatment plants and large lift stations which should also reduce the impact of PG&E's PSPS events at these locations. The installation of over \$8.5M of infrastructure is fully funded by the CPUC Self Generation Incentive Program funding.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

- ▶ The recent drought has provided new sources of emergency funding. The department was successful in securing over \$2.3M in funding for resiliency projects in the North Lakeport & Spring Valley water districts this past fall.
- ▶ The department is also working within the West Sacramento Integrated Regional Watershed Management Group on approximately \$5M worth of projects in Lake County geared toward protecting our watershed and watershed resources. These range from multiple projects in the Hidden Valley Community Services District consisting of a water tank replacement and Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) reduction work; A reservoir recovery project in Spring Valley to restore storage and recreation to the area; Water line replacements in Spring Valley and Kelseyville; and I&I reduction projects in Clearlake, Lower Lake, and Kelseyville.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Lake County Air Quality Management District helps promote the Vision 2028 goal of Caring for our Environment and Protecting Natural Resources through a variety of regulatory efforts and programs.

These regulations and programs have helped maintain Attainment with Ambient Air Quality Standards, which affords Lake County numerous exemptions from State regulations that would affect residents, Agriculture community, Trucking Industry, equipment operators, and others. Examples of programs include:

- ▶ Funded replacement of 3 school buses with \$200k in grant funding;
- ▶ Working on grants for 3 electric school buses;



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

Examples of programs, continued:

- ▶ Funding purchase of portable air filters for Schools and Gyms throughout the County, working with Lake County Office of Education. Final contracts pending State certification of filtration units. Approximately \$90k in grant funding for this project;
- ▶ Funded Tractor replacements through FARMER Grant program using approximately \$90k in grant funds;
- ▶ Funded replacement of approximately 40 wood stoves with cleaner burning certified wood stoves. An estimated \$45k in grant funds was made available;
- ▶ Several other grant programs that provide funding for various monitoring efforts throughout the County;



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Agricultural Department's efforts to meet Vision 2028 Goals include the following highlights, intended for protecting and caring for our natural resources and environment:

- ▶ Continued coordinated efforts with Grow West and Inter State Ag Plastics to provide an annual pesticide container recycling collection event for the local farming community.
- ▶ The Ag Department completed two wood boring insect surveys throughout the county over the past two years.
- ▶ Obtained a grant through the California Department of Food & Agriculture to provide collaborative assistance with the Lake County Resource Conservation District in management efforts of the invasive weed, Goats rue.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

Ag Department projects – continued:

- ▶ Maintained our inspection services that help protect the local food supply and environment.
- ▶ Worked with the State Department of Agriculture to obtain COVID PPE supplies which were then distributed to the local agricultural community and agricultural businesses.



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

The Departments of Public Works and Water Resources are tasked with meeting the Vision 2028 Goals of: improving our infrastructure and protecting and caring for our natural resources and environment. Examples of recent projects include:

- ▶ Hiring of an engineering consultant to prepare a 5-Year Pavement Rehabilitation Plan with a goal of improving the overall road network pavement condition index (PCI) to 70;
- ▶ Continued efforts to purchase property along the South Main Street – Soda Bay Road Corridor to move closer to delivering the undergrounding of utilities and road widening project;
- ▶ Design of pavement improvements at Lampson Airfield to improve conditions in the parking area of the airfield, which follows the recent completion of a pavement preservation project on the runway and taxiway;



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

- ▶ Utilizing \$15 million dollars of State Grant funds to purchase properties within the Middle Creek Marsh Restoration project;
- ▶ Working with a consultant, completion of the Big Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan using \$1 million dollars in State grant funds;
- ▶ Using grant funds from the State Department of Boating and Waterways, continue the advancement of the Quagga Mussel Prevention Program by hiring ramp monitors and implementing a regional-wide database. Annual grants of approximately \$350k fund the majority of this program, which allows us to keep the costs to the boaters at a minimum;



# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

## Public Services Department

### ▶ County Facilities

- ▶ Jail roof and security electronics projects
- ▶ Multiple HVAC / air filtration upgrades
- ▶ Elections building
- ▶ Backup generators
- ▶ Telecommunications leases
- ▶ Countywide facility condition assessment
- ▶ Countywide facilities energy audit / solar study / electric vehicle charging

### ▶ Parks / Trails

- ▶ Public outreach + concept designs at 7 parks
- ▶ County Parks/Recreation/Trails Master Plan initiative
- ▶ Lake County Recreation Center Feasibility Study
- ▶ Clean Parks Beautification Grant

# BOS Annual Governance Workshop - 2022

## Public Services Department

- ▶ Landfill / Integrated Waste Management
  - ▶ Landfill expansion: CEQA & permits
  - ▶ Landfill gas collection and control system master plan
  - ▶ Cache Creek fire debris
  - ▶ Treated wood waste acceptance
  - ▶ Bulky Item Free Dump Day in partnership with Caltrans
- ▶ Museums
  - ▶ Oral history project
  - ▶ Virtual exhibits and virtual guided tours



# Finance, Accounting, and Technology Group

Assessor/Recorder

Treasurer/Tax Collector

Auditor-Controller/County Clerk

Information Technology

# General Areas of Focus



Maintain  
Transparency



Improve Business  
Efficiency



Support Departmental  
Initiatives

# Departmental Focus: Assessor/Recorder

- ◆ Goals Include:
  - ◆ Ensuring fair assessment of property values in county.
  - ◆ Respond to requests for collaboration with cities.
  - ◆ Streamline processes to facilitate timely, accurate valuations.
  - ◆ Maximize accessibility of recorded documents and information.



◆ Notable Initiatives:

- ◆ Established collaboration with City of Clearlake in order to increase efficiency of information sharing.
- ◆ Nearing completion of SSN redaction.
- ◆ Technology/process improvements for boat and mobile-home assessment and tracking.
- ◆ E-recording implementation in-process.
- ◆ State grant funded scanning & characteristics project initiated.

Departmental Focus:  
Assessor/Recorder

# Departmental Focus: Treasurer/Tax Collector

- ◆ Goals Include:
  - ◆ Ensure investment of taxpayer monies is protected.
  - ◆ Keep the public informed on county tax-related matters.
  - ◆ Ensure new and existing revenue streams are maximized.

- ◆ Notable Initiatives:
  - ◆ Investment policy updated.
  - ◆ Contract for asset management advisor services.
  - ◆ Two tax default sales conducted.
  - ◆ Website updates regarding annual tax cycle.
  - ◆ Implemented and collected cannabis business tax. Eight-million dollars in revenue collected.

Departmental Focus: Treasurer/Tax  
Collector



# Departmental Focus: Information Technology

- ◆ Goals Include:
  - ◆ Facilitate information sharing and ease of access to the public.
  - ◆ Increase opportunities for efficiency.
  - ◆ Enhance productivity of county staff through technology.

- ◆ Notable Initiatives:
  - ◆ Website redesign and implementation of new content management system.
  - ◆ Countywide document management, workflow management system.
  - ◆ Add capacity and resiliency to business continuity/security systems.

Departmental Focus: Information  
Technology

# Departmental Focus: Auditor-Controller/County Clerk

- ◆ Goals Include:
  - ◆ Ensure continuity of business and finance functions.
  - ◆ Improve efficiency of operations.
  - ◆ Enhance accessibility and ease-of-use to governmental processes.
  - ◆ Ensure fiscal integrity and maintain solid systems of internal control.



◆ Notable Initiatives:

- ◆ Maintained business continuity of financial functions.
- ◆ Automated, electronic timekeeping system tested and successfully addressed a dispersed workforce.
- ◆ Completed financial system upgrade to cloud environment.
- ◆ Electronic document acceptance, file retention, significantly expanded.
- ◆ Expansion of online and electronic clerk forms and processes.

Departmental Focus: Auditor-  
Controller/County Clerk

# Takeaway

- ◆ Initiatives undertaken by our departments are meant to ensure:
  - ◆ Transparency
  - ◆ Responsiveness
  - ◆ Efficiency
  - ◆ Effectiveness
  - ◆ Fiscal Integrity





# PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS: CAO UPDATE

*Carol J. Huchingson, County Administrative Officer*



WE SUPPORTED YOUR  
BOARD'S KEY PRIORITIES

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** SUPPORTED TASK FORCE EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY KEY PRIORITIES, PARTICULARLY SURROUNDING HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

**LOCAL BUSINESS:** SECURED GRANT FUNDING TO HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES WEATHER THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND MAKE OUR LOCAL CANNABIS INDUSTRY MORE EQUITABLE

**COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION:** WITH THE ROAD MAP TASK FORCE, SUPPORTED DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A PILOT PROJECT IN THE CLEARLAKE OAKS AREA

**REDISTRICTING:** PARTNERED WITH YOUR BOARD AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTIONS STAFF TO FACILITATE AN OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND EFFECTIVE PROCESS

**PUBLIC SAFETY, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RESILIENCY:** COLLABORATED WITH LEGISLATORS, SHERIFF MARTIN AND BOARD MEMBERS TO SECURE THE ARMORY BUILDING



**TARGETING COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS:** SUPPORTED DEVELOPMENT OF THE RECOVERY AND REVITALIZATION PLAN (*AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT SPENDING PRIORITIES*)

**OPTIMIZING PUBLIC SERVICES AND GOVERNANCE IN S. LAKEPORT:** WITH YOUR BOARD AND CITY PARTNERS, CULMINATED DECADES-LONG EFFORT TOWARD SUSTAINABLE TAX SHARING AGREEMENT

**ENSURING BUSINESS CONTINUITY:** PROVIDED HANDS-ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENTS IN TIMES OF TRANSITION

**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF PROGRAMS:** WITH CONTRACTOR SUPPORT, GUIDED YOUR BOARD'S GRANT-FUNDED EFFORTS TO ENSURE OUR PUBLIC DEFENDER PROGRAM IS EFFICIENTLY ADMINISTERED

**TELLING OUR OWN STORY:** DEVELOPED PRESS RELEASES AND "COUNTY INSIGHTS" OPINION PIECES, IN COLLABORATION WITH BOARD MEMBERS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS



WE SUPPORTED OUR  
COUNTY WORKFORCE

**EQUITABLE WAGE ADJUSTMENTS:** SUPPORTED YOUR BOARD AND EMPLOYEE GROUPS IN ARRIVING AT THE FAIREST POSSIBLE COMPENSATION FOR EVERY COUNTY POSITION

**SAFE WORK ENVIRONMENTS:** PARTNERED WITH YOUR BOARD AND PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF TO UPDATE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS, IMPLEMENTING EVIDENCE-BASED SAFETY MEASURES

**BUILDING OUR LEADERSHIP CAPACITY:** PARTNERED WITH MENDOCINO COUNTY, CSAC AND OTHERS TO HOST EXECUTIVE CREDENTIAL TRAINING FOR DEVELOPING LEADERS AND PROMOTE INCLUSIVE PRACTICES THAT CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITY

**GROWING OUR TEAM:** COLLABORATED WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS TO HIRE AND ONBOARD 190 NEW COUNTY EMPLOYEES

***PEOPLE MAKE PUBLIC SERVICES POSSIBLE***





# BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

*Our Goals and Next Steps*

**ENERGIZING THE COMMUNITY TO FILL HOUSING GAPS:** HOSTING STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND DEVELOPING A THREE-YEAR PLAN TO IMPROVE HOUSING AVAILABILITY, AFFORDABILITY, QUALITY

**REFINING THE WAYS WE WORK:** OFFICE SPACE OPTIMIZATION, DIGITAL RECORD ACCESSIBILITY AND REMOTE WORK POLICY IMPROVEMENTS TO MORE EFFECTIVELY MEET CUSTOMER NEEDS

**RESOURCE PLANNING AND ACTION:** UPDATING OUR BROADBAND STRATEGIC PLAN; NEGOTIATING SALE OF JUVENILE HALL FACILITY; CONTINUING ROLLOUT OF CANNABIS INDUSTRY SUPPORTS; IMPLEMENTING OUR RECOVERY AND REVITALIZATION PLAN (ARPA)

**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF PROGRAMS:** FORMULATING SUSTAINABLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES; SECURING FUNDING FOR A CHIEF CLIMATE RESILIENCY OFFICER POSITION TO MEANINGFULLY REDUCE DISASTER RISK FOR EVERY RESIDENT

**ENHANCING EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION:** THE COUNTY OF LAKE IS AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE – WE WILL BE DEVELOPING AN ARRAY OF STRATEGIES TO ENCOURAGE TALENTED STAFF TO CHOOSE TO BUILD A CAREER WITH OUR ORGANIZATION