

COUNTY OF LAKE Office of the County Clerk/Auditor-Controller Courthouse-255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 Telephone (707) 263-2311 FAX (707) 263-2310 Email: auditor@lakecountyca.gov Cathy Saderlund Auditor-Controller/County Clerk Marcy Harrison Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller Lisa Casian Chief Deputy Auditor-Controller Ref. No. 21L-015

August 14, 2020

Honorable Michael S. Lunas Presiding Judge – Lake County Superior Court 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453 Honorable Board of Supervisors Moke Simon, Chairperson 255 North Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

Although no formal response to items presented in the 2019-2020 Lake County Civil Grand Jury Report were requested of the Auditor-Controller/County Clerk, the section pertaining to Tax Default Auctions contained information on the County Teeter Plan administered by the Auditor-Controller, as well as an invitation to respond pertaining to R3 of that same section of the report.

Tax Default Auctions

3.) Teeter Plan

NEUTRAL. This section includes a background synopsis of a Teeter Plan, as well as conclusions on the functioning and administration of the County of Lake Teeter Plan. As I believe the Civil Grand Jury is aware, an informational Board Report was presented to the Board of Supervisors and the public on February 25, 2020 by your Auditor-Controller. During that report the background, history, administration, as well as ten year data was presented. I respectfully refer readers of the Lake County Civil Grand Jury Report to the Board Report for the most complete and accurate information regarding the County of Lake Teeter Plan.

R3: All elected city officials and elected county officials should exercise extreme prudence in making disparaging claims (be they in public or to other governmental agencies) against the performance or motivations of any other elected official. If such claims are to be made, multiple/independent verifications of information/data supporting such claims should be fully explored. (F7)

AGREE. I agree that it is the duty of all elected officials to exercise extreme prudence in carrying out their respective official duties. This Auditor-Controller/County Clerk is mindful of this when carrying out the official duties of the office of the Auditor-Controller/County Clerk and is also mindful of the expectation and requirement that the Auditor-Controller maintain professional independence. If in the course of my duties I must release information that may not be seen as favorable to another elected official, it is my duty to disclose that information. This would, of course, be carefully vetted for accuracy, including multiple independent verifications as determined necessary. Although I am not

aware of any disparaging or inaccurate claims made in public or to other governmental agencies by this elected official or any member of my staff regarding Tax Default Auctions and the Treasurer/Tax Collector; the Grand Jury has called attention to the Auditor-Controller/County Clerk and invited a response from this office on this particular recommendation.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide information pertaining to the services and statutory responsibilities of the Auditor-Controller/County Clerk and I will continue to respond to inquiries as a result of this formal process, as well as information and support requested during the normal course of Civil Grand Jury activities.

As always, I recognize and appreciate the service of the members of the Civil Grand Jury.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Saderlund Auditor-Controller/County Clerk

cc: Treasurer/Tax Collector