



**Website:**  
[www.sanbenitocountyca.gov](http://www.sanbenitocountyca.gov)

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

DISTRICT 1 - Dom Zanger  
DISTRICT 2 - Kollin Kosmicki  
DISTRICT 3 - Mindy Sotelo  
DISTRICT 4 - Angela Curro  
DISTRICT 5 - Ignacio Velazquez

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER:  
Esperanza Colio Warren

COUNTY COUNSEL:  
Gregory P Priamos

CLERK OF THE BOARD:  
Vanessa Delgado

**Agenda Item  
Special Meeting of the  
Board of Supervisors  
Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

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**Item Number: 1.A**

**MEETING DATE:** 03/31/2026  
**DEPARTMENT:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** Vanessa Delgado  
**DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR:** Esperanza Colio Warren

**SUBJECT:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1. Approve letter of support for the San Benito Fire Safe Council's (SBFSC) application to the California Fire Safe Council's County Coordinator Grant Program; and
2. Authorize the full board to sign the letter.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 156

**AGENDA SECTION:**

CONSENT AGENDA

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

San Benito County, like so many rural California counties, faces significant and growing wildfire risk. Our landscapes, communities, and infrastructure are increasingly threatened by the frequency and severity of wildfires driven by drought, vegetation, and changing climate conditions. We recognize that effective wildfire prevention requires sustained, coordinated, and community-rooted leadership — precisely what the County Coordinator position would provide.

Currently, the SBFSC operates entirely through the dedication of volunteers — community members who give their time and energy generously, but who face the inherent limitations of volunteer capacity. The County Coordinator position would be transformative: it would bring full-time, focused professional leadership to the SBFSC's core mission of wildfire risk reduction. With a dedicated coordinator in place, the SBFSC will be empowered to:

- Dramatically expand public education and outreach on defensible space and home hardening strategies to a far greater number of residents across San Benito County.
- Deepen engagement with the Firewise USA–recognized communities already active in our county, while accelerating outreach to additional communities currently pursuing Firewise recognition.
- Coordinate and sustain a comprehensive, county-wide campaign of wildfire risk mitigation, including strategic planning, stakeholder partnerships, and grant stewardship.
- Reduce structure loss, infrastructure damage, and acres burned through proactive, science-based prevention programs tailored to our county’s unique conditions.

This position is not simply an operational upgrade for the SBFSC — it is an essential step toward building the organizational capacity needed to mount a sustained, long-term wildfire prevention campaign. The Board of Supervisors views this as a critical investment in protecting lives, property, and our county’s natural resources.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Approve letter of support for the San Benito Fire Safe Council's (SBFSC) application to the California Fire Safe Council's County Coordinator Grant Program; and
2. Authorize the full board to sign the letter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

[Agenda Fact Sheet - Ltr of Support re CA Fire Safe Councils County Coordinator Grant Program](#)  
[Letter of Support re Fire Safe Council Grant](#)