



**SAN BENITO COUNTY  
AGENDA ITEM  
TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Dom Zanger  
District No. 1

Kollin Kosmicki  
District No. 2

Mindy Sotelo  
District No. 3  
Chair

Angela Curro  
District No. 4  
Vice-Chair

Bea Gonzales  
District No. 5

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**Item Number: 2.4**

**MEETING DATE:** 05/23/2023

**DEPARTMENT:** HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

**AGENDA ITEM PREPARER:** Tracey Belton

**DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR:** Tracey Belton

**SUBJECT:**

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY- T. BELTON**

Adopt Resolution appointing Dr. Cheryl Scott as the County Public Health Officer and waive the registered voter requirements of Government Code Section 24001 finding that waiver is in the best interest of the County to prevent an interruption of essential services.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 420

RESOLUTION NO.: 2023-60

**AGENDA SECTION:**

REGULAR AGENDA

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:**

Since March of 2022, the County has been actively recruiting to fill the position of Public Health Officer. Currently, the Interim Health Officer, Dr. David Ghilarducci has been performing those duties on an interim basis. Our most recent recruitment resulted in the selection of an excellent candidate and we are asking the Board to appoint Dr. Cheryl Scott to the vacant role of full time Public Health Officer for the County of San Benito. Dr. Scott meets the requirements set forth in California Health and Safety Code Section 101000. Dr. Scott has exemplary qualifications and extensive public health experience. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz and her Doctorate in Medicine from Boston University's School of Medicine. Additionally, Dr. Scott possesses a Professional Degree in International Health from John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Dr. Scott spent over 17 years working for the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in July 1993 where she served in various roles such as Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer focusing on Reproductive Health, State Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist for the CDC's Division of Reproductive Health for the State of New Jersey and Department of Health and Senior Services, Medical Epidemiologist for the CDC's Division of Public Health Systems Public Health Practice Program Office and Chief of Party and CDC Country Director for the CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Elimination.

Dr. Scott is highly accoladed and has received several awards throughout her career including the 2018 Humanitarian Award from Boston University School of Medicine Alumni Association, a Certificate of Recognition from the California State Assembly, and the honor of being selected as a Commencement Speaker in 2021 for Boston University School of Public Health.

Dr. Cheryl Scott is willing to accept the appointment however she currently resides in a neighboring Monterey County, although her ultimate plan is to find housing in San Benito County. Government Code Section 24001 requires a person appointed to a county office to be a registered voter of the county in which the duties of the office are to be exercised. Section 24001 allows the Board of Supervisors to waive this requirement if it finds the best interest of the county will be served. The COVID-19 Pandemic has created a shortage of these positions throughout the state and we are fortunate to have found a qualified candidate willing to accept the position. Waiving the residency requirement would prevent an interruption of essential services and serve the best interests of the County.

**RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

Yes

**CONTRACT NEEDED FOR THIS ITEM:**

No

**CONTRACT AND RFP HISTORY:**

N/A

**LAST CONTRACT AMOUNT OR N/A:**

N/A

**STATE IF THIS IS A NEW CONTRACT/ HOW MANY PAST AMENDED CONTRACTS/ OR N/A:**

N/A

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 1. Operational Development & Excellence**

Yes

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 2. Planning And Sustainable Growth**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 3. Technology**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 4. Community Engagement**

No

**STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: 5. Health & Safe Community**

Yes

**BUDGETED:**

Yes

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NEEDED:**

No

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Non-general Fund

**UNFUNDED MANDATE:**

No

**SBC BUDGET LINE ITEM NUMBER:**

224.80.2390

**CURRENT FY COST:**

\$260,000

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Adopt Resolution appointing Dr. Cheryl Scott, to serve as the County Health Officer effective May 23, 2023, pursuant to Section 101000 of the California Health and Safety Code.
2. Waive the registered voter requirements of Government Code section 24001 finding that waiver is in the best interest of the County to prevent an interruption in essential services.

**BOARD ACTION RESULTS:**

1. Adopted Resolution No.2023-60 per staff recommendation. (5/0 vote)
2. Waived the registered voter requirements per staff recommendation. (5/0 vote)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution Appointing Health Officer  
Fully Executed Resolution No. 2023-60