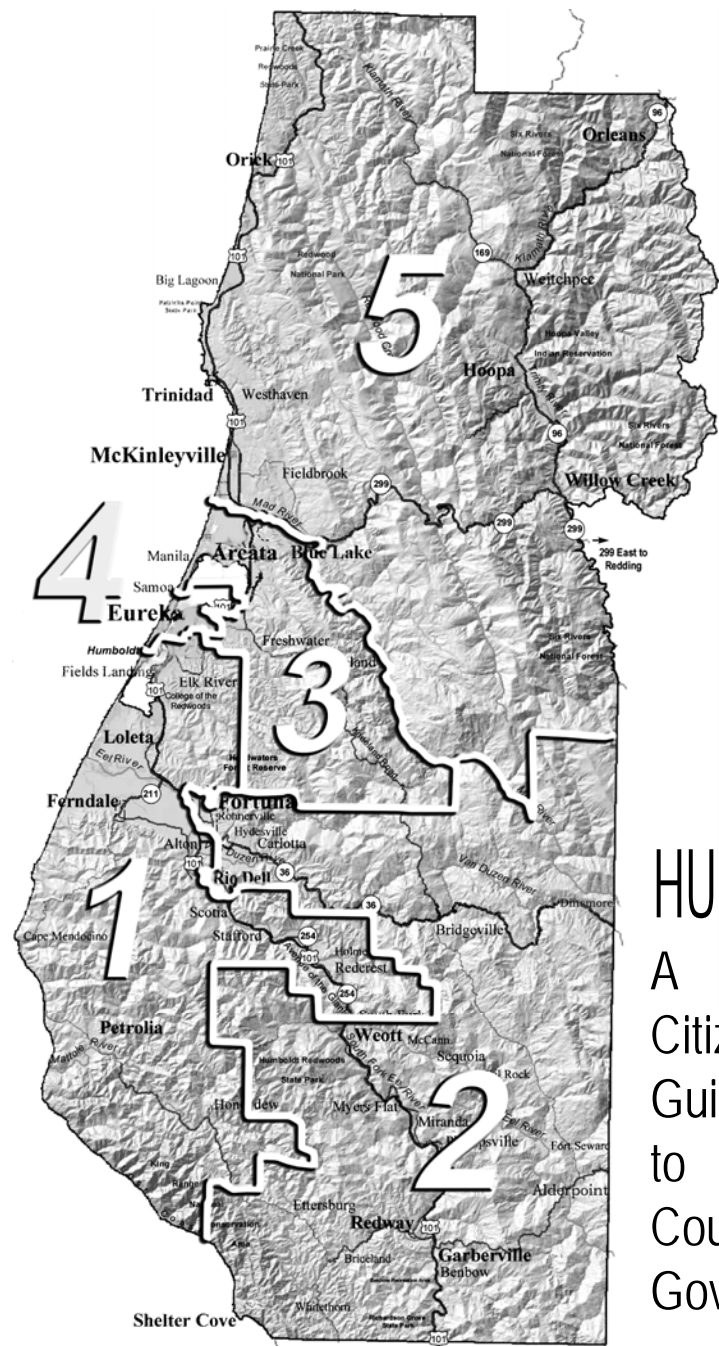


LWV
League of Women Voters of
Humboldt County
P.O. Box 3219
Eureka, CA 95502-3219



HUMBOLDT A Citizen's Guide to County Government

Published by the
League of Women Voters
of Humboldt County



2012

Introduction

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County has prepared this guide and made it available free-of-charge in order to promote informed participation in county government by providing access to detailed information about elected and appointed offices, intergovernmental bodies, and other public agencies. We wish to thank the county officials and staff and the many individuals who provided information for this publication; any errors are our own. The figures are based on the 2011-2012 adopted budget.

Many of the offices and agencies listed here have Web sites with detailed information about the services they provide and helpful features such as downloadable forms and documents. You can find Web addresses and related information in the online version of this guide at: www.lwvhc.org/pub_guide.php

League of Women Voters Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Supporting the League

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. It does take action on selected government issues in the public interest. *Join us* in creating responsible civil discourse, and action based on substance rather than partisanship. Become a member of the League. Membership is open to *all* citizens of voting age. Call 444-9252 or email us at vote@lwvhc.org. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3219, Eureka, CA 95502-3219.

Table of Contents

Elected Offices

Courts

Superior Court of California 3

Legislative Bodies

Board of Supervisors 3

Board of Education 4

Executive Offices

Assessor 4

Auditor - Controller 5

Clerk, Recorder and Registrar of Voters 5

Coroner and Public Administrator 5

District Attorney 5

Sheriff 6

Superintendent of Schools 6

Treasurer - Tax Collector 6

Appointed Offices

County Administrative Officer 7

Agricultural Commissioner and

Sealer of Weights & Measures 7

Child Support Services Director 8

Conflict Counsel 8

Cooperative Extension Director 8

County Counsel 8

Community Development Services Director 9

Health & Human Services Director 9

Library Services Director 10

Personnel Director 11

Chief Probation Officer 11

Public Defender 11

Public Works Director 11

Board of Supervisors Appointed Boards,

Commissions and Committees 12

Superior Court Appointed Bodies

Grand Jury, 15

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Commission 15

Intergovernmental Bodies

Humboldt County Association of Governments

(HCAOG) 15

Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA) 16

North Coast Unified Air Quality

Management District (AQMD) 16

Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) 16

Redwood Region Economic Development

Commission (RREDC) 16

Other Elected Offices

Special Districts

Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and

Conservation District 17

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District 17

McKinleyville Community Services District 17

School District Boards 18

City Councils 19

County Revenues and Expenditures 21

Voter Registration Information 22

Elected Offices

Courts

Superior Court of California

Judges
Serve 6-year terms
Timothy P. Cissna
269-1293
next election 2012

John T. Feeney
269-1261
next election 2014

Joyce D. Hinrichs
269-1229
next election 2014

Marilyn B. Miles
269-1294
next election 2014

Dale Reinholtsen
269-1292
next election 2012

W. Bruce Watson
269-1291
next election 2016

Christopher Wilson
269-1290
next election 2016

Commissioner
Michael Eannarino
269-1295

Living life in the fast lane?

Traffic Ticket Info
toll-free
445-7256

If you need disability-related accommodations to participate in a board meeting, contact the clerk of the board
476-2396
at least two full business days before the start of the desired meeting.

County of Humboldt **7 judges**
1 Commissioner
825 5th St., Eureka 95501 269-1200
483 Conger St., Garberville 95542 923-2141
toll free (866) 608-1804

Salary: \$178,789 State-funded

Has general trial jurisdiction, including all felonies, civil matters, family court involving child custody and support, adoptions, probate and guardianships, dissolutions and annulments, traffic violations, small claims, and misdemeanors. Issues jury summonses; provides juries for courts; maintains the law library. Because increasing the number of judges is not lightly done, the court has acted within its authority to appoint a commissioner with limited judicial authority to assist with the family law caseload.

Superior Court Administrative Office

Kerri Keenan, Chief Executive Officer 269-1200
Staff: 96.4 **Budget: \$1,680,394***
*County Contribution

Coordinates and schedules the court's calendars; complies with all orders of the court and ensures their proper and timely execution; maintains secure custody of all legal records; performs personnel management for the court administrative office; is responsible for all financial aspects of court operations; maintains statistical data on judicial and administrative activity.

Traffic Division
421 I St., Eureka 95501 445-7256

Collects fines and answers questions arising from traffic citations.

Law Library
812 4th St., Room G04, Eureka 95501 476-2356

The law library is administered by a board of trustees, which is made up of Judges Cissna, Feeney, Miles and Reinholtsen, the county counsel, the district attorney, and the public defender.

Legislative Bodies

Board of Supervisors **5 members**

825 5th St., Room 111, Eureka 95501 476-2396
Board Administrative Assistant 476-2390
Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board 476-2396

Salary: \$81,576 **Staff: 8** **Budget: \$878,855**

Meets: Every Tuesday, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.,
except the 5th Tuesday of the month
825 5th St., Eureka **Supervisors Chambers**

omen Voters of Humboldt County

Serves as the legislative and policy-making body of the county; adopts ordinances, resolutions, and orders; appoints the non-elected department heads and members of boards and commissions; governs a number of special districts; adopts annual budget; levies taxes and sets fees; approves contracts; regulates land use in unincorporated areas.

Meeting agendas are available on the Web site on the Friday before each meeting. For county departments, to request that an item of business be placed on a future agenda, submit a written request, together with any supporting material, to 825 5th St., Room 111, Eureka, CA 95501, at least ten days before the desired meeting. Members of the public may alternatively contact a supervisor to request that an item be placed on the agenda. Persons submitting supporting materials must provide an original and nine copies for the materials to be placed in the public record. At meetings, the chair asks for public comment on agenda items after staff and board discussion and before the vote. The time for citizens to address matters not on the agenda is during the limited period set aside for public comment. Public comment is identified as such on the agenda, generally the first item of the afternoon session. Citizens also have the right to be heard during any public hearings that are noticed or advertised to the public. Meetings of the board of supervisors are broadcast live on Suddenlink channel 10, and are also rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 8 P.M.

Board of Education **7 members**

901 Myrtle Ave., Eureka 95501 445-7030

Salary: Not salaried, receive a state-funded stipend

Meets: 2nd Wednesday, 3 P.M., call to confirm
Office of Education Board Room

Adopts rules and regulations governing the office of education; sets the county superintendent's salary; approves the office of education budget; approves educational films and videos for school districts; acts as the governing board for county-operated schools and programs; functions as an appellate body for student expulsions.

Meeting agendas are posted at the office of education, and at each school site. An item to be considered for the agenda must be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools at least two weeks in advance. Discussion is limited to school business; confidential matters regarding individual students and personnel will not be discussed during public meetings. Each agenda item has time allotted for public comment. If you wish to address an agenda item, you may do so by signing in at the beginning of the meeting, or by raising your hand to be recognized and then coming forward to speak. There is no set time limit for public comment.

Executive Offices

Assessor

Mari Wilson **next election 2014**

825 5th St., 3rd Floor, Eureka 95501 445-7663

Salary: \$111,120 **Staff: 32** **Budget: \$2,218,669**

Appraises all unsecured property annually; appraises secured property at time of transfer, including all new construction; prepares the tax roll and delivers it to the auditor yearly; keeps records of taxable property.

Supervisors

By District

Serve 4-year terms

1 Jimmy Smith
476-2391
next election 2012

2 Clif Clendenen
476-2392
next election 2012

3 Mark Lovelace
476-2393
next election 2012

4 Virginia Bass
476-2394
next election 2014

5 Ryan Sundberg
476-2395
next election 2014

Board Members

By Area

Serve 4-year terms

1 Robert Siekmann
next election 2015

2 Joan Stewart
next election 2013

3 Sharon Omev
next election 2015

4 Salena Kahle
next election 2015

5 Mary G. Scott
next election 2013

6 Bill Ruff
next election 2013

7 Marc Rowley
next election 2015

Auditor-Controller

Joseph Mellett next election 2014
 825 5th St. Room 126, Eureka 95501 476-2452
 Salary: \$111,120 Staff: 14.5 Budget: \$1,167,144

Serves as chief accounting officer for the county; records the financial transactions of the county and other related agencies; audits and processes claims for payments; issues receipts for all monies received by the county; prepares financial reports; audits and issues payroll checks; maintains personnel earnings and benefit records; accounts for property tax monies; oversees the divisions of payroll, accounting, accounts receivable, audit and cost accounting, and property tax.

Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters

Carolyn Wilson Crnich next election 2014
 825 5th St., 5th Floor, Eureka 95501 445-7593
 Salary: \$111,120 Staff: 19.8 Budget: \$1,766,929

The official repository for all real estate records and official maps as well as vital records (birth, death and marriage records). Files fictitious business name statements and notary bonds; sells marriage licenses and performs civil wedding ceremonies. It has one division:

Elections & Voter Registration

Kelly Sanders, Elections Manager
 3033 H St., Eureka 95501 445-7678
 Staff: 6.8 Budget: \$851,210

Registers all voters; conducts federal, state, county, city, school, and special district elections; ensures that all eligible residents are able to exercise their right to vote; ensures that elections are held in a fair, accurate, and efficient manner; provides election information and results to the public.

Coroner and Public Administrator

David Parris next election 2014
 3012 I St., Eureka 95501 445-7242
 Salary: \$102,528 Staff: 5.2 Budget: \$661,335

Investigates all deaths reportable to the coroner; safeguards property of the deceased; notifies and counsels next-of-kin; conducts inquests; administers estates; provides burial for indigent persons.

District Attorney

Paul Gallegos next election 2014
 825 5th St., Eureka 95501 445-7411
 Salary: \$154,896 Staff: 56.3 Budget: \$5,089,228

Initiates and conducts the prosecution of public offenses occurring within Humboldt County on behalf of the People of the State of California; assists and advises the grand jury on criminal matters; oversees a Victim-Witness program which offers support services to victims, their families and witnesses during criminal proceedings, and collaborates with other agencies to operate special programs focusing on child abuse and on anti-drug abuse enforcement.

Sheriff

Mike Downey next election 2014
 826 4th St., Eureka 95501 268-3611
 Main Station 445-7251
 Salary: \$146,136 Staff: 286.6 Budget: \$26,046,561

Enforces state law, county ordinances, and court orders; maintains police patrols for unincorporated areas including all waterways in the county and the Pacific Ocean out 3 miles; performs search and rescue; processes civil writs; operates the county jail; serves as bailiff to the superior court; processes business licenses, gun registrations, and concealed-carry licenses; provides public protection through stray dog control, bite investigations and dog licensing programs; serves as director of emergency services; provides public access to Live.Scan fingerprinting services.

Office of Emergency Services 268-2500

Controls and directs the county's emergency efforts; assists cities or special districts that request additional resources and organization in times of crisis by mobilizing both county assets and, when necessary, assets from other cities and special districts; requests assistance from the state office of emergency services when necessary.

Superintendent of Schools

Garry T. Eagles next election 2014
 901 Myrtle Ave., Eureka 95501 445-7030

State-funded:

Salary: \$155,000 Staff: 315 Budget: \$26,620,000

Provides educational, consultative, administrative, legislative, and business services to 32 school districts in Humboldt County; coordinates regional services in health, special education, staff development, attendance, library/instructional media, insurance/risk management, and legal services; maintains teacher credential files; operates court and community schools, a special education school, and occupational programs; acts as a liaison between the California Department of Education and local school districts; monitors income and expenses of local school districts.

Treasurer-Tax Collector

John Bartholomew next election 2014
 825 5th St., Room 125, Eureka 95501 476-2450
 Salary: \$111,120 Staff: 10.7 Budget: \$1,239,560

Performs functions for several local governmental agencies not under the control of the board of supervisors; collects taxes for all taxing agencies including cities, school districts and special districts; invests the monies for the school districts and most special districts; coordinates financing for county and other local agency projects; issues business licenses; administers the county's Deferred Compensation and Defined Benefit Plans. This is a unique relationship in that the board of supervisors alone controls department financing, but the office is equally responsible to all of the agencies it serves.

Sheriff Substations
McKinleyville Station

1608 Pickett Rd.
 839-3857
 839-8658

Garberville Station

648 Locust St.
 923-2761

Hoopa Station

Highway 96
 P.O. Box 1247
 (530) 625-4231

Animal Shelter

Animal Control
 980 Looming
 McKinleyville
 840-9132

The tax-defaulted
property auction
 is held yearly in
 May or June. To join the
 auction mailing list call:
 476-2450

Business Licenses

476-2450

Property Taxes

476-2450
 toll-free in the U.S.
 (877) 448-6829

Appointed Offices

County Administrative Officer

Phillip Smith-Hanes

825 5th St., Room 112, Eureka 95501 445-7266

Salary: \$168,996 Staff: 44.8 Budget: \$30,900,873

The administrative arm of the board of supervisors; recommends and facilitates the implementation of policies; analyzes issues and makes recommendations to the board of supervisors regarding the administration and operation of county departments; monitors the use of financial and human resources. The CAO's office has 5 main divisions:

Revenue Recovery 476-2383

Collects court fines and other outstanding fees due to the county, collects outstanding debts owed to county departments, and negotiates payment agreements.

Information Technology 445-7556

Operates and maintains the county's computer network, servers and databases, desktop computers, and business applications.

Communications 268-2510

Administers the county's phone and radio systems, which includes all federally licensed radio equipment that operates through the four mountaintop radio repeater sites; manages the county's utilities, and negotiates and administers the cable television franchises.

Risk Management 268-3669

Responsible for administering the county's insurance programs and claims; helps to determine the proper mix of loss control (safety and environmental), risk transfer (purchase of insurance) and risk retention (self-insurance).

Purchasing 268-2544

Acquires goods and services for county departments at the best price from the most responsible vendor; ensures full utilization of excess equipment and conducts sales and auctions of retired equipment; oversees the mailroom.

Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights & Measures

Jeff M. Dolf

5630 South Broadway, Eureka 95503 441-5260

Salary: \$102,528 Staff: 6.8 Budget: \$803,250

Provides environmental protection through agricultural pest exclusion, pesticide use enforcement, and management of predatory animal damage; registers local organic producers with the State program and performs compliance inspections for the national organic program; protects consumers by inspecting and/or testing all commercial weighing devices and enforcing package labeling laws.

Fox in your
henhouse?
Wildlife services may be
able to help.
441-5260

Child Support Services Director

James E. Kucharek

2420 6th St., Eureka 95501 (866) 901-3212

Salary: \$120,264 Staff: 60 Budget: \$5,190,535

Administers child support services for the county; establishes paternity and enforces child support orders; locates non-custodial parents; collects and disburses child support funds. State and federal funding supports these services; they have no impact on the general fund. Since 1975, federal law has mandated that all states operate a child support enforcement program. To ensure uniformity of effort statewide, each California county is required to enter into a plan of cooperation with the State's Department of Child Support Services.

You can get general information about child support services and payment information for your case 24 hours a day on the automated information line. (866) 901-3212

Conflict Counsel

Glenn L. Brown

931 3rd St., Eureka 95501 445-7475

Salary: \$130,812 Staff: 12.8 Budget: \$1,464,286

Provides legal counsel for defendants who cannot be represented by the public defender because of time constraints or because of a conflict of interest; performs all the functions of the public defender's office except for representing conservatees.

Cooperative Extension Director

Yana Valachovic

5630 South Broadway, Eureka 95503 445-7351

Salary: *Paid by UC* Staff: 1.5 Budget: \$139,145

Provides programs and activities related to forestry, dairy, livestock and range, marine science, horticulture, and 4-H Youth Development. Humboldt County supports this office with clerical staff and operating expenses. The University of California appoints the director and other local advisors.

County Counsel

Wendy B. Chaitin

825 5th St., Eureka 95501 445-7236

Salary: \$152,424 Staff: 21.8 Budget: \$2,338,619

The General Services Unit serves as legal advisor to the board of supervisors, all county departments, and some joint powers agencies; by contract gives legal advice to special districts; represents the county in civil litigation; oversees litigation aspects of the risk management program. The Child Welfare Services Unit provides legal services to Child Welfare Services from the trial court to the appellate court level. The Code Enforcement Unit performs investigative inspection, abatement and compliance work related to use, maintenance and safety of land and structures.

Community Development Services Director

Kirk A. Girard

3015 H St., Eureka 95501 445-7541

Salary: \$115,332 Staff: 59.8 Budget: \$25,591,875

Community Development Services has 4 divisions:

Planning **445-7541**
Staff: 28 Budget: \$2,583,500

Develops and maintains the General Plan, Community Plans, and Housing Element; recommends action on zoning; executes zoning and other land use ordinances by processing permit applications and encouraging voluntary code compliance; oversees staff management of the Local Agency Formation Commission (more about LAFCo on page 13).

Natural Resources Planning **268-3795**
Staff: 3 Budget: \$9,901,161

Develops and implements water, environmental restoration, habitat conservation and climate change projects to advance natural resource goals set by the board of supervisors.

Building **445-7245 or toll-free (800) 900-4034**
Staff: 17.3 Budget: \$1,273,085

Provides information to residents in unincorporated areas of Humboldt County regarding building regulations; performs inspections during new construction for codes and standards compliance; issues permits to alter, enlarge, remodel or repair existing buildings; issues permits and provides inspections for placement of mobile homes in unincorporated areas.

Economic Development **445-7745**
520 E St., Eureka 95501
Staff: 11.5 Budget: \$11,834,129

Encourages economic development by focusing on business retention and expansion, on the development of housing and infrastructure, and on workforce development; oversees the Headwaters Fund, the Workforce Investment Board and the Redevelopment Agency.

Health & Human Services Director

Phillip R. Crandall

507 F St., Eureka 95501 441-5400

Salary: \$166,656 Staff: 1331 Budget: \$150,074,083

The department has 3 branches:

Mental Health
Karolyn Stein, Director
Admin: 824 Harris St., Eureka 95501 268-2990
Services: 720 Wood St., Eureka 95501 268-2900
Alcohol & Other Drug Programs 476-4054
727 Cedar St., Garberville 95542 923-2729
Staff: 376.4 Budget: \$32,580,896

Need zoning information for a particular parcel? If you have the assessor's parcel number (APN), call the Zone Phone 445-7550

Got maps? Planning's GIS program has maps and other geographical information. 445-7541

Building permits & inspection requests: 445-7245

Lifejackets Save Lives 268-2132
 Free lifejacket loan program

Humboldt 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Hotline 445-7715
 toll-free (888) 849-5728

Lead Poisoning Prevention 441-5564

Family Violence Prevention 441-5551

Public Health Nursing 268-2105

Free or low cost health insurance for children Healthy Kids Humboldt 442-6066

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Nutrition Program 445-6255

Directs diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of persons within the county who suffer from mental and emotional disorders, alcoholism, and substance abuse. State and Federal Funds, insurance, user fees, contracts for services, and a small amount of county funds offset the cost of these services.

Public Health

Susan Buckley, Director
529 I St., Eureka 95501 445-6200
toll-free (866) 597-1574

727 Cedar St., Garberville 95542 923-2779
77 Walnut Way, Willow Creek 95573 (530) 629-2410
Staff: 243.3 Budget: \$21,018,361

Promotes community health, disease prevention and a healthy human environment through illness and injury prevention programs; monitors the health status of the community; diagnoses and investigates community health problems and hazards; enforces laws and regulations; and responds to disasters. Most public health funding comes from other governmental agencies.

Social Services

Katherine Young, Director
929 Koster St., Eureka 95501 269-3590
toll-free (800) 891-8551 TDD 269-4102
727 Cedar St., Garberville 95542 923-2759
1200 Airport Rd., Hoopa 95546 (530) 625-4251
Staff: 680.7 Budget: \$90,686,776

Administers public assistance programs, including CalWORKS, CalFresh, Medi-Cal and General Relief; directs social service programs including Child Welfare Services, In-Home Supportive Services, and Adult Protective Services; coordinates services with other public and private agencies.

Public Guardian – Public Conservator

Kelli Schwartz
23 5th St., Eureka 95501 445-7343
Staff: 8 Budget: \$684,090

Acts as the legally appointed guardian or conservator for persons found by the superior court to be too physically or mentally disabled to care properly for themselves or their finances, or who are unable to resist undue influence or fraud; conducts the official county investigation into conservatorship matters.

Library Services Director

Victor Zazueta
1313 3rd St., Eureka 95501 269-1900
Salary: \$102,528 Staff: 37.3 Budget: \$3,165,206

Provides library and information services via 11 branches and a bookmobile; maintains reference, print, and audio/visual collections and materials of local historical and genealogical significance; provides public internet and computer access. The library is governed by the board of supervisors and functions as a county department, it is not part of the general fund. Library revenues come primarily from property taxes, state and federal funds, and some fees, fines and gifts.

Want to quit? Tobacco-Free Humboldt 441-5569

HIV testing anonymous and free 441-5074

Recycling Hotline 268-8030
 Hazardous Waste Recycling 441-2005

Report abuse 445-6180 child 24 hrs
 476-2100 adults/elders
 After hours 445-7715
 Welfare Fraud Special Investigative Unit 445-6072

CalWORKS & Welfare to Work 268-3400

Veterans Services 825 5th St., Room 310 Eureka 95501 445-7341
 Serves as a liaison between veterans and their families and the Veterans Administration on matters such as home loans, pension and medical benefits, and burial benefits.

Personnel Director

Dan Fulks

825 5th St., Room 100, Eureka 95501 476-2349

Salary: \$120,948 Staff: 6 Budget: \$669,933

Find out about
County Job
Openings
24-hour recorded
Job Line
476-2357

Manages the county personnel program including recruitment, selection, classification, affirmative action plans and training; maintains county salary plans; conducts employee relations process; keeps employee records; administers contracts with employee organizations; conducts ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance activities; administers benefit programs.

Chief Probation Officer

William Damiano

2002 Harrison Ave., Eureka 95501 445-7401

Salary: \$121,104 Staff: 116.7 Budget: \$9,007,297

Juvenile Hall
445-7644

Provides supervision of adult and juvenile offenders; sanctions and treats offenders through community correction; enforces court orders; provides accurate and comprehensive information to the courts; is responsible for the operation of the juvenile hall and Northern California Regional Facility. The probation department is an arm of the superior court, and its head is an appointee of the court.

Public Defender

Kevin Robinson

1001 4th St., Eureka 95501 445-7634

Salary: \$130,812 Staff: 17 Budget: \$1,656,817

Represents defendants in criminal cases who are unable to pay for a private attorney. Also represents juveniles, parents in dependency matters, and proposed conservatees of the public conservator.

Public Works Director

Thomas Mattson

1106 2nd St., Eureka 95501 445-7491

Salary: \$120,636 Staff: 218.6 Budget: \$58,294,435

Responsible for the county roads and bridges, motor pool, heavy equipment garage and airport system; prepares engineered plans and specifications; inspects construction projects; manages county properties and right-of-ways; prepares environmental documents; obtains regulatory permits; administers solid waste franchises and facilities; maintains county levee systems; administers county parks; reviews planning submittals for subdivisions; buys, sells and/or leases real property for county departments at the lowest fair market value; repairs and maintains county facilities.

Board of Supervisors Appointed Boards, Commissions and Committees

The board of supervisors appoints the following boards, commissions and committees to advise them on specific matters or to perform certain duties. Citizen participation is possible through seeking appointments to these bodies, and all of them have designated time at their meetings for public input. It's always a good idea to call and verify that a meeting has not been cancelled or changed.

Following is a partial list. A complete list is available from the clerk of the board of supervisors, 476-2396.

Airport Advisory Committee

Meets: 4th Tuesday, 6 P.M. 839-5401

Eureka/Arcata Airport, Aviation Room
3561 Boeing Way, McKinleyville

Advises the board of supervisors on aviation matters.

Area 1 Developmental Disability Program Board

505 S. State St., Ukiah 95482 463-4700

Meets: Varies, call or check their Web site

Addresses the mandates of the Lanterman Act, which includes protection and advocacy for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities and their families; monitors the practices of publicly funded agencies for compliance with local, state and federal laws.

Assessment Appeals Board

Meets: 2nd Thursday, 9 A.M., as needed 476-2396

825 5th St., Eureka Supervisors Chambers

Hears property tax valuation assessment appeals; appointed by the superior court. Also meets on the first Monday of July at 9 A.M. for a mandated administrative meeting.

Emergency Medical Care Committee

Meets: Call for times and dates 268-2187

Reviews issues that affect the delivery of emergency services, CPR, and first aid training in Humboldt County.

First Five Humboldt - Children and Families**Commission**

Meets:

Varies, call or check their Web site 445-7389

373 Indianola Rd., Bayside

Responsible for the county strategic plan for the support and improvement of early childhood development. Promotes comprehensive, integrated systems of services for early childhood development to ensure that all children enter school in good health, ready and able to learn.

Fish and Game Advisory Commission

Meets: 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 P.M. 786-4902
 General Hospital 2200 Harrison Ave., Eureka

Advises the board of supervisors on matters pertaining to fish and wildlife.

Forestry Review Committee

Meets: 3rd Wednesday, 7 P.M., as needed 268-3704
 3015 H St., Eureka

Advises the board of supervisors and the planning commission regarding technical forest-related matters.

Headwaters Fund Board

Meets: 3rd Tuesday, 12:30 P.M. 445-7745
 520 E St., Eureka

In 1999, the board of supervisors used economic mitigation funds from the Headwaters Forest acquisition to create the Headwaters Fund, which promotes the economic development of the area through grants and loans. The board reviews and recommends policies and projects to the board of supervisors.

Housing Authority Commission

Meets: 2nd Monday, 12 noon 443-4583
 735 W. Everding St., Eureka

Authorized to transact county housing functions and to set policy for affordable housing, serving approximately 1,300 families.

Human Rights Commission

Meets: 1st Thursday, 5 P.M. 268-2548
 825 5th St., Eureka Conference Room A

Established to aid in the eradication of discrimination in Humboldt County, particularly with reference to housing, employment, and education.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)

Meets: Bimonthly beginning in January 445-7508
 3rd Wednesday, 9 A.M.
 825 5th St., Eureka Supervisors Chambers

Reviews proposals for the formation of new local governmental agencies and changes of organization in existing agencies; coordinates changes in local governmental boundaries; conducts special studies that review ways to organize, simplify and streamline governmental structure. Works to protect agricultural and open-space lands by guiding development toward vacant urban land and away from agricultural preserves.

Mental Health Board

Meets: 3rd Thursday, 12:15 P.M. 268-2990
 720 Wood St., Eureka

Responsible for overseeing, evaluating and approving mental health services and facilities; advises the board of supervisors regarding special problems pertaining to mental health issues.

North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA)

419 Talmadge Rd. Ste. M, Ukiah 45482 463-3280

Meets: Varies, call or check their Web site

Created by the state legislature in 1989 to ensure railroad service to the region, but funding was promptly vetoed by Governor Deukmejian. That the NCRA survives is a testament to the dedication and tenacity of North Coast rail advocates. Owns the railroad right-of-way from Napa to Arcata. Agendas are posted at The Depot, 4 W. 2nd St., Eureka.

Planning Commission

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6 P.M. 268-3735
 825 5th St., Eureka Supervisors Chambers

Approves land and zoning permits that can't be done administratively, usually hearing cases for exceptions to zoning regulations. Meetings are televised live, and also rebroadcast, on the local access channel: Suddenlink channel 10.

Redwood Community Action Agency**Board of Directors**

Meets: 3rd Thursday, 5 P.M. 269-2002
 904 G St., Eureka

Determines policy and direction for Redwood Community Action Agency, a local, private, non-profit agency that provides a wide range of services to low- and moderate-income people with the aim of reducing poverty and dependency.

Resource Conservation District

Meets: 2nd Thursday, 8 A.M. 444-9708 Ext. 5
 5630 S. Broadway, Eureka

Promotes soil and water conservation practices.

Status of Women Commission

Meets: 1st Monday, 6 P.M. 822-4716
 Call for meeting location

Advises the board of supervisors on matters affecting women and girls in Humboldt County.

Workforce Investment Board

520 E St., Eureka 445-7745
 Meets: Call for times and dates
 901 Myrtle Ave., Eureka Sequoia Room

Formed to satisfy the requirements of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; majority of members represent private sector employers; works to improve the quality of the local workforce.

Superior Court Appointed Bodies

Do you have a concern about your county government or elected officials?
476-2475

The grand jury is different from criminal grand juries, which are formed when the district attorney requests an indictment proceeding and are selected in the same way as all other trial jurors.

Grand Jury

19 members

Gary Payne, Foreperson
825 5th St., Eureka 95501

476-2475

Budget: \$48,767

Investigates and reports on efficiency and operation of county government and special districts. Grand jurors, in their official capacity, have the right to inspect: prisons, jails, government facilities, and with limited exceptions, official books and records to which other citizens are denied access. The grand jury may receive and investigate complaints by individuals concerning county or public officials, and may bring accusation against a public official for misconduct. Jurors are selected by lot from a pool of volunteers, nominations and holdovers, and serve a 1-year term. Members are sworn to secrecy, and most of the jury's work is conducted in closed session. The foreperson is the only official spokesperson for the grand jury.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency

Prevention Commission

15 members

Meets: 2nd Wednesday, 6 P.M.

443-4746

Office of Education Annex, 901 Myrtle Avenue

Promotes and sanctions programs for delinquency prevention; monitors services to youth within the county; appointed by the presiding judge of the superior court, with concurrence of the judge of the juvenile court.

Intergovernmental Bodies

Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG)

Marcella Clem, Executive Director

427 F St., Suite 220, Eureka 95501 444-8208

Meets: 4th Thursday, 4 P.M., Eureka City Hall

A joint powers agency comprised of the seven incorporated cities and the county. Designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE). The RTPA is largely responsible for programming state and local road improvements, public transportation resources, and roadside call boxes. HCAOG also bears responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The HCAOG board is the final authority for all of the decisions generated in the region's transportation planning and programming arena. The board is comprised of the Mayors of the seven incorporated cities and the chair of the board of supervisors or their designee.

Humboldt County's
7 Incorporated
Cities:
Arcata
Blue Lake
Eureka
Ferndale
Fortuna
Rio Dell
Trinidad

Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA)

Greg Pratt, General Manager

133 V St., Eureka 95501

443-0826

Meets: 3rd Wednesday, 9 A.M.

Made up of seven members of indefinite term (five members chosen from participating cities and two members from the board of supervisors); serves as governing board for the Redwood Transit System; supervises maintenance and operation of the buses; provides support for Dial-A-Ride and Dial-A-Lift.

North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

Richard Martin, Jr., Air Pollution Control Officer

2300 Myrtle Ave., Eureka 95501

443-3093

Meets: 3rd Thursday, 10 A.M., Locations vary

Formed in 1982 from the merger of air pollution control districts of Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity Counties, the AQMD was created to achieve and maintain federal and state ambient air quality standards. A five-member board of directors, made up of four county supervisors and one member from an incorporated city, appoints the air pollution control officer and adopts the budget, air quality rules and regulations, and policies. The air pollution control officer monitors air quality; enforces county, state, and federal air pollution laws.

Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA)

Matthew Marshall, Executive Director

517 5th St., Eureka 95501

269-1700

Meets: 2nd Monday, 3 P.M.

A joint powers agency formed in 2003 comprised of the seven incorporated cities and the county, governed by representatives from each of these jurisdictions. The RCEA's purpose is to develop and implement sustainable energy initiatives that reduce energy demand, increase energy efficiency, and advance the use of clean, efficient and renewable resources. RCEA is funded completely from contracts and grants.

Redwood Region Economic Development Commission (RREDC)

Gregg Foster, Executive Director

520 E St., Eureka 95501

445-9651

Meets: 4th Monday, 6:30 P.M.

Formed in 1977 to coordinate economic development and planning, and to allocate grant funds given to the County as economic mitigation for the expansion of Redwood National Park. Coordinates project development and grant administration; operates \$3.3 million in revolving loan funds for small businesses; contracts to administer other programs; assists member entities with grant applications and administration. Made up of 19 members and alternates; each is appointed by the governing board of each member jurisdiction for an indefinite term.

Air Quality Complaint
Hotline - After Hours
444-2233

Air Quality Information
443-1580

Burn Day Information
toll-free (866) BURN-DAY
(866) 287-6329

The AQMD
issues
**Residential Burn
Permits**
for Humboldt County
443-3093

Other Elected Offices

Special Districts

Special districts provide services outside of incorporated cities. There are 50 special districts in Humboldt County: 13 governed by the county, and 37 governed by elected boards. In practice, many elected board members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors because of a lack of candidates.

Special districts can be financed by property taxes, bonds, or fees for services. Many receive homeowner's exemption tax loss reimbursement from the state. Some districts receive state and federal grants and private donations.

Three examples of large self-governing districts follow:

Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District

601 Startare Dr., Eureka 95502 443-0801
Meets: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 P.M.
1st & 3rd Thursdays in December

Charged with the oversight and development of the harbors and ports of Humboldt County and the development and the protection of the county's natural resources for "multiple purpose use and for the benefit of the people." The HBHRC is a countywide agency empowered to grant permits, franchises and leases over all tide, submerged and other lands granted to the district, including all of Humboldt Bay. The commission divisions share the same boundary lines as the supervisorial districts.

Funded by: a small portion of Humboldt County property taxes; grants; tideland leases from dock operators and mariculture operations; rents and leases from sources such as Woodley Island marina and the Fields Landing boat yard; the Harbor Improvement Surcharge levied on deep draft vessels.

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

828 7th St., Eureka 95501 443-5018
Meets: 2nd Thursday, 9 A.M.

Makes decisions on the wholesale distribution of industrial and drinking water, power generation and recreation from Mad River and the Ruth Lake Reservoir; protects the long-term water supply and water quality interests of the district.

McKinleyville Community Services District

1656 Sutter Rd., McKinleyville 95519 839-3251
Meets: 1st Wednesday, 7 P.M.
Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd., McKinleyville

Responsible for the district's water and sewer systems, streetlights, recreational facilities and library. To place an item on the agenda, call 839-3251 at least 4 days before the next meeting.

Harbor Commissioners by Division Serve 4-year terms

- Aaron Newman 1**
next election 2015
- Greg Dale 2**
next election 2015
- Mike Wilson 3**
next election 2013
- Richard Marks 4**
next election 2013
- Patrick Higgins 5**
next election 2015

Water District Board Members by Division Serve 4-year terms

- Kaitlin Sopoci- 1**
Belknap
next election 2012
- Sheri Woo 2**
next election 2012
- Barbara 3**
Hecathorn
next election 2012
- Bruce Rupp 4**
next election 2014
- Aldaron Laird 5**
next election 2014

School District Boards

The role of each local district board is to establish a vision for the district, set policies for how the district is run, oversee district operations, and hire the district superintendent.

Meeting agendas are posted at each school site. Discussion is limited to school business. Confidential matters regarding individual students and personnel will not be discussed during public meetings. School board meetings may vary slightly, but each will allow public comment and time to address an agenda item. You may do so by signing in at the beginning of the meeting, or by raising your hand to be recognized. It's always a good idea to call and verify that a meeting has not been cancelled or changed.

<u>School District</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Meets</u>
Arcata	822-0351	2nd Monday, 7 P.M.
Big Lagoon Union	677-3688	2nd Thursday, 6 P.M.
Blue Lake Union	668-5674	2nd Thursday, 6 P.M.
Bridgeville Elementary	777-3311	1st Monday, 5:30 P.M.
College of the Redwoods	476-4170	1st Tuesday, time and locale vary
Cuddeback Union	768-3372	2nd Wednesday, 6:30 P.M.
Cutten	441-3900	2nd Monday, 7 P.M.
Eureka City Schools	441-2400	1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7 P.M.
Ferndale Unified	786-5900	2nd Wednesday, 7 P.M.
Fieldbrook	839-3201	3rd Tuesday, 5:30 P.M.
Fortuna Union Elementary	725-2293	3rd Tuesday, 7 P.M.
Fortuna Union High	725-4461	2nd Tuesday, 7 P.M.
Freshwater	442-2969	2nd Tuesday, 6:30 P.M.
Garfield	442-5471	2nd Thursday, 4 P.M.
Green Point	668-5921	2nd Tuesday, 6 P.M.
Humboldt County Office of Education	445-7030	2nd Wednesday, 3 P.M.
Hydesville	768-3610	2nd Thursday, 5 P.M.
Jacoby Creek Charter	822-4896	2nd Thursday, 6 P.M.
Klamath Trinity Joint Unified	530-625-5600	2nd Tuesday, 6 P.M.
Kneeland	442-5472	2nd Thursday, 4 P.M.
Loleta Union	733-5705	2nd Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M.
Maple Creek	668-5596	3rd Wednesday, 3 P.M.
Mattole Unified	629-3311	2nd Thursday, 4 P.M.
McKinleyville Union	839-1549	2nd Wednesday, 6:30 P.M.
Northern Humboldt Union High	839-6470	2nd Tuesday, 7 P.M.
Orick	488-2821	3rd Thursday, 4 P.M.
Pacific Union	822-4619	2nd Thursday, 6 P.M.
Peninsula Union	443-2731	2nd Tuesday, 4:30 P.M.
Rio Dell	764-5694	2nd Monday, 5 P.M.
Rohnerville	725-7823	3rd Thursday, 7:30 P.M.
Scotia Union	764-2212	2nd Thursday, 6:30 P.M.
South Bay Union	476-8549	2nd Thursday, 7 P.M.
Southern Humboldt Unified	943-1789	2nd Thursday, 4:30 P.M.
Trinidad Union	677-3631	2nd Thursday, 6:30 P.M.

County Governed Special Districts by Type:

Lighting	8
Fire Protection	3
Flood & Drainage.....	2

Self Governing Special Districts by Type:

Community Service.....	13
Fire Protection	13
Water	2
Sanitary.....	2
Parks & Recreation.....	2
Cemetery.....	2
Harbor	1
Hospital.....	1
Resort Improvement...	1

City Councils

City councils oversee, set policy and provide direction in the consideration of ordinances and resolutions pertinent to the city. By law, citizens have the right to speak during any public hearing that was noticed or advertised to the public. The public is allotted time to speak at city council meetings in two different places:

Public comment

Time is specifically set aside for public input on items not found on the agenda.

Speaking to an item on the agenda

Normally, the chair of the council will ask for public input on an agenda item either before or after discussion by the council, but before a vote.

These segments are identified on the meeting agenda, which may be viewed prior to the meetings at the posted locations. The time allowed for public input varies from 2 minutes to no limit. The chair will normally tell the audience what the limit is and stop you if you have gone over that limit.

Arcata City Council

736 F St., Arcata 95521 822-5953

Meets: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 6 P.M.

Council Members

Mayor:

Michael Winkler
Shane Brinton
Susan Ornelas
Alexandra Stillman
Mark Wheelley

Agendas are posted in the City Manager's Office at Arcata City Hall the Friday before each council meeting. To place an item on the agenda contact the city manager's office at 822-5953 at least 15 business days prior to the meeting. Citizens are allowed three minutes per person to address a non-agenda item during the public comment section of the meeting by approaching the podium to be recognized. Citizens are also allowed three minutes per person to speak on agenda items, before discussion by city council members, by approaching the podium to be recognized. Meetings are televised live, and also rebroadcast, on the local access channel: Suddenlink channel 10.

Blue Lake City Council

111 Greenwood St. 668-5655

P.O. Box 458, Blue Lake 95525

Meets: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 P.M.

Council Members

Mayor:

Kevin Benjamin
Karen Barnes
Lana Manzanita
Michele McCall-Wallace
Sherman Schapiro

Agendas are posted at the Blue Lake City Hall and the post office. To place an item on the agenda call by noon the Wednesday before the next meeting. Public comments are limited three minutes per person. Citizens may address an agenda or non-agenda item by raising their hand to be recognized.

Eureka City Council

531 K St., Eureka 95501 441-4144

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6 P.M.

Agendas are posted at Eureka City Hall the Friday before each council meeting. To place an item on the agenda call by 5 P.M. the Wednesday before the next meeting. Public comments are limited to three minutes; citizens may address agenda and non-agenda items during the public comment section of the meeting by approaching the podium to speak. Meetings are televised live, and also rebroadcast, on the local access channel: Suddenlink channel 10.

Council Members

Mayor:
Frank Jäger

Ward 1: Marian Brady
Ward 2: Linda Atkins
Ward 3: Mike Newman
Ward 4: Melinda Ciarabellini
Ward 5: Lance Madsen

Ferndale City Council

834 Main St. 786-4224

P.O. Box 1095, Ferndale 95536

Meets: 1st Thursday, 7 P.M.

Agendas are posted at Ferndale City Hall. To place an item on the agenda, call at least one week before the meeting. Citizens may address a non-agenda or agenda item during the public comment time of the meeting by raising their hand to be recognized and standing to speak. Public comments are limited to five minutes unless the mayor grants more time. The council appreciates speakers stating their name and address, but it is not required.

Council Members

Mayor:
Jeff Farley

Niels Lorenzen
Ken Mierzwa
John Maxwell
Stuart Titus

Fortuna City Council

621 11th St., Fortuna 95540 725-1409

Meets: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6 P.M.

Agendas are posted at Fortuna City Hall. To place an item on the agenda, call at least ten days before the next scheduled meeting. Citizens are allowed to address a non-agenda item during the public comment time of the meeting. Citizens may address an agenda item during discussion of the item by raising their hand to be recognized. Meetings are televised live, and also rebroadcast, on the local access channel: Suddenlink channel 10.

Council Members

Mayor:
Douglas Strehl

Dean Glaser
Sue Long
Mike Losey
Ken Zanzi

Rio Dell City Council

675 Wildwood Ave., Rio Dell 95562 764-3532

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M.

Agendas are posted at Rio Dell City Hall, the post office and the chamber of commerce. To place an item on the agenda, send a request in writing to the city clerk, at least one week before the next meeting. Citizens may address agenda items during discussion of the item by raising their hand to be recognized, and non-agenda items during the public comment period.

Council Members

Mayor:
Julie Woodall

Frank Wilson
Richard 'Bud' Leonard
Melissa Marks
Jack R. Thompson

Trinidad City Council

409 Trinity St., Trinidad 95570 677-0223

Meets: 2nd Wednesdays, 7 P.M.

Agendas are posted at Trinidad Town Hall, the post office and Murphy's Market. Anyone wishing to place an item on the agenda should call 677-0223 at least one week before the meeting. Citizens may address a non-agenda or agenda item during the public comment time of the meeting, either by signing in or raising their hand and standing to be recognized.

Council Members

Mayor:
Kathy Bhardwaj

Tom Davies
Julie Fulkerson
Dwight Miller
Michael Morgan

County Revenues and Expenditures

2011-12 Revenue by Source - All Funds

Other Governmental Agencies	\$170,377,490	64.1%
Taxes	\$48,563,787	18.3%
Charges for Services	\$25,159,603	9.5%
Other Revenues	\$12,361,818	4.7%
Fund Balance Forward	\$4,945,053	1.9%
Fines, Forfeitures & Penalties	\$2,108,779	0.8%
License & Permits	\$1,847,367	0.7%
Use of Money & Property	\$307,300	0.1%
Total	\$265,671,197	

2011-12 Expenditures by Function - All Funds

Public Assistance	\$81,899,750	30.8%
Public Protection	\$66,880,095	25.2%
Health & Sanitation	\$51,683,818	19.5%
General Government	\$26,235,934	9.9%
Public Ways & Facilities	\$31,333,401	11.8%
Education	\$3,292,203	1.2%
Reserve & Contingencies	\$1,465,000	0.6%
Transportation Services	\$2,100,000	0.8%
Recreation/Cultural Services	\$780,996	0.3%
Total	\$265,671,197	

Notes:

Voter Registration Information

You are eligible to vote in this county if you are:

a citizen of the United States;
 a resident of Humboldt County;
 at least 18 years old by Election Day;
 a registered voter at least 15 days before election;
 not judged mentally incompetent by a court of law; and,
 not in prison or on parole for a felony.

To register to vote:

Register by mail. Get a postcard registration form at any post office, library, city hall, or military recruiting office. You may also call the Humboldt County Registrar of Voters 707-445-7678, or you may call toll-free (800) 345-VOTE anytime; leave your name and address, and a form will be sent to you. For help in Spanish call: toll-free (800) 232-VOTA.

You may register or update your voter registration when you are renewing a driver's license at the DMV. Registration forms are also offered by agencies serving the disabled and those applying in person for public assistance.

You need to re-register to vote if you:

have never registered to vote in Humboldt County;
 have changed your place of residence and/or
 mailing address since registering;
 wish to change your political party; or,
 have changed your name since last registering.

Direct any questions on voter registration and absentee ballots to:

Humboldt County Elections Office

3033 H St., Eureka 95501
 Hours: 8-12, 1-5, Monday-Friday

445-7678