

# **CERTIFICATE OF AGENDA POSTING**

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A Special Meeting scheduled for February 27, 2023, at 12 P.M. was posted at the San Benito County Administration Office, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA, and on our county website, [www.cosb.us](http://www.cosb.us) on this 24th day of February 24, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. per Government Code Section 54956.

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*Gracie Rodriguez*

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Gracie Rodriguez  
Associate Administrative Analyst

**SAN BENITO COUNTY**  
**Economic Development Committee**

*Committee:*

*Board Supervisor Mindy Sotelo, Chair*  
*Board Supervisor Angela Curro, Vice Chair*

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, February 27, 2023**  
**12:00 P.M.**

San Benito County Administration Building  
Board of Supervisors Chambers  
481 Fourth Street, Hollister, California

Webinar ID: **862 5801 1475**

Webinar Password: **588366**

**Pursuant to AB 361, and the resolution adopted thereunder, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and pursuant to the recommendation from Dr. Gellert dated January 5, 2022, members of the Committee are allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference and to participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.**

**The meeting is closed to the public. The meeting will be available through Zoom those who wish to join or require accommodations with the instructions below:**

**This meeting can be accessed in the following methods:**

**Through Zoom (<https://zoom.us/join>) per the instruction stated below**

**Participating by Zoom:**

Three ways to attend Zoom meetings: on a web browser, through the Zoom App, or over the phone. Each webinar will have a webinar ID and password, which is a unique number associated with an instant or scheduled meeting (found at the top of this text). The chat feature is disabled for all participants. Additionally, the video function is not available to the public. Zoom regularly provides new versions of the Zoom desktop client and Zoom mobile app to release new security features and fix bugs. To ensure you can join the meeting and participate through public comment, please launch the web address to download the Zoom application: <https://zoom.us/support/download>. Furthermore, we recommend upgrading to the latest version of Zoom once it is available. Please visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362233-Upgrade-update-to-the-latest-version> to ensure you have the newest Zoom update.

**A. Zoom on Web-browser:**

a. If joining through web-browser, launch the address <https://zoom.us/join> or open the direct link listed below: <https://zoom.us>

**B. Or launch the Zoom app on your Tablet or Smartphone:**

b. Select **"JOIN A MEETING"**

c. The participant will be prompted to enter **Webinar ID and Password listed above** and name to join the meeting. The meeting agenda can be found at <https://www.cosb.us/>

d. The participant can launch audio through their computer or set it up through the phone.

e. **Public Comment:** Select the **"Participants Tab"** and click **"Raise hand"** icon, and the Zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

**C. Zoom Audio Only (phone):**

a. If you are **calling in as audio-only**, please dial **US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 408 638 0968**

b. It will ask you to enter the **Webinar ID listed above**, followed by the **"#" key** (pound key), then enter **Webinar Password listed above** at the top page of the agenda. The meeting agenda can be found at <https://www.cosb.us/>

c. It will then ask for a **Participant ID**, press the **"#" key** (pound key) to continue.

d. Once you enter the Zoom meeting, you will automatically be placed on mute.

e. **Public Comment:** If you are using a phone, please press **"\*9"** (star-nine) to raise your hand, and the Zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

**Written Comments & Email Public Comment**

Members of the public may submit comments via email by 5:00 PM on the Monday prior to the meeting to the Associate Administrative Analyst at [grodriguez@cosb.us](mailto:grodriguez@cosb.us).

**Public Comment Guidelines**

**A.** The Committee welcomes your comments.

**B.** If participating on Zoom, once you are selected you will hear that you have been unmuted: At this time, please state your first name, last name, and county you reside in for the record.

**C.** Each individual speaker will be limited to a presentation total of three (3) minutes, or such other time as may be designed by the Chair.

**D.** Please keep your comments, brief, to the point, and do not repeat prior testimony, so that as many people as possible can be heard. Your cooperation is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Gracie Rodriguez, at (831) 636-4000, or email [grodriguez@cosb.us](mailto:grodriguez@cosb.us)

***The San Benito County Economic Development Committee welcomes you to this meeting and encourages your participation.***

- *If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Comment period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. When addressing the Committee, please state your name for the record. Please address the Committee as a whole through the Chair.*
- *If you wish to speak on an item contained in the agenda, please seek recognition from the Chair prior to consideration of the item.*

## 12:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
  - a. Supervisor Sotelo to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. ROLL CALL.
3. ACKNOWLEDGE THE CERTIFICATE OF POSTING
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Opportunity to address the Committee on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Section 54954.2.*

## REGULAR AGENDA

5. PROPOSED RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO AB 361- Adopt proposed resolution authorizing teleconferencing options for meetings of the Committee for the period of February 27, 2023, through March 26, 2023, pursuant to AB 361.
6. APPOINT COMMITTEE CHAIR
7. Approve the Committee schedule, meet monthly on the fourth Thursday at noon (12:00 PM), or provide staff direction.
8. Receive updates from Economic Development Corporation to include but not limited to progress on the County of San Benito Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and other activities.
9. Receive an overview of the Economic Development Advisory Committee activities, including but not limited to the Microbusiness Grant Program. Provide staff direction if desired.
10. COMMITTEE REPORTS. No discussion of these items shall occur, but the Committee may direct any reports to be agendized for a future meeting.
11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS., No discussion of these items shall occur, but the Committee may direct any of the reports to be agendized for a future meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Adjourn to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

*As required by Gov. Code Section 54957.5 any public record distributed to the San Benito Economic Development Committee less than 72 hours prior to this meeting in connection with any agenda item shall be made available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk of the Board, San Benito County Administration Building, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA 95023. Public records distributed during the meeting will be available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by the County. If the public record is prepared by some other person and distributed at the meeting it will be made available for public inspection following the meeting at the office of the Clerk of the Board.*

***In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) the Board of Supervisors meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (831) 636-4000 at least 48-hours before the meeting to enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.***

**BEFORE THE SAN BENITO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE, COUNTY OF SAN BENITO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-**

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN BENITO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE AUTHORIZING CONTINUED REMOTE  
TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS**

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Benito and the San Benito County Economic Development Advisory Committee (FGAC) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Supervisors and Committee meetings, subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proclaimed state of emergency remains in effect; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the “Brown Act”), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and,

**WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21 that clarified the suspension of the teleconferencing rules set forth in the Brown Act, and further provided that those provisions would remain suspended through September 30, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

**WHEREAS**, California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors is empowered by Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution to take actions necessary to protect public, health, welfare, and safety within the unincorporated areas of the County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the County has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of those who participate in meetings of the County's various legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the San Benito County Board of Supervisors deemed it necessary to find that a *requirement* to meet in person for meetings of all County of San Benito related legislative bodies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus, intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the San Benito County Economic Development Ad Hoc Committee finds:

- a) That it has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency; and
- b) That a *requirement* to meet in person for meetings of all County of San Benito related legislative bodies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees;
- c) That it intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing; and,

**WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2021, Dr. Ghilarducci, Interim San Benito County Public Health Officer, issued a recommendation on Social Distancing, attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and incorporated herein by this reference; and,

**WHEREAS**, on October 12, 2021, the Board of Supervisors of San Benito County adopted a resolution authorizing teleconferencing meetings pursuant to AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors' adopted resolution applies to all legislative bodies of the County, thus allowing all bodies to utilize the provisions of AB 361; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Committee is presented by this resolution for the opportunity to determine whether AB 361 should be specifically applied to Economic Development Committee meetings;

**WHEREAS**, the San Benito County Economic Development Committee has considered all information related to this matter, as presented at the public meetings of the Economic Development Committee identified herein and at the Board of Supervisors, including any supporting reports by County Staff, and any information provided during public meetings, including but not limited to the current circumstances related to the state of emergency, which continues to remain in active.

**WHEREAS**, the San Benito County Economic Development Committee further finds that the

state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the San Benito County Economic Development Committee as follows:

1. The San Benito County Economic Development Committee finds that the facts set forth in the recitals to this Resolution are true and correct;
2. The above findings and this resolution apply to all San Benito County Economic Development Committee meetings;
3. As long as the State Emergency remains in effect or until directed otherwise by the Committee, staff shall present to the Committee at every meeting an item necessary to continue the findings required by AB 361;
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of thirty (30) days from adoption of the Resolution or such time the Committee adopts a subsequent Resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Economic Development Committee may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953; and,
5. The County Administrative Officer and County Counsel are directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the San Benito County Economic Development Committee, County of San Benito, State of California on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:	SUPERVISORS
NOES:	SUPERVISORS
ABSTAINING:	SUPERVISORS
ABSENT:	SUPERVISORS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chair  
San Benito County Economic Development Committee

ATTEST:  
Vanessa Delgado, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:  
Barbara J. Thompson, County Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



EXHIBIT "A"



**SAN BENITO COUNTY**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

DAVID GHILARDUCCI, MD, FACEP  
INTERIM HEALTH OFFICER

TRACEY BELTON  
AGENCY DIRECTOR

**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**  
Healthy People in Healthy Communities

September 30, 2021

CAO Ray Espinosa  
San Benito County Administration

Re: Recommendation on Social Distancing and Hybrid Meetings

Given the considerable impact on our community from the COVID-19 virus and the Delta variant, I strongly recommend that all legislative bodies, including but not limited to the County, cities, and special districts, local commissions and committees, and subsidiary bodies, continue social distancing measures for public meetings, including offering, at the legislative body's discretion, a remote or hybrid format for public meetings. Social distancing and masking remain crucial strategies in our fight to prevent contagion. Conducting public meetings in a remote or hybrid manner allows for members of the community to participate from the comfort of their homes without having to risk contracting the virus by attending in-person meetings.

These measures serve to help contain the spread of the disease and protect the community. All events public gatherings, including public meetings, create environments where a virus can potentially spread among attendees and participants. However, when combined with social distancing and masking policies, and the continued effort to increase vaccination within San Benito County, a remote or hybrid format for meetings maximizes avenues for public access and input and minimizes the risk of contagion for not only the public, but for agency staff, presenters, and legislative body members as well.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Ghilarducci MD  
Interim Health Officer

**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**  
351 Tres Pinos Road, Suite A-202  
Hollister CA 95023  
831-637-5367

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**  
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**MEDICAL THERAPY UNIT**  
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Hollister CA 95023  
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08/23/21