TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Boesch, County Executive Officer
      By: Bekki Riggan, Principal Management Analyst, CEO

DATE: August 26, 2014

SUBJECT: Charter Amendment – Board of Supervisor Salaries

Action Requested
Request adoption of an Ordinance confirming the placement of the Charter Amendment on the
November 4, 2014 ballot and amending the Placer County Charter subject to voter approval of
the November 4, 2014 ballot measure.

Background
On February 4, 2014 your Board considered a recommendation from the Charter Review
Committee to consider a Charter Amendment adjusting Board of Supervisor salaries. At the
July 22, 2014 Tahoe Board meeting, your board adopted the Resolution to place the matter on
the ballot and introduced the attached Ordinance. The action requested today is to adopt the
Ordinance that would result in an amendment to the Placer County Charter, subject to voter
approval of the November 4, 2014 ballot measure.

Fiscal Impact
There is no fiscal impact with this action.
Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of: An Ordinance proposing amendment of Article II, Section 207 of the Placer County Charter

Ord. No: ____________

First Reading: July 22, 2014

The following Ordinance was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held ____________________ by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

______________________________
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

______________________________

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:
WHEREAS, in 1992, approval of a ballot initiative (Measure A) amended Section 207 of the Placer County Charter by capping the salaries of the Board of Supervisors at $30,000.00 a year; and

WHEREAS, as a result of passage of Measure A, Section 207 set a $30,000 cap on compensation for members of the Board of Supervisors as follows:

Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall receive compensation in the maximum amount of $30,000 per annum, which amount shall include the actual cost to the county of all benefits of whatever kind or nature, including but not limited to salary, per diem compensation, allowances, expense reimbursement, credit cards, health insurance, life insurance, leave, and retirement.

WHEREAS, since 1992 there has been no increase in the Supervisors’ salaries even to reflect changes in the cost of living since that time; and

WHEREAS, the job requirements of current Board members have significantly expanded from those of a Supervisor in 1992 and now require full-time efforts to review and prepare for all matters presented to the Board for action at Board of Supervisors meetings, serve on other County and independent Boards and County Committees and prepare for those meetings, and meet with constituents and representatives of other government bodies, among other duties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is responsible for a County that provides services to over 350,000 constituents and has a budget of nearly $800 million; and

WHEREAS, only three out of the 58 California counties pay Board members less than Placer County, and those three counties are among the smallest in the State in terms of population; and

WHEREAS, each and every Placer County Charter Review Committee convened since 1997 has recommended an increase in Board salaries; and

WHEREAS, the 2012-2014 Charter Review Committee unanimously approved a recommendation that an increase in Supervisors’ salaries be put before the voters of Placer County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is authorized to propose by ordinance amendments to the County Charter to the electorate;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordained that:
1. The Board of Supervisors has ordered that the following question be placed as a County measure on the ballot of the Statewide General Election to be held November 4, 2014:

   In order to provide an effective representative government, restrict future pay increases, pension and healthcare costs, shall Placer County amend Article II, Section 207 of the County Charter to limit the Board of Supervisors salary to no more than the average salary of County Supervisors in the neighboring Counties of El Dorado, Nevada, and Sacramento, with any change in this methodology subject to a vote of the citizens of Placer County?

   __________ Yes  __________ No

2. That if a majority of the electorate approves the above question, that Section 207 of the Placer County Charter be amended as follows:

   Sec. 207 Members of the Board of Supervisors shall receive compensation as established by ordinance from time to time. Until the effective date of the first such ordinance subsequent to the effective date of the Charter, members of the Board of Supervisors shall continue to receive the same compensation as now provided for by law.

   Each member of the Board of Supervisors shall receive an annual salary in an amount that does not exceed the average salary of the Board of Supervisors for the neighboring Counties of El Dorado, Nevada, and Sacramento. The annual salary shall be set on the first full pay period in February each year by calculating the average salaries of Board members in El Dorado, Nevada and Sacramento Counties as of January of that year. Pension and healthcare costs shall be limited by the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013, as that Act may be amended and Supervisors will pay 100% of the employee share. Compensation in the maximum amount of $30,000 per annum, which amount shall include the actual cost to the county of all benefits of whatever kind or nature, including but not limited to salary, per diem compensation, allowances, expense reimbursement, credit cards, health insurance, life insurance, leave, and retirement.

   This measure shall become effective January 1, 2015 and continue each January 1st thereafter.
3. This ordinance is effective immediately pursuant to California Government Code Section 25123(a) and Elections Code Section 9141(a).