

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PLACER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

On May 25, 2022, the Board of Supervisors received a Workplace Discrimination and Harassment complaint from a county employee against County Executive Officer Todd Leopold. Through the County HR Department and County Counsel's Office, the Board of Supervisors proceeded with deliberate action to begin an investigation. Based on information provided by the complainant, the Board authorized placement of Mr. Leopold on paid administrative leave on May 27, 2022, pending further investigation and consideration of the Board.

On June 3, 2022, the Board met in closed session to conduct an evaluation of Mr. Leopold following this complaint. The closed session evaluation of the complaint included Mr. Leopold's denial of the allegations in the complaint which was provided to County Counsel by Mr. Leopold's personal attorney. Mr. Leopold was not present during the closed session.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Board made the decision to terminate Mr. Leopold for cause. Pursuant to

his employment contract, the County's decision to terminate Mr. Leopold's employment contract is effective after a notice period of 30 days. County Counsel Karin Schwab reported the Board's decision in open session. The Board's deliberations are privileged and exempt from disclosure under the Brown Act per Government Code section 54957(b)(1). The complaint and the complainant are confidential.

The Board does not take this decision lightly. The Board's decision was in the best interests of the County taxpayers and the County employees following the information revealed during the investigation. The complaint and the Board's action today are unrelated to the tragic accident involving Mr. Leopold and Anthony Williams on March 19, 2022.

The Board is focused and committed to moving forward. The Board designated Assistant County Executive Officer Jane Christenson to serve as Acting CEO. The Board continues to be fully engaged with ensuring that critical County initiatives, programs and projects will move forward with no interruptions. The Board thanks the hard working and dedicated County employees for their support during this transition.

Change can be challenging, but the Board, and the entire County government, will move forward for the People of Placer County.

Sincerely,

Placer County Board of Supervisors

Cindy Gustafson, District 5, **Chair**

Jim Holmes, District 3, **Vice Chair**

Bonnie Gore, District 1

Robert Weygandt, District 2

Suzanne Jones, District 4