

**MEMORANDUM**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF PLACER COUNTY

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Holmes, Supervisor, District 3

DATE: May 12, 2009

SUBJECT: Formation of a Placer County Youth Commission

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**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Adoption of a resolution establishing the Placer County Youth Commission.

**BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS:**

Placer County Supervisor Jim Holmes' interest in involving youth in solving local problems and engaging them in the civic process has led to a broad community partnership supporting the formation of an official Placer County Youth Commission. Over one hundred city and county youth commissions now exist in California. Giving youth a voice in local decision making mutually benefits both youth and the greater community. A Placer County Youth Commission would provide a recognized link between young people, the Board of Supervisors, and the general community.

The young people who will serve on this commission will learn about the local government process first hand by giving recommendations to the Board of Supervisors that will help shape public decisions, policies and programs as they relate to the youth of Placer County. The Youth Commission will raise the profile of young people within the community, provide and receive information through networks with schools and other youth groups, provide/promote civic participation, research youth and community issues, and provide opportunities to organize and participate in community projects.

Two agencies will provide adult advisors and oversight to a Placer County Youth Commission. Placer County University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), 4-H Youth Development Program will be the lead agency in collaboration with Placer County Health and Human Services.

Placer County UCCE is a partnership of county, state, and federal governments and private resources that aim to meet local needs through applied research and education.

The mission of the 4-H Youth Development Program is to engage youth in reaching their fullest potential while advancing the field of youth development. As in many other counties, Placer UCCE sees their support and participation in a youth commission as a means to advance their goal of creating positive opportunities for youth to develop life skills and become engaged in their local communities. The 4-H Youth Development Program places an emphasis on learning citizenship, leadership, and life skills.

In addition, numerous community partners will provide support in areas such as recruitment, training, research, and participation in an adult allies group.

**Youth Commission Membership:**

The members of the Youth Commission shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors and shall serve a term of one year with the maximum of four consecutive terms. The commission will consist of 15 members, at least one from each supervisorial district and 10 members at large.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The 4-H Youth Development/Human Resource Advisor is a University of California paid position. No fiscal impact to Placer County UCCE for the actions is requested.

All Placer County HHS activities will be funded with state and/or federal funds. No county general fund will be required. These funds are currently included in the 2008-09 and 2009-10 HHS budgets.

In addition, the University of California Cooperative Extension and HHS along with community partners and the youth of the Commission itself will actively look for outside funding sources and apply for grants to support the commission activities and service projects.

# Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:  
**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE PLACER  
COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**

Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_

Ord No: \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

The following RESOLUTION 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
F.C. "Rocky" Rockholm  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

**Attest:**  
**Clerk of said Board**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ann Holman**

**Whereas**, it is recognized that a youth perspective on issues which pertain to the youth in the community is an important part of decision making in the County of Placer; and

**Whereas**, there is value in having a mechanism for youth to have a voice in County affairs and issues relating to youth; and

**Whereas**, the youth in the County desire the opportunity to demonstrate their willingness to become contributing members of Placer County; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors has determined there is a need to create a Youth Commission for the County of Placer; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors finds that the establishment of a Youth Commission is in the best interests of Placer County.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Placer County Youth Commission is hereby established as an Advisory Board to the Board of Supervisors. The Placer County Youth Commission integrates the youth voice into local policymaking by researching youth issues and concerns, relating their findings and positions to local policy makers, and engaging the community to create positive change;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Placer County Youth Commission shall organize activities to help educate and motivate youth of Placer County to participate in the local political process;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Commission shall be governed by these general rules as described below;

THE COMMISSION shall:

- Recognize that the meetings of this Commission shall be subject to the California Open Meeting laws, known as the "Brown Act".
- Consist of fifteen (15) members who shall be youth between 14 – 21 years of age, except that a youth that has not reached the age of 14 but is entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade may be appointed.
- All appointments to this Commission will be made by the Board of Supervisors and all members shall serve one year terms.
- An individual may sit for a maximum of four full terms, except that anyone who turns 22 years of age during their term may not be re-appointed.
- Every effort shall be made to have at least one youth member from each supervisorial district within Placer County.
- Prepare an annual report to the Board of Supervisors, with the first report to be delivered on or about June 1, 2010.
- The University of California Cooperative Extension of Placer County and the Placer County Health and Human Services Department will work together to provide initial guidance to the Commission. Specifically, the University of California Cooperative Extension staff member shall be the lead adult advisor, and shall work in cooperation with HHS staff to coordinate Commission activities.
- All other details relating to the composition, eligibility and terms of appointments and other functions of the Commission shall be governed by a set of bylaws that will be approved by a 2/3rds majority of the Youth Commission.