April 26, 2022

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Resolution Regarding Tele/Video-Conference Meetings During the COVID-19 State of Emergency

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a resolution allowing continued use of Tele/Video-conferencing for County public meetings.

SUMMARY: In September of 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB-361. The legislation provides that local government bodies subject to the Brown Act can continue to use video and/or teleconferencing through December 31, 2023 in the manner that Governor Newsom’s executive orders authorized during the COVID-19 pandemic. A public entity can use AB 361’s provisions under certain conditions, including when state or local officials have recommended social distancing during a proclaimed state of emergency.

The Director of Health & Human Services has recommended that the County continue to employ social distancing to enhance safety at public meetings and recent CDPH guidance continues to recommend face coverings for all individuals in most indoor settings. Given unpredictable new COVID-19 variants, including the currently active BA.2 subvariant, staff recommends that any anticipated large gatherings that may exceed indoor room capacity remain remote, necessitating consideration of the attached resolution to preserve the option of remote-only meetings. We also expect one Board Member will participate remotely for today’s Board meeting, which the attached resolution also preserves.

While the proposed resolution would provide the Board of Supervisors, and all subsidiary County boards and commissions, with the option to continue to use video- and/or teleconferencing when appropriate while the state proclamation of emergency remains in place, doing so is not required. All County boards and commissions are advised to plan for onsite meetings effective July 1, 2022 unless public health conditions change materially.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Hymel
County Administrator

cc: Brian E. Washington, County Counsel
Benita McLarin, Director, Health & Human Services