



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 7/10/2012

Agenda Placement: 7AA

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Florin, Lawrance - Director  
Housing and Intergovernmental Affairs

**REPORT BY:** JoAnn Melgar, STAFF ASSISTANT - BOS - 299-1478

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Leonore Wilson as Napa County's Poet Laureate

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

County Executive Officer requests the Board of Supervisors to appoint Leonore Wilson as the Napa County Poet Laureate, for the term commencing immediately and expiring in May, 2014.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As an ambassador for poetry, the Poet Laureate is expected to promote citizens' awareness of poetry as well as heighten their appreciation of the art form. The Poet Laureate will strive to forge a meaningful connection between poetry and the populace, undertaking projects that make poetry more accessible to people in their everyday lives. During the Poet Laureate's two year appointment, he or she will be expected to officiate at selected public gatherings, initiate a dialogue between poets and the community, inspire others in their writing and personal expression and bring recognition to the history and tradition of poetry in Napa County.

In May, 2012, ACNV announced a "Call for Nominations" for the next Napa County Poet Laureate. The Napa County Poet Laureate is appointed by the Board from a list of nominees developed by ACNV. The list of nominees is created through a competitive nomination process which requires both a nominator and a nominee. Two applications were received from Leonore Wilson and Beclee Newcomer Wilson. ACNV has nominated Leonore Wilson.

### **PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Staff reports.
2. Public comments.
3. Motion, second, discussion and vote on the item.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

On July 30, 2002, the Board of Supervisors established the honorary title of Napa County Poet Laureate. The Poet Laureate is nominated by the Arts Council Napa Valley (ACNV) through a prescribed process with a term of appointment of two years, and appointed by the Board. On May 25, 2010, the Board of Supervisors appointed Michael Waterson as the Napa County Poet Laureate for a two-year term.

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Attached are ACNV's nomination letter, nomination guidelines and application packets from Beclee Newcomer Wilson and Leonore Wilson containing nomination forms, letters of support and poems.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- A . Arts Council Napa Valley Guidelines for Poet Laureate Nomination
- B . ACNV Poet Laureate Nomination Letter
- C . Leonore Wilson Application Packet
- D . Beclee Newcomer Wilson Application Packet

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Danny Nguyen