

December 17, 2024

The Honorable Greg Hagwood
Chair, Plumas County Board of Supervisors
520 Main Street, 3rd floor
Quincy, California 95971

**Re: Open Letter to the Plumas County Board of Supervisors, Josh Brechtel and
Plumas County Residents Regarding the Permanent County Counsel Position**

Good morning,

I heard the public announcement from Josh Brechtel at the October 10, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting. Mr. Brechtel said he applied for the permanent county counsel position and received a conditional offer from the Board in October.

In his public statement Mr. Brechtel said that he was just notified that the County decided to go a different route and "farm" the position out leaving the impression that the Board had changed its mind.

Mr. Brechtel: It sounds like you did not accept the offer that was presented to you by the County.

Your statement made in a public forum implied that the decision was made by the Board; however, you apparently declined to sign the contract. The public has the right to know what conditions were problematic from your perspective.

Please clarify what happened with the contract that was offered to you.

Did you decline to accept the "conditional offer" for the permanent county counsel position? If so, why didn't you sign the contract?

With all due respect, it is extremely difficult for a relatively inexperienced attorney and one who has never had a County Counsel role to understand the laws and processes for managing the legal affairs of an entire County. Given that fact, I fully appreciate that the Board will contract with an outside firm to give legal advice on County matters. This way Plumas County can get expertise in particular areas as legal questions arise.

I also believe that converting the funds available for a 3rd County Counsel position to a contract role with a law firm that has a team of attorneys with a variety of expertise would be a very good use of County funds.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Linda R. Judge