

County selects Kern staffer for top post

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Calaveras County's fourth executive officer in a four-year period has been announced.

Teresa Hitchcock, an assistant county executive officer in Kern County, has agreed to accept the top administrative post in Calaveras County effective March 25.

The hiring announcement was made Wednesday and the county's Board of Supervisors is expected to adopt a resolution this coming Tuesday to make the appointment official.

Hitchcock has 22 years of public sector experience with Kern County. She has served in various roles including departmental analyst 2 for the county's Employer's Training Resource, analysis and marketing for the county airports department, administrative analyst 3/deputy county administrative officer and for the past nine years as assistant chief administrative officer in charge of the Workforce and Economic Development Division of the CAO's office.

She had a bachelor of arts degree majoring in political science and economics from California State University, Bakersfield.

"Hitchcock's superiors, co-workers and references all noted her integrity, intelligence, creativity, good listening skills, calm demeanor, and ability to bring people together to achieve shared goals," said Wednesday's statement announcing her pending appointment. "Further, all agreed that she is ready to serve as a CEO and expect her to be a great leader for Calaveras County.

Hitchcock is replacing Christa Von Latta who resigned last July. The year before, Albert Alt resigned after two years at the post and Timothy Lutz stepped down as CAO in January 2019.

Craig Pedro, who retired as Tuolumne County's CAO, has been Calaveras County's interim CAO since August of last year.

Hitchcock's proposed compensation package includes a base salary of \$212,040 and a moving allowance of \$10,000. The term of her package is for five years and she can terminate her employment with 30 days advance notice, while the board can terminate her without cause with 90 days of severance pay.

"Hiring Teresa may be the best decision they (the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors) ever made," said Kern County Chief Executive Officer Ryan Alsop.

"I am confident that my 22 years with the County of Kern provides me with the skills and experiences needed to develop strategies to implement and achieve the strategic goals of the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors," Hitchcock said in her job application