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Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: April 27, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Julie Patterson Hunter

SUBJECT: Resolution accepting the nomination and designation of Kirsten Casey, by Nevada County Arts Council, as the Third Nevada County Poet Laureate

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: N/A.

BACKGROUND:

Since 2009, the Arts Collaborative of Nevada County, also referred to as the Nevada County Arts Council, has been the county-designated organization for the California Arts Council State-Local Partnership Program. As the County's designated partner, they also administer the County's Poet Laureate Program established through Resolution 17-150 on March 28, 2017, which also accepted the nomination and designation of Molly Fisk as the Nevada County Poet Laureate for the first year of the program.

The Program was later amended via Resolution 18-121 to provide the Nevada County Arts Council with greater latitude when selecting and nominating the Poet Laureate and extended the term in perpetuity as determined and approved by the Board of Supervisors. On April 9, 2019 the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 19-141 accepting the nomination and designation of Chris Olander as the second Nevada County Poet Laureate.

Recently, the Nevada County Arts Council held nominations for the third Nevada County Poet Laureate and appointed a review panel comprised of community representatives chosen from a pool of literary experts for selection. Subsequently, the Nevada County Arts Council is recommending the nomination and designation of Kirsten Casey as the third Nevada County Poet Laureate. Kirsten Casey has been an active member of California Poets in the Schools for the past sixteen years and is currently the regional coordinator. She helped found Nevada County Arts Council's international children's poetry exchange, *Dream a Difference*, in 2017. Her first book of poetry, *Ex Viv0: Out of the Living Body*, was published by Hip Pocket Press in 2012. Her upcoming collection of poems explores historical and literary characters struggling with the use of social media in the modern world. In 2020, she co-edited Molly Fisk's "Academy of American Poet's Laureate" project, *California Fire and Water: a Climate Crisis Anthology*.

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Therefore, Nevada County Arts Council is recommending that the Board adopt the attached resolution accepting the nomination and designation of Kirsten Casey as the Third Nevada County Poet Laureate.

Item Initiated by: Jeffrey Thorsby, Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: Julie Patterson Hunter

Submittal Date: April 19, 2021