

Kathryn Smith

Appointed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Kathryn Smith is retired from both the State of California (STRS) and the State of Colorado (PERS). As a college administrator, she has worked with various boards and finance committees to manage institution and foundation investment portfolios. As a CPA, she worked with individuals and small business owners to take advantage of tax incentives relative to alternative investments.

As the superintendent/president of Mendocino College for seven years and College of the Redwoods for three years, Kathryn was responsible for all operations of the colleges, included financial soundness and budget management. Having a background as a CPA, she played a major role in all financial decisions and presented alternatives and professional recommendations to the colleges' governing boards.

Kathryn served on the finance and investment committees of both colleges' foundations, each with assets totaling 7-10 million dollars. While both foundations employed investment advisors, the finance committees played a primary role and worked with the investment advisors to develop investment strategies and implement policies to carry out particular strategies.

As a CPA and college president, Kathryn has had extensive experience in writing, reading and interpreting financial statements, budget reports, audit reports and various other financial documents and correspondence. As a university accounting instructor, she taught classes in governmental and non-profit accounting. As a California community college president, she was frequently called upon to serve on accreditation teams at other colleges because of her fiscal expertise. As a college president, the human resources directors reported directly to her and she was engaged with all aspects of human resource management, hiring/firing, performance evaluations and employee benefits. Kathryn worked closely with the various local and state-wide unions and with the college governing boards to explain and to negotiate changes to benefits and human resource policies.

While working full-time, Kathryn volunteered for numerous community boards and organizations, including serving on the board of the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce for six years, one year as president, and as a member of the Rotary Club of Ukiah for over 10 years, including one year as president. While president of the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, Kathryn was a member of the Rotary Club of Eureka and the Eureka Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She has also served on boards for The United Way, the Better Business Bureau, a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and volunteered for various church related activities, including performing financial reviews of the church's fiscal position and leading youth mission trips.

Kathryn and her husband Mark live in Ukiah. Between them, they have four children and two grandchildren.