

Christopher G. Hart

Sierra Railroad Company, Vice President Business Development 2020-Present

Mr. Hart improves the company's growth through securing additional capital and using that capital to grow Sierra and its subsidiaries (Mendocino Railway, Sierra Northern Railway and Sierra Energy). He finds, analyzes, prioritizes, and secures new business opportunities. Recent projects include securing an \$17 million CRISI grant, a \$31 million RRIF loan, and being selected to be the operator of the Santa Paula Branch railroad line for the next 35 years.

Mendocino Railway, President 1999 – 2020

In 1999 Mr. Hart launched the *Sierra DinnerTrain* (Oakdale, CA). In 2004 he assisted with the purchase and reopening of the *Skunk Train* (Fort Bragg & Willits, CA). In 2005 he launched the *Sacramento RiverTrain* (Woodland and West Sacramento, CA). He was the lead coordinator for two dozen film projects. He is experienced with all aspects of the business, including: financial, personnel, marketing, food service, rail operations, maintenance, and business development. Mr. Hart was appointed to a variety of positions, including Secretary and Treasurer of Visit Yolo, two years on the National Tourism Association's Alliance Team, six years on the California Travel & Tourism Agency's Marketing Committee, Vice President of the Central Valley Tourism Association, and Vice President for the Oakdale Chamber.

Citygate Associates, Principal 1993 - 1999

Mr. Hart initially served as Legislative Analyst for the California Redevelopment Association, one of Citygate's clients. He was promoted to principal with the firm and then focused on providing economic development consulting services to public and private entities throughout California. He had a particular expertise with improving depressed downtowns, frequently with the design and passage of business improvement districts. Mr. Hart also served as the Manager Editor of the *Base Reuse Report*, a subscription-based industry newsletter focused on converting shuttered military bases into productive participants in communities.

Political Campaign Manager 1990 - 1993

Mr. Hart managed numerous Congressional and State Assembly campaigns. Responsibilities included developing campaign strategy, articulating public policy, overseeing a marketing campaign, and managing various quantities of staff.

Education

University of Southern California 1993

Mr. Hart earned a Masters of Public Administration, with honors in both intergovernmental management and economics.

University of California at Davis 1990

Mr. Hart earned two undergraduate degrees. His first degree is International Relations, with an emphasis in economics. His second degree is Rhetoric & Communications. Mr. Hart was elected to the 7-member student council. He interned for the California Senate office of International Relations & Protocol, and then interned in the White House.

April 8, 2024

Chair Paul Garza Jr
Mendocino Coast Health Care District
pgarza@mcdh.org

Dear Mr. Garza,

I am writing you regarding the recent vacancy on the Mendocino Coast Health Care District (MCHCD) board. This is my letter of interest for the position.

I will state up front that my knowledge of the medical industry is very limited. Further, I have not closely followed the specific issues faced by MCHCD. To be effective, I will face a steep learning curve with limited time left on the term.

Having said that, I think I can be an asset to the District. I have three decades of executive business experience, a masters of public administration, and have served on more than a dozen boards. I have attached my resume.

Beyond my experience, I want to express my commitment to you that I would try to make the most of my time with MCHCD. Health care for the North Coast is a critical issue. As with so many entities, I think people underestimate the complex challenges that organizations like MCHCD face. I will do my utmost to do the needed research, express fact-based opinions, collaborate on decisions, and then get behind the selected course of action.

I would be happy to discuss my background and whether I would be a good fit for the MCHCD board and look forward to your consideration.

Best regards,



Christopher G. Hart
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cc: Katharine Wylie, Agency Administrator