

NEWS

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Supervisors OK Postmus' plan for 'flexible' meeting schedule

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today approved a proposal by Chairman Bill Postmus to allow the Board to periodically skip meetings and to occasionally meet outside the City of San Bernardino.

"In proposing these changes to our meeting rules, my intent is to better enable the members of this Board to be responsive to their constituents," Postmus said. The Chairman explained that his goal is to provide the Board's three Supervisors whose districts lie outside the San Bernardino area to spend more time in their districts. He also said he hopes to increase the Board's visibility and spirit of cooperation with its 24 cities by occasionally meeting in other areas of the County.

The rule changes, which gained initial Board approval today by ordinance, will return for final approval on March 1st, at which time they are expected to be approved without further discussion. The new rules would take effect March 31st. Postmus said his first rule change establishes an annual meeting calendar -- the first of which will be considered by the Board at its March 1st meeting -- replacing the existing practice of meeting every Tuesday.

"The Board will still meet most Tuesdays in San Bernardino, but my proposal would give us the flexibility to look at our calendars and look at the flow of items coming to the board, and in certain times of the year when appropriate we would have the flexibility to not hold meetings," Postmus said. He added that such breaks in the meeting schedule would give County staff more time to work at their jobs rather than attending Board meetings for several hours a week.

The Chairman's second rule change will allow the Board to occasionally hold its meetings at locations other than the County Government Center in San Bernardino. "This helps us send the message that County Government is here to work with the city governments and special districts to provide the best possible service to the taxpayers throughout our County," Postmus said.