Commissioners:

Please accept the following information that may help you when deciding for the best fit for Humboldt County. Although we in Humboldt share a coast with Marin County, the demographics of Marin and Shasta Counties are significantly different, and Humboldt has more similar characteristics to Shasta County than Marin County. I used US Census Quick Facts as my source.

Population:

As you can see Marin’s population is significantly higher than Humboldt while Shasta is comparable.

As you can see Shasta and Humboldt share a similar population density while Marin differs significantly.
Median owner-occupied home value can be a determiner of the economy of the area. As you can see Shasta and Humboldt are about $300,000 while Marin is nearly $1,000,000.

The number of building permits can be a measure of affordability. As you can see Marin, although the most populace county has the lowest building development.
Shasta and Humboldt are comparable when population per building permit are viewed, and Marin is significantly different.

Humboldt median household income for Humboldt is the lowest of the three counties, but comparable to Shasta County.

Per capita income in Marin County is more than double Shasta and Humboldt Counties.
The number of farms shows that Humboldt and Shasta have a greater number of agricultural operations than Marin County.

Although Shasta County has more farms, Humboldt has the most acreage in farms while Marin is significantly smaller.
The two graphs above show the largest disparity between Marin and Humboldt along with Shasta Counties. Both Humboldt and Shasta are major timber production counties while Marin has no data available on timber harvesting or timber lands.

Conclusion: Demographic data shows that Humboldt and Shasta Counties have much in common and that Marin County is significantly different. The data shows that Marin is a wealthy county with a different economy than Humboldt and Shasta counties. I believe that it would be difficult for a representative to balance the very different needs of Humboldt with Marin. I therefore recommend that Shasta is the best match for Humboldt County.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Shepherd