

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, June 21, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 21st day of June 2022; there being present Supervisors Brandon Criss, Michael N. Kobseff, Ray A. Haupt, Nancy Ogren and Ed Valenzuela, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan, and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Laura Bynum by Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Criss. Pursuant to AB23, the Clerk announced that the Board members receive no additional compensation for sitting as members of the County Service Area No. 4. Supervisor Kobseff led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Invocation - Siskiyou County Sheriff Chaplain Jim Jacobsen provided an invocation.

Presentations from the Public

Participation in presentations from the public by various members of the public was provided via teleconference phone.

Caller Holly Hansard invited the Board to view an online livestream from Jovan Hutton Pulitzer concerning the Maricopa County Arizona 2020 election.

Caller Nate Kane with the Environmental Law Foundation spoke in support of the Community Development staff's recommendation that the County develop an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) related to water wells Countywide.

County Administrator Angela Davis introduced Sawyer Lawson who was attending the meeting for 4-H.

In response to members of the Board, Mr. Lawson advised that his 4-H project was to raise turkeys.

Off-agenda Item – Supervisor Criss – Consideration of opposition letter for SB 443. Letter of opposition approved.

County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan provided an overview of the request to add an item, not on the posted agenda, concerning a possible letter of opposition to Senate Bill 443 (SB 443).

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Criss voting YES to add an item not on the posted agenda concerning possible opposition to Senate Bill 443 (SB 443). - EMS Dispatch Services.

Later in the meeting, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham distributed a nine-page packet of information regarding Senate Bill 443 (SB 443) - EMS Dispatch Services, including a draft opposition letter.

Supervisor Criss shared concerns regarding the potential negative impact of the legislation to rural emergency services, and advised that the County Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency representative Patrick Comstock was available should the Board have questions.

Participation in this item by various members of the public was provided via teleconference phone.

Following discussion between members of the Board and Mr. Comstock regarding the potential benefits the legislation may provide to fire departments/ambulance companies in urban areas versus rural areas, it was moved by Supervisor Criss, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Criss voting YES to approve letter to the Assembly Health Committee voicing opposition to Senate Bill 443 (Hertzberg) EMS Dispatch Services, amending the draft example letter to include a June 28, 2022 Committee hearing date, dating the letter June 21, 2022 and including Elizabeth Nielsen as the County's contact person.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, item 5D County Counsel's addendum to engagement agreement with Downey Brand, LLP (Griset litigation) was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Criss voting YES, that the following consent agenda is approved, and the Chair and/or clerk authorized to execute/record any necessary documents:

County Administration

Approve the rate agreement with Kevin Kimple, Private Investigator, for services relating to Personnel investigations for a term of 6/21/22 through 6/30/2024.

County Administration

Approve the second and third addenda to the contract with Avenu Insights and Analytics, LLC.

County Administration / Natural Resources

Approve staff to work with the Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission on the items listed in their June 14, 2022 letter.

District Attorney - Victim Witness

Authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for, accept and manage the Victim Witness Assistance Program grant in the amount of \$305,624 for FY 22/23. The Board of Supervisors adopt and sign the attached Resolution 22-110. Authorize Auditor-Controller to establish appropriations for Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Mt. Shasta Ambulance Services, Inc. for the term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Steven Star, PA for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Imagine Medical Group of California, PC, for the term of May 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Willow Glen Care Center for the term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Dr. Lofthouse.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the lease agreement between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Canon Solutions America, Inc. for the term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement between County of Santa Cruz and Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Division for the Administrative Activities for the LGA under the CMAA and TCM Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the term July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Northern Rural Training and Employment Consortium (NoRTEC) and various parties to the MOU, including Siskiyou County CalWORKs/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Contract for Services/Rate Agreement between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and Personnel Preference, Inc., effective June 7, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and the University of California at Davis, for the effective term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Probation - Community Corrections Partnership

Approve First Addendum to the contract between Community Corrections Partnership and Strawberry Valley Counseling Services to extend the term of the contract from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and approve the increased compensation of \$ 64,800.

Probation - Community Corrections Partnership

Approve Second Addendum to the contract between Community Corrections Partnership and Rose Therapy to extend the term of the contract from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and approve the increased compensation of \$ 64,800.

Sheriff

Approve contract between Catherine Nicka MD and Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office for autopsy and specialized services covering the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Sheriff

Approve and ratify the Sheriff's application to the Drug Enforcement Agency for additional funding through the Domestic Cannabis Eradication and Suppression Program for the term October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022. Accept award and allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Sheriff

Ratify, approve and authorize the Sheriff's Office to enter an agreement with the Forest Service for fiscal year 21/22 for reimburseable supplies, patrol and enforcement activities.

Sheriff

Accept this donation on behalf of the Sheriff for use specified by the Search & Rescue Non-Profit. Allow the Auditor to add this to AutoServe within 1002-202010 and our departments inventory.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$20,000. Resolution 22-111 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Risk Management-Liability - \$20,000. Resolution 22-112 adopted.

County Counsel - Approve addendum to engagement agreement with Downey Brand, LLP (Griset litigation), increasing the contract by \$10,000, to a total not to exceed \$175,000. Approved.

This item was pulled from the consent agenda at Supervisor Kobseff's request.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan advised that the increased funding was to cover additional services related to recovery of attorneys' fees in the case.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Criss and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Criss voting YES to approve the Sixth Addendum to Agreement for Services with Downey Brand, LLP, increasing the compensation under the Contract by \$10,000 and authorize the Board chair to execute same.

General County Fire - Presentation of the 2021 Annual Report of the Siskiyou County Fire Departments, including response totals for fire, medical, and other emergency responses. Presentation and discussion only.

County Fire Warden Phil Anzo and Siskiyou County Fire Chiefs' Association President Bernie Paul appeared before the Board.

Mr. Paul summarized the annual report on fire operations in the County, including an overview of various trainings being provided to fire department volunteers. Mr. Paul shared concerns regarding the difficulties associated with recruitment and retention of fire fighters Countywide and the related negative impacts.

Mr. Anzo shared concerns regarding the impact of a smaller volunteer workforce on the local dispatch office, and briefly highlighted wildfire incidents that took place in 2021 and mentioned in the annual report.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Mr. Anzo and Mr. Paul regarding the status of efforts being made to reduce fire insurance costs in certain areas of the County, the various trainings available to volunteer firefighters, an increase in public service responses (i.e. non-medical assistance services), the availability of US Forest Service personnel in firefighting efforts, an upcoming municipal review/survey concerning emergency/fire needs, efforts being made to reduce firefighter fatigue and the associated impacts of firefighter 'burnout' and instances of PTSD and the firefighting model utilized by the Montague Fire Department that could benefit other departments in other areas.

Mr. Anzo introduced Sean Raley, the new Assistant Chief at the Deadwood Conservation Camp.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Raley regarding the current status of staffing at Deadwood, various fire reduction services provided by the Camp, the benefits associated with establishing a working committee to explore a countywide fire department, the current status of Calfire staffing and the use of the Siskiyou County Airport as a reload tanker base.

Sheriff / D.A.R.E. - Presentation re an update on the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program and its benefits. Presentation and discussion only.

Community Service Officer and D.A.R.E instructor Jim Jacobsen provided an overview of the request, advising that the County had re-established the D.A.R.E. Program and reached approximately 95% of the schools and students in the County. Mr. Jacobsen provided an overview of the 'Keepin' it Real' curriculum taught to grades 5-8 and the safety lessons taught to grades K-4. In addition, Mr. Jacobsen summarized the findings from an evaluation of the D.A.R.E. Program by the University of North Carolina Greensboro that found the Program effective in reducing the instance of smoking cigarettes, vaping and drinking alcohol and provided examples of positive feedback received from parents and others in support of the Program.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Jacobsen regarding the timing and amount of education/class time associated with the D.A.R.E. education in the different grade levels.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of two alternate members to scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Assessment Appeals Board, for terms ending September 1, 2025 and one unscheduled vacancy with a term ending September 4, 2023. Continued to a later date.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winingham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Clerk's Office had not received letters of interest in serving on the Siskiyou County Assessment Appeals Board, in an alternate capacity.

Chair Criss advised that this item was continued to a later date.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), one case, conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a), two cases, conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4), two cases, commenced at 10:30a.m., concluded at 12:35p.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan announced that closed session concluded at 12:35p.m., with no reportable action taken.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Continued public hearing for the second reading of an uncodified ordinance temporarily restricting new production well permits, with specified exemptions, in the Scott Valley Watershed pending the County's further study and consideration of regulations. Ordinance withdrawn and staff directed to pursue a programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for well standards countywide.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing for the second reading of an uncodified ordinance temporarily restricting new production well permits, with specified exemptions, in the Scott Valley Watershed pending the County's further study and consideration of regulations, having been continued from May 3, 2022.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham briefly summarized the order of presentation.

Community Development Director Rick Dean recommended that the public hearing be dismissed and the ordinance not adopted, and requested the Board's direction with regard to developing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for well standards (i.e. well siting and construction) countywide. Mr. Dean further summarized the Community Development Department's processes for reviewing water well permits and addressing potential issues/concerns prior to issuing a well permit.

In response to Chair Criss, Ms. Winningham advised that the Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) had emailed a 14-page letter/packet and that the email had been distributed to members of the Board.

The Chair opened the item to public comments.

Participation in this item from the public by various members of the public was provided via teleconference phone.

Caller Nate Kane with the Environmental Law Foundation spoke in support of the Community Development staff's recommendation that the County develop an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) related to water wells Countywide. In addition, Mr. Kane suggested that the County place a hold on approval of water well permits while working on establishing an EIR for well standards countywide.

Caller Nick Joslin spoke in support of placing water well permits on hold while working on the EIR process.

There being no additional public comments, the public hearing was declared closed.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Mr. Dean and County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan regarding the Community Development Department's well permit issuance processes and the request to dismiss the public hearing and not adopt the ordinance.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Criss voting YES to withdraw the ordinance and direct staff to pursue a programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to develop a well standards ordinance and associated guidelines that would cover the entire County.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of his plans to attend an upcoming California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Regional meeting in San Luis Obispo.

County Administrator Angela Davis advised that the Governor signed Senate Bill 207 (SB 207) which would allow the Board of Supervisors to transfer Road Commissioner duties to the Director of Public Works.

Supervisor Haupt thanked the Building Department, from a Happy Camp homeowner, for the short timeframe needed to go through the building permit process and shared concerns regarding the need to develop options for emergency/medical evacuations downriver with the impending closure of the Happy Camp Airport. In addition, Supervisor Haupt thanked Caltrans for addressing a situation concerning the moving of a home in Scott Valley.

Supervisor Kobseff advised that local residents who have slash piles on their property following vegetation clearing work done by a Pacific Power contractor, should call the Pacific Power office to have them removed.

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Board and Staff Reports – (continued)

Supervisor Criss provided an update regarding the Antelope Fire near Tennant, advising of his attendance at a Forest Service townhall meeting in Dorris regarding future after-fire vegetation treatment plans.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Brandon A. Criss, Chair

By: _____

Deputy