

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, July 2, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 2nd day of July 2024; there being present Supervisors Brandon Criss, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff and Ray A. Haupt, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel Natalie E. Reed and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Laura Bynum by Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham. Supervisor Nancy Ogren was absent.

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

Invocation - Siskiyou County Sheriff Chaplain Keith Bradley provided an invocation.

Presentations from the Public

Siskiyou Golden Fair Chief Executive Officer Cliff Munson appeared before the Board, advising of the recent purchase of an LED billboard/sign for the fairgrounds and provided a brief update regarding the current status of the fairgrounds.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Chair Kobseff's request, item 5D, County Administration's Memorandum of Understanding with Siskiyou County Economic Development Council was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Haupt's request, item 5N, Health and Human Services - Social Services Division's addendum to contract with Emergency Command Support, Inc. was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

Community Development

Approve the contract with VESTRA Resources, Inc and approve the funding agreement with Southern Oregon Ready Mix.

County Administration

Ratify the letter Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement.

County Administration

Ratify the letter providing comments on the Black Bear Conservation Plan for California.

County Administration - Personnel

Adopt Resolution 24-108 amending the Siskiyou County Position Allocation List.

County Library

Approve Debra Davis's contract.

County Library

Approve addendum to the contract with Bywater Solutions and authorize the County Administrator to sign.

County Library

Approve contract for First 5 Children & Families.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve the fourth addendum to the City of Tulelake contract.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

General Services - Sanitation

Approve this 11th and final addendum to the George Chambers contract with a term ending on June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$2,629,658.10.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 4th Addendum between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and The Sail House Inc., the term of this agreement is July 1, 2020-June 30, 2025.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the new Contract between County of Siskiyou through the Health and Human Services Agency and Redwood Toxicology Laboratory Inc. for the full term July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and First 5 Siskiyou Children and Families Commission for the purpose of monitoring the Siskiyou County Child Abuse Prevention Council in accordance with Siskiyou County Resolution 21-71.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and Chair sign the Contract between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and SolutionsWest, effective October 2, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

Sheriff

Ratify and approve the Sheriff's soft application to the 2025 Community Project Funding Grant. Approve the Sheriff to continue any required steps leading to a formal award. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Transfer of Funds - Data Processing - \$24,550. Resolution 24-109 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Emergency Services - \$15,532. Resolution 24-110 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Fish & Game Commission - \$8,000. Resolution 24-111 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - General Fund - Administration - \$120,389. Resolution 24-112 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$1,402.30. Resolution 24-113 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$99,527.07. Resolution 24-114 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$ 29,950. Resolution 24-115 adopted.

County Administration - Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Siskiyou County Economic Development Council to provide economic development services, in an amount not to exceed \$650,000 for the term July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029. Approved.

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

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office received correspondence related to this item from Siskiyou Economic Development Finance Director Jen Thackeray.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss and Kobseff voting YES and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to approve five-year Siskiyou Economic Development MOU and authorize the Board Chair to execute the MOU.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division - Approve addendum to contract with Emergency Command Support, Inc. to provide certain shower and laundry services, increasing the contract by \$114,800 to a total not to exceed \$224,000 and extending the term through January 31, 2025.

This item was pulled from the consent agenda at Supervisor Haupt's request. Supervisor Haupt voiced concerns regarding the requested addendum.

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Housing Coordinator Maddelyn Bryan appeared before the Board, summarizing the available homelessness housing grant funding and the request to extend the shower and laundry services contract to January, 2025 in order to coincide with the homeless/unhoused Point In Time (PIT) survey.

Discussion followed between Supervisor Haupt and those present regarding the City of Yreka's support for the project and the need for statistics related to success of similar projects and programs.

City of Yreka Mayor Pro Tem Paul McCoy appeared before the Board and shared the City's support for the program and the benefits associated with the shower and laundry services contract.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Criss and, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela and Criss voting YES, Supervisors Haupt and Kobseff voting NO and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT the motion to approve the addendum to contract with Emergency Command Support, Inc. did not carry.

Public Requests - Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)/Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) - Presentation re ReCoverCA Homebuyer Assistance Program to assist certain families in purchasing homes outside of high fire hazard zones. Presentation and discussion only.

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

Caller Rural County Representatives of California/Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) representative Carolyn Sunseri presented a powerpoint presentation regarding the GSFA's ReCoverCA Homebuyer Assistance Program to assist certain families in purchasing homes outside of high fire hazard zones. Ms. Sunseri provided an overview of the applicant eligibility (i.e. renters or homeowners can qualify, primary residence must be in a high fire hazard zone, 2018 and 2020 fires and certain affected counties). Ms. Sunseri summarized the program processes, advising that the maximum \$350,000 (toward purchase price and closing costs) was available per household. Ms. Sunseri advised that the original damaged/burned property could no longer be in the applicant's possession in order to qualify. Ms. Sunseri summarized eligible types of properties that could be purchased outside of zones identified as high or very high fire hazard zones (i.e. anywhere in California). Ms. Sunseri provided a brief overview of the anticipated public outreach and marketing campaign, including future local public events.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Sunseri regarding the majority of Siskiyou County that is in high/very high fire hazard zones, the California Fair Plan (insurance policies) that is not acceptable, the Program's funding source, concerns regarding the affected homeowners who were reimbursed by insurance for properties lost in 2018 and/or 2020, GSFA's attempts to address issues with the State and Board members' concerns regarding the lack of approved properties/zones that would be available for purchase locally (within Siskiyou County).

General Services – Airports - Presentation of an update re all Siskiyou County Airport activities since June 4, 2024. Presentation and discussion only.

General Services Director Joy Hall appeared before the Board and provided an update regarding the ongoing construction activities at the Weed Airport and the efforts being made to repair restrooms at the Siskiyou County Airport.

Brief discussion followed between Supervisor Kobseff and Ms. Hall regarding the process for installing conduit and the anticipated opening timeframe for the Weed Airport.

Sheriff/Veterans Service Officer - Presentation re services and successes provided to the Veteran community and presentation of the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers 2023 Annual Report. Presentation and discussion only.

Veterans Services Officer (VSO) Thomas Jackson appeared before the Board, presented a powerpoint of the VSO's Annual Report. Mr. Jackson provided various statistics and demographics related to the County's veteran population, including claims submitted, awards received from the Department of Veterans Affairs, various outreach events that were held and assistance provided to homeless/unhoused veterans. Mr. Jackson continued the powerpoint, including an overview of various funding resources available to the VSO and organizations that can provide assistance to local veterans. Mr. Jackson advised that the Office receives funding provided by the State's Veterans License Plate Program.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Jackson regarding the number of homeless veterans supported, difficulties associated with tracking that population and tracking local veterans' spending and possibly locating the VSO within a different County department.

County Clerk - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to set a Personnel hearing for a Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Division employee. Personnel hearing scheduled on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 9 a.m.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Appellant's estimate of time required to present to the Board and potential meeting dates. In addition, Ms. Winningham advised that the Appellant would not be available for a hearing between July 19th and August 6th.

Following discussion between members of the Board, Ms. Winningham and County Administrator Angela Davis regarding Board members' availability, potential dates and possible length of the hearing, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss and Kobseff voting YES and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to schedule a Personnel hearing for a Health and Human Services, Behavioral Health Division employee on Tuesday July 16, 2024 9 a.m.

If either side feels that it cannot adequately prepare for the hearing within the time set for the hearing or should any dispute arise in preparing for the hearing, either party shall immediately petition the Board of Supervisors for any relief which the party(ies) deem appropriate and which the Board may, in its discretion grant.

If an official transcript of the hearing is desired, the requesting party shall make arrangements for a court reporter and said requesting party shall be responsible for payment of said service. Copies of the official transcript shall be paid for by the party(ies) requesting such copy. Unless a request for an official transcript is made in accordance with the foregoing provisions, it shall be deemed that the right to an official transcript has been waived.

Minute Approval - June 18, 2024. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Criss and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Criss and Kobseff voting YES, Supervisor Valenzuela ABSTAINING and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to approve the June 18, 2024 minutes as presented.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to four existing Agricultural Preserves and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-23-05 for the Nielsen Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-23-05), for property located in Gazelle CA. Resolutions 24-116 (amend) and 24-117 (re-entry) adopted.

Supervisor Criss recused himself from consideration of this item and left the Board Chambers.

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Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division – (continued)

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-23-05 for the Nielsen Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-23-05), for property located in Gazelle CA, having been continued from June 18, 2024.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request in order to create separate Williamson Act Contracts for property under multiple owners. Ms. Cizin advised that the applicant applied for a boundary line adjustment in order to merge one substandard 21-acre parcel and that it was found during review that 37.1 acres of a larger parcel were not part of an Agricultural Preserve. Ms. Cizin recommended that the resultant Williamson Act Contract include the additional 37.1 acres. Ms. Cizin additionally recommended approval and that the Board find the project exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts.

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office had not received any correspondence with regard to this item.

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

Following discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Cizin regarding the efforts being made to 'clean up' various Agricultural Preserves/Williamson Act Contracts, a request that the Board not consider the additional 37.1 acres significant increase and Mr. Cizin's efforts and assistance in the process, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela and Kobseff voting YES, Supervisor Criss RECUSED and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts; adopt Resolution 24-116 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve which includes the 37.1 acres previously not within a preserve, and adopt Resolution 24-117 approving the rescission and reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contracts which includes the 37.1 acres previously not encumbered by Williamson Act Contract.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-22-18 for the Lassen Canyon Nursery Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry Project (APA-22-18), for property located in Macdoel CA. Resolutions 24-118 (amend) and 24-119 (re-entry) adopted.

Supervisor Criss was recused from consideration of this item and remained outside of the Board Chambers.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-22-18 for the Lassen Canyon Nursery Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry Project (APA-22-18), for property located in Macdoel CA, having been continued from June 18, 2024.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request in order to create separate Williamson Act Contracts for property under multiple owners. Ms. Cizin advised that the property owner anticipated a boundary line adjustment in order to combine smaller substandard parcels to be 40 acres or larger. Ms. Cizin recommended approval and that the Board find the project exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts.

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office had not received any correspondence with regard to this item.

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

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Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division – (continued)

In response to Supervisor Haupt, Ms. Cizin advised that the main crop on the property was strawberries.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela and Kobseff voting YES, Supervisor Criss RECUSED and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts; adopt Resolution 24-118 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve and adopt Resolution 24-119 approving the rescission and reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contracts.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-05 for the Guertin Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-24-05), for property located in the unincorporated area of Montague CA. Resolutions 24-120 (amend) and 24-121 (re-entry) adopted.

Supervisor Criss was recused from consideration of this item and remained outside of the Board Chambers.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-05 for the Guertin Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-24-05), for property located in the unincorporated area of Montague CA, having been continued from June 18, 2024.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request in order to create separate Williamson Act Contracts for two property owners. Ms. Cizin advised that the applicant anticipated continuing the current allowable agricultural use on the property and recommended approval of the request and that the Board find the project exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts.

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office had not received any correspondence with regard to this item.

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

In response to Supervisor Valenzuela, Ms. Cizin advised that the recently purchased property was under Williamson Act Contract.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela and Kobseff voting YES, Supervisor Criss RECUSED and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts; and adopt Resolution 24-120 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve and adopt Resolution 24-121 approving the rescission and reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contract.

Supervisor Kobseff suggested the need for further review regarding the potential for non-profits to purchase Williamson Act Contract properties.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to two Agricultural Preserves and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-01 for the Iron Horse Acres/Ericson Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-24-01), for property located in Macdoel CA in order to effectuate a Boundary Line Adjustment and to consider Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-renewal for a 15 acre substandard parcel. Resolutions 24-122 (amend), 24-123 (re-entry) and 24-124 (non-renewal) adopted.

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Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division – (continued)

Supervisor Criss was recused from consideration of this item and remained outside of the Board Chambers.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to two Agricultural Preserves and one approving the rescission and reentry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-01 for the Iron Horse Acres/Ericson Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Rescission and Re-entry Project (APA-24-01), for property located in Macdoel CA in order to effectuate a Boundary Line Adjustment and to consider Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-renewal for a 15 acre substandard parcel, having been continued from June 18, 2024.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request in order to adjust the boundary between two separate parcels under Williamson Act Contract. Ms. Cizin advised that a resultant would be substandard in size (less than the 40-acre requirement) and also under a Notice of Non-Renewal. Ms. Cizin recommended approval of the request, including the Board finding the project exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts.

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winingham advised that no correspondence had been received by the Clerk's Office although one public hearing notification letter had been returned by the Post Office as undeliverable.

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

Following discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Cizin regarding the anticipated boundary line adjustment in order to accommodate an irrigation wheel line on the Iron Horse Acres property and no anticipated increase in acreage for property under Williamson Act, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela and Kobseff voting YES, Supervisor Criss RECUSED and Supervisor Ogren ABSENT to determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15317, Open Space Easements or Contracts; and adopt Resolution 24-122 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve, adopt Resolution 24-123 approving the rescission and reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contracts and adopt Resolution 24-124 directing staff to issue a notice of non-renewal for the resultant Ericson contract.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Haupt advised of his attendance at a Licensed California Foresters breakfast in Weed and a meeting with the California Fish and Wildlife Department with Supervisor Kobseff and his attendance at a Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) dinner as well as a tour with RCRC representatives of Shasta and Scott Valleys.

Supervisor Valenzuela reported on his attendance at a Sierra Nevada Conservancy meeting in Bishop, CA, and advised of his attendance at a Local Transportation Commission (LTC) meeting and a meeting with the Mt. Shasta City Manager.

Supervisor Criss reported on his attendance at a meeting in McCloud regarding subdivision roads and Klamath Environmental Species Act (ESA) meetings.

Supervisor Kobseff advised of taking a walk-through tour of work being done at the Weed Airport and his attendance at a First 5 Siskiyou meeting, the Licensed California Foresters breakfast in Weed and a meeting with the California Fish and Wildlife Department with Supervisor Haupt. Supervisor Kobseff additionally advised of his attendance at an Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA) Board meeting, a Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR) and Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) meetings and a meeting with Lake Shastina Community Services District administration staff.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), three cases, conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), three cases, Liability claims pursuant to Government Code §54956.95, commenced at 10:29 a.m., concluded at 12:02 p.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 12:02 p.m., with no reportable action taken.

In addition, Ms. Reed advised that, with regard to item 11D Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), one case, County Counsel did not participate and stepped out from 11:34 a.m., returning at 11:49 a.m.

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

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Michael N. Kobseff, Chair

By: _____
Deputy