

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, September 17, 2024

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 17th day of September 2024; there being present Supervisors Brandon Criss, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren 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.

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 County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Siskiyou Power Authority and In Home Support Services Public Authority. Supervisor Haupt 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

SEIU Local 2015 representative Clayton Raposa appeared before the Board, speaking in support of the local In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers and the services they provide to those in need of care in their homes.

Local In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider Cynthia Seaver appeared before the Board, speaking in support of IHSS providers and the care they provide to their clients/recipients.

SEIU Local 2015 representatives Jacob Hibbetts and Sarah Casia appeared before the Board, speaking in support of the services provided by local In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers and sharing concerns regarding the lack of providers to meet recipients' needs.

Supervisor Valenzuela invited those present in the audience to remain in the meeting as the Board considers its Adopted Budget public hearing.

Local In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider William Seaver appeared before the Board, speaking in support of IHSS providers and requesting that the Board consider increasing IHSS wages.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, item 5C, Community Development's agreement with City of Dunsmuir to provide Building Inspection services within city limits, was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

Auditor

Adopt Resolution 24-143 thereby approving the 2024/2025 property tax rates.

Auditor

Adopt Resolution 24-144 Resolution thereby setting the Prop 4 Gann limit at \$70,267,715.75 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

County Administration

Approve the letter in opposition of AB 1168 (Bennet).

County Administration

Adopt Resolution 24-145 recognizing National Hunting and Fishing Day, and authorize the Chair to sign.

County Administration

Approve the letter to the Tulelake Cornerstone Senior Advocacy providing support for their funding pursuits as well as their community support efforts and authorizes the Chair to sign.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

County Administration

Approve the letter to Governor Newsom urging the veto of AB 2561 (McKinnor) and authorizes the Chair to sign.

County Administration/County Counsel/Courts

Approve the contract between the County of Siskiyou and The Law Office of Joseph M Ahart, Inc. for a term ending on June 30, 2027, with two options to renew for one year terms.

County Clerk

Adopt Resolution 24-146 Resolution updating the Conflict of Interest Code, designating members and employees in all County Departments, Special Districts and School Districts.

County Counsel

Adopt Resolution 24-147 making minor amendments to subsection 2(b) and subsection 3(A)(2) of Resolution 03-92 setting forth amended procedures for zoning and other administrative hearings.

Daughters of the American Revolution - Siskiyou Chapter

Approve the Proclamation recognizing Constitution Week and authorize the Chair to sign.

District Attorney

Authorize the District Attorney's Office to apply for, accept, and manage the Victim Witness Assistance Program grant in the amount of \$313,605 for FY 24/25. The Board of Supervisors adopt and sign the attached Resolution 24-148. Authorize Auditor-Controller to establish appropriations for Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Facilities Management - Communications

Approve the First Addendum to the Site License Agreement with Top Sites, Inc. and allow Auditors office to establish budget.

Facilities Management – Maintenance

Approve the contract to move forward with the installation of the HVAC units at the Jail location (Ray-Mac Mechanical, Inc.).

General Services – Airports

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Contract between the United States Forest Service and the Department of General Services for use of the Siskiyou County Airports.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve the acceptance of the \$50 donation in Amazon gift cards and authorize the Behavioral Health Division to make purchases of supplies for Siskiyou Crossroads.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign Amendment No. 1 for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) for the term commencing September 22, 2022 to March 18, 2029.

Health and Human Services – Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Rose Therapy for the term commencing July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

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 Restpadd Health Corporation - Redding, for the term of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 1st Addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Marin General Hospital Corporation for the term commencing through February 1, 2024 to 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 Remi Vista, for the term of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency Public Health Division for the Intergovernmental Transfer funding.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement between CDPH-OA HIV Surveillance Program (HSP) and Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Division-, to administer the HIV Surveillance activities in Siskiyou County for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2029, with an annual amount of \$4,387.00. and a total amount not to exceed \$21,935.00 for the term of the Grant, and authorize the Auditor to establish budget appropriations and set expenditures per the grant guidelines.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Adopt and authorize the Chair to sign the Governing Board Resolution 24-149 with the State of California – Health and Human Services Agency – California Department of Public Health, Office of Aids (CDPH/OA), for the Project Empowerment Tier 2 Funding Award, to provide innovative and comprehensive HIV prevention and control activities, authorize the County Administrator to act on behalf of the County to execute any and all program award documents as outlined in Section 2 of the Resolution and authorize the Auditor to establish budget appropriation and set expenditures per the agreement amendment guidelines, for a total allocation of \$600,000.00, with spending authority through June 30, 2028.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the First Addendum to the Contract between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and the California Department of Social Services in the amount of \$992,215.00. The term of this contract shall be from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Agreement between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and the California Department of Social Services for Legal consultation and Legal representation associated with the Resource Family Approval program for the term beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

Sheriff

Adopt Resolution 24-150 authorizing donations of any amount to be accepted by the Sheriff. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to create accounting as needed and accept deposits of such donations.

Transfer of Funds - Information Technology - \$138. Resolution 24-151 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Library - \$3,456. Resolution 24-152 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Courthouse & Grounds - \$700. Resolution 24-153 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Courthouse & Grounds - \$120,000. Resolution 24-154 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Courthouse & Grounds - \$2,500. Resolution 24-155 adopted.

Community Development - Approve agreement with City of Dunsmuir to provide Building Inspection services within city limits, at the rates specified in the agreement, for a term ending no later than January 31, 2025. Approved.

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

Community Development Director Rick Dean appeared before the Board. In response to Supervisor Kobseff regarding the possible impact to the County's Building Department, Mr. Dean advised that the contracted services would have a limited/minimal impact on Building Department staffing and resources.

Following brief discussion regarding the short contract term and efforts being made to gather proposals to provide building inspection services, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement between the City of Dunsmuir and the Community Development Building Department. This agreement will have the City of Dunsmuir paying \$77/hour to the Siskiyou County Building Department to conduct building inspections until such time the City of Dunsmuir no longer needs these services but no later than Jan 31, 2025.

County Administration - Informational item only, no action required - Participation Agreement with the City of Redding as the Administrative Entity for the NorCal Continuum of Care, with the County to pay a total not to exceed \$29,403.94 for FY 24/25. No discussion necessary.

This agenda item was continued from the September 3, 2024 regular meeting agenda.

In response to Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Project Coordinator Maddelyn Bryan, who appeared before the Board, Supervisor Haupt advised that he did not have additional questions or a need to further discuss this item.

County Administration - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution continuing the Board of Supervisors' declaration of a wildfire emergency which, if approved, will supersede and replace Resolution 21-118 adopted on August 10, 2021. Resolution 24-156 adopted.

Deputy County Administrator Elizabeth Nielsen appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the to update the Board's declaration of a wildfire emergency, originally declared by Resolution 21-118 on August 10, 2021. Ms. Nielsen summarized and read into the record a minor language change in the Resolution's last paragraph concerning a request to the Governor and the State with regard to water curtailments impacts associated with wildfires.

Following discussion between members of the Board, Ms. Nielsen and Office of Emergency Services (OES) Director Bryan Schenone regarding the negative impacts associated with the water curtailments, the non-inclusion of sediment releases from dam removal activities in the Resolution and anticipated upcoming declaration regarding recent wildfires, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to adopt Resolution 24-156, which would supersede and replace Resolution No. 21-118.

General Services – Airports - Presentation of an update re all Siskiyou County Airport activities since July 2, 2024. Presentation and discussion only.

General Services Director Joy Hall appeared before the Board, providing an update regarding current activities at the Weed Airport, with regard to Airport tenants being allowed to return to the airport and the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS). Ms. Hall provided an update regarding the bathroom facilities and Airport Improvement Plan (AIP) at the Siskiyou County Airport and the ongoing process for local airports to receive federal/state payments related to providing firefighting base services. Ms. Hall additionally advised that the Butte Valley Airport was closed for a short time due to an aircraft with a flat tire and that the County received a waiver of the Happy Camp Airport payback.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Hall regarding a possible water right associated with the Happy Camp Airport.

Community Development - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to award bid for hazard tree removal services for properties affected by the 2023 Head Fire to Anvil Builders, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$444,444.44. Approved.

Community Development Director Rick Dean appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the request to award a contract to Anvil Builders, Inc. for hazard tree removal in the area affected by the 2023 Head Fire. Mr. Dean additionally provided an update regarding ongoing debris removal efforts being made.

Following brief discussion between Supervisor Haupt and Mr. Dean regarding the anticipated funding for the debris and tree removal project, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to award the contract to Anvil Builders in an amount not to exceed \$444,444.44 for hazard tree removal services for properties involved in the 2023 Head Fire and that the County Administrator be authorized and directed to sign and execute the contract and all required project documents to finalize the contract.

County Clerk - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to reschedule a Personnel appeal hearing on behalf of a Sheriff's Office employee, originally set for a one-day hearing on September 24, 2024. Personnel appeal hearing scheduled on September 24, 2024 vacated; new hearing scheduled for October 29 and 30, 2024 starting at 9 a.m.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Appellant's representative suggested various consecutive dates in October, November and December, for an anticipated two-day hearing.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Winningham, County Administrator Angela Davis and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding the suggested dates, Board members' availability and the need to vacate the originally scheduled appeal hearing date.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to vacate the previously scheduled Personnel appeal hearing on September 24, 2024.

Following brief discussion regarding the potential start time for each meeting date, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to set a Personnel hearing on October 29 and 30, 2024, starting at 9:00 a.m. each day.

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 such services. 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 - August 6 and 13, 2024 and September 3, 2024. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to approve the August 6 and 13, 2024 minutes as presented.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to approve the September 3, 2024 minutes with the following additions:

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Add the following paragraphs concerning the time set for each public hearing to the following:

Continued...

Minute Approval – (continued)

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-06 for the Griset Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on Harry Cash Road near the community of Big Springs. Continued to September 17, 2024.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-06 for the Griset Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on Harry Cash Road near the community of Big Springs.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-04 and a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for 4.2 acres under new Williamson Act Contract for the Barnes/Johnson Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on South State Highway 3 south of Etna and north of Callahan CA. Continued to September 17, 2024.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider two Resolutions, one approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and one approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-04 and a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for 4.2 acres under new Williamson Act Contract for the Barnes/Johnson Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on South State Highway 3 south of Etna and north of Callahan CA.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Public hearing to consider adoption of revised Rules for the establishment and administration of the Siskiyou County Agricultural Preserve and Williamson Act Contracts (SP-24-03). Continued to September 17, 2024.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider adoption of revised Rules for the establishment and administration of the Siskiyou County Agricultural Preserve and Williamson Act Contracts (SP-24-03).

Public Hearings - Budget Hearing - County Administration - Public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 24/25 Adopted Budget, including the following: resolutions 24-157 and P 24-158 adopted.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 24/25 Adopted Budget.

Chair Kobseff opened the public hearing.

Deputy County Administrative Officer Sherry Lawson appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the Adopted Budget being presented and summarizing revenue and expenditures, salary adjustments, encumbrances and the efforts made to remain cost neutral and conservative. Ms. Lawson advised of plans to work with County departments and staff to evaluate fee structures in order to keep County costs neutral for providing certain services to the public.

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

Agriculture Commissioner/Sealer Jim Smith appeared before the Board and shared concerns regarding an Agriculture employee that had not received a recent pay raise.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Lawson and County Administrator Angela Davis regarding the County's Contributions to Others, the approximate total number of County employees, ongoing recruitment efforts, one-time funding/monies that were used to balance the current budget and the need for additional research regarding the Agriculture Commissioner's Personnel request.

Further discussion followed regarding the efforts being made to address various County Funds with small, stagnant balances, the General Fund and Non-General Fund balances, the benefits associated with including pie charts (or similar tools) in future budget analyses and the Administrator's process for monitoring the budget through the year.

Continued...

Public Hearings - Budget Hearing – (continued)

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

It was moved by Supervisor Criss, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Criss, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES, to adopt Resolution 24-157 specifying the amount of appropriation approved in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Adopted Budget and approve all additions and deletions to the Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, of which includes financing uses by unit, intrafund transfers by unit, transfers out by fund, appropriations for contingencies by fund, provisions for restricted and committed accounts by fund and purpose, and financing sources, in the amount of \$450,912,906; and adopt Resolution P 24-157 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule and Position Allocation list, and approve new class specifications; and adopt the County Statement of Allocated Positions and Salary Schedules.

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 re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-06 for the Griset Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on Harry Cash Road near the community of Big Springs. Resolutions 24-159 (amend) and 24-160 (reentry) adopted.

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 re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-06 for the Griset Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on Harry Cash Road near the community of Big Springs, having been continued from September 3, 2024.

Supervisor Criss recused himself and left the Board Chambers.

Chair Kobseff opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the request to establish an Agricultural Preserve consisting of property under one owner and to determine the project exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines regarding open space easements or contracts.

In response to Chair Kobseff, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winingham advised that the Clerk's Office had received a public hearing notification letter returned as undeliverable by the Post Office.

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

Following brief discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Cizin regarding Planning Department's process for determining a change in the use from the property's historical cattle grazing to intensive farming – hay production and the Williamson Act contract terms associated with water usage, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES and Supervisor Criss RECUSED, 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 24-159 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve; and adopt Resolution 24-160 approving the rescission & reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contract.

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 re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-04 and a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for 4.2 acres under new Williamson Act Contract for the Barnes/Johnson Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on South State Highway 3 south of Etna and north of Callahan CA. Resolutions 24-161 (amend), 24-162 (reentry) and 24-163 (nonrenewal) adopted.

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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 re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-24-04 and a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for 4.2 acres under new Williamson Act Contract for the Barnes/Johnson Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry project for property located on South State Highway 3 south of Etna and north of Callahan CA, having been continued from September 3, 2024.

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

Chair Kobseff opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the request to amend an existing and establish a new Agricultural Preserve to effectuate a Boundary Line Adjustment and staff's recommendation that the Board issue a Notice of Nonrenewal for resultant parcels that were substandard in size. Ms. Cizin additionally requested that the project be determined exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines regarding 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 regarding this item.

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

Following brief discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Cizin regarding the anticipated Boundary Line Adjustment process and the process for the property owner to request removal of the parcels under non-renewal, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Valenzuela, Ogren and Kobseff voting YES and Supervisor Criss RECUSED 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 24-161 approving the amendment of the existing Agricultural Preserve and establish a new Agricultural Preserve, adopt Resolution 24-162 approving the rescission & reentry of the applicable Williamson Act contracts, and adopt Resolution 24-163 directing staff to issue a notice of non-renewal for the substandard Johnson parcels.

Public Hearings - Community Development – Continued public hearing to consider adoption of revised Rules for the establishment and administration of the Siskiyou County Agricultural Preserve and Williamson Act Contracts (SP-24-03). Continued to November 12, 2024.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider adoption of revised Rules for the establishment and administration of the Siskiyou County Agricultural Preserve and Williamson Act Contracts (SP-24-03), having been continued from September 3, 2024.

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

Chair Kobseff opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the project to update/revised the Rules for establishment and administration of the County's Agricultural Preserve and Williamson Act (WA) Contracts, including an overview of staff's attempts to solicit comments regarding the revised Rules. Ms. Cizin summarized the Board's previous recommended changes to the Rules, including 1) the establishment of one Agricultural Preserve for property in the County currently encumbered by Williamson Act Contract, 2) include the definition of a significant increase to an existing WA Contract (25 acres or 2.5% of existing contracted property), 3) the removal of timber growing/harvesting as an allowed primary use, 4) clean-up of Compatible Use language, 5) removal of Agritourism from Compatible Use, 6) inclusion of Vacation Rental under Residential Uses, 7) clarify property owner responsibilities with regard to providing Conservation Contracts/Easements for compatibility review by the County, 8) include method for the Agricultural Preserve Administrator to approve a Minor Contract Amendment and 9) include/clarify the withdrawal process associated with property under Non-Renewal.

Continued...

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

Ms. Cizin recommended that the requirement that an applicant provide a Title Report as part of their application remain as is and that the Department continue to require parcels to meet minimum size requirements as defined by State law. Ms. Cizin requested that the public hearing be continued in order for staff to provide a clean draft for the Board's approval.

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

There were no public comments received.

In response to the Chair, Agriculture Commissioner/Sealer Jim Smith appeared before the Board and spoke in support of the proposed revised Rules.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Cizin, Mr. Smith and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding the soil survey update process and associated timeframes, the Commercial Agricultural Production Uses and Compatible Uses Sections in the draft Rules, the anticipated process for determining a change in ownership of property within WA Contracts (i.e. property purchased for conservation easement) and the differences between Non-Renewal and Cancellation of WA Contracts.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the potential for foreign investors to own properties under WA Contract within the County, which would be subsidized with the County's General Fund dollars.

Further discussion followed regarding federal and/or state agencies that are ineligible to own property within WA Contracts, the Planning Department's process to send out WA requirement surveys to WA Contract holders to verify that the property meets eligibility requirements, concerns regarding potential negative impacts associated with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that could own property within WA Contract (i.e. impact to the County's tax base) and the Use Permit process that may be necessary for certain uses under the revised Rules.

Following brief discussion between members of the Board, Ms. Cizin and Ms. Winningham regarding the request to continue the hearing, the timing needed to bring the item back before the Board and anticipated outreach to the local Farm Bureau for comment, the Chair advised that the public hearing was continued to November 12, 2024.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), two cases, commenced at 11:01 a.m., concluded at 12:45 p.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 12:45 p.m., with no reportable action taken.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of attending a webinar regarding the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and his plans to attend an AT&T donation of refurbished laptops to senior citizens and others.

Supervisor Haupt reported on his attendance at a Klamath National Forest coordination meeting, along with Elizabeth Nielsen and Supervisor Ogren.

Supervisor Ogren advised of her attendance at a Siskiyou County Wildfire Mitigation Group meeting, a Cattleman's tour and an OreCal RC&D meeting and reported on her attendance at a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) meeting with regards to development of a Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence (MSR SOI) Plan.

Supervisor Criss advised of attending the Cattleman's tour, a Sierra Sacramento Valley EMS meeting and the Tulelake Butte Valley Fair.

Supervisor Kobseff advised of attending the Cattleman's tour.

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