

**Siskiyou Local Agency Formation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
May 14, 2024**

The Siskiyou Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) meeting of May 14, 2024, was called to order by Chair Ogren at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 311 Fourth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Yreka, California.

**Present:** Commissioners Harkness, Mazzoni, Valenzuela, and Ogren

**Absent:** Commissioner Baker

**Also Present:** Hailey Lang, Executive Officer; Rachel Jereb, Deputy Executive Officer; Janine Rowe, Commission Clerk

**Minutes:** It was moved by Commissioner Mazzoni, seconded by Commissioner Valenzuela, to approve the Minutes from the April 9, 2024, LAFCo meeting as presented.

**Voted** upon and the Chair declared the motion carried unanimously by those Commissioners present.

**Unscheduled Appearances: None**

**Conflict of Interest Declaration: None**

**Changes to the Agenda: None**

**New Business:**

**Agenda Item 1: Siskiyou County LAFCo Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025  
(Potential Action)**

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 56381, Siskiyou County LAFCo will consider and adopt its final budget for fiscal year (FY) 2024/2025. It is anticipated that adoption of the final budget for FY 2024/2025 will be determined to be a government fiscal activity or funding mechanism which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA guidelines.

**Staff Report:**

The previously circulated Staff Report was reviewed by the Commission, and a presentation of the project was provided by Executive Officer Hailey Lang.

Ms. Lang told the Commission that staff was requesting approval of the final budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. Ms. Lang said the funding balance is expected to be \$41,872 at the end of Fiscal Year 2023/2024, so the requested budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 is \$59,798.

**Commission Questions / Discussion: None**

The Chair opened the Public Hearing.

**Public Comment:**

None

There being no comment, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

**Motion:** Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Valenzuela, seconded by Commissioner Mazzoni, to approve the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 as presented.

**Voted** upon and the Chair declared the motion carried unanimously by those Commissioners present on the following roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Commissioners Harkness, Mazzoni, Valenzuela, and Ogren  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** Baker  
**Abstain:** None

**Items for Discussion/Direction: None**

**Miscellaneous:**

- 1. Correspondence:** None
- 2. Staff Comments:** Ms. Lang told the Commission that there is interest from the city of Etna, town of Fort Jones, and Etna Police Chief Short regarding potentially merging or consolidating their fire and emergency services into a single special district. She asked for the Commission's direction on preparing a master tax sharing agreement study that would standardize the calculations, tax assessments, and financial information that is required for all of the incorporated cities. The end result would be a standardization of the County's calculations as well as the incorporated cities' calculations. Ms. Lang said the work would predominantly be done by a consultant with Siskiyou LAFCo overseeing the work. She wanted to know if the Commission would like the subject to be agendized.

Discussion was held that the cost of preparing a master tax sharing agreement study might be of concern to the incorporated cities in the county. Ms. Lang said there were different avenues that Etna and Fort Jones could take, one of which would be that they could procure and pay for their own MSR as it's related to specific functions. The current fire district MSR/SOI being prepared does not include police services.

Discussion was held regarding the timeline for consolidation and that it includes statutory deadlines for the tax sharing portion. Ms. Lang said in the past a lot of the projects die while going through the formal process.

Discussion was held that having a set process might help the parties who are initiating the annexation understand what needs to be accomplished before they present it to LAFCo.

The Commission agreed that the item should be agendized for further discussion.

On another note, Deputy Executive Officer Rachel Jereb advised the Commission that the consultant for the fire district MSR/SOI will be coming out with the public review draft and that it has to be posted 30 days before it gets presented formally at a meeting to allow time for public comment. Ms. Jereb said the next LAFCo meeting would be in September, so the plan is to post the draft and then present it at the September meeting which she encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

3. **Future Meetings:** The next regular meeting of Siskiyou County LAFCo scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024, has been cancelled because there are no items ready for an Agenda. Due to conflicts with the Board of Supervisors' meetings in July and August, the next LAFCo meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.
4. **Commission Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was concluded at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Signature on file*

Hailey Lang, Secretary

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