

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, June 17, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 17th day of June 2025; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, 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 Clerks Wendy Winningham and Dana Brooks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ogren. Pursuant to AB23, the Clerk announced that the Board members receive no additional compensation for sitting as members of the County Service Area 4 and Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District 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

There were no presentations from the public.

Consent Agenda –Approved.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, item 5Z and item 5AA, Sheriff's addendums to Memorandums' of Understanding with the cities of Dunsmuir and Dorris for law enforcement services, were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

Agriculture

Approve the agreement for Nursery Inspections between the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture. Authorize the auditor to establish budget.

Agriculture

Approve and accept the first amendment agreement between the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Siskiyou County Department of Agriculture and authorize the auditor to appropriate budget.

Community Development - Planning Division

Approve, and authorize the Chair to sign, the 3rd Addendum to the contract between the Siskiyou County Community Development Department and Lynn M. Cottier for hearing officer services.

Community Development - Planning Division

Approve, and authorize the Chair to sign, the 2nd Addendum to the contract between the Siskiyou County Community Development Department and Vestra Resources, Inc.

Community Development - Planning Division

Approve Resolution 25-85 Delegating Authority for the Application and Acceptance of Grants from CalRecycle on behalf of Siskiyou County.

County Administration

Ratify the letter to the Honorable Nick Schultz, opposing Assembly Bill 793: Potentially dangerous and vicious dogs: designation and disposition: burden of proof.

County Administration

Approve the all-County rate contract between the County of Siskiyou and iSecure, Information Security, Inc. for a 5-year term ending June 30, 2030.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

County Administration

Approve a new five-year rate contract with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for legal services related to personnel matters. Payment shall not exceed amount appropriated by the Board of Supervisors for such services for each fiscal year.

County Counsel

Approve the Professional Services Agreement with Serviam by Wright, LLP, in the amount of \$75,000, and authorize the Board chair to execute same.

District Attorney

Approve amendment to existing service agreement between California Department of Justice and Siskiyou County District Attorney's Office for forensic alcohol analysis for the term of continuous with compensation at Rate .01 and delegate signature authority to J. Kirk Andrus, District Attorney.

District Attorney

Approve rate contract for Sexual Assault Response Team services with Abigail McLain-Smith, RN, for term of November 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027.

Dunsmuir Recreation and Parks District

Approve Resolution 25-86 for a temporary loan in the amount of \$90,000 to the Dunsmuir Recreation and Parks District, which loan shall be repaid to the County on or before April 10, 2026.

Facilities Management - Courthouse and Grounds

Accept the Notice of Completion for the Siskiyou County Community Development Fire Rehab project with Belfor USA Group, Inc., authorizing the Board Chair to sign and directing the Clerk of the Board to record the notice with the Assessor-Recorder within five days.

General County Fire

Adopt the attached Resolution 25-87 and authorize County Fire Warden Greg Roath to execute the FEPP Agreement.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve the 1st addendum to the contract with Lawrence & Associates, Inc., to extend the contract until June 30, 2028, and add funds of \$260,379.00 for a total contract amount of \$515,358.00.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve 3rd Addendum to the contract with Yreka Transfer, LLC. to provide metal hauling from Black Butte Transfer Station. This is to extend the contract until June 30, 2026. This is a rate contract.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve 2nd addendum to the contract with Yreka Transfer, LLC to provide waste hauling from Tulelake and Happy Camp. This extends the contract until June 30, 2026. This is a rate contract.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve the 6th addendum to the Contract with Scott Valley Disposal, Inc., to extend the contract until June 30, 2028 and add funds by the CPI with a maximum of 3% and a minimum of 1%. The total compensation for the term of the contract shall increase to an amount not to exceed \$721,746.43.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve this 12th and final addendum to the George Chambers contract with a term ending on June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$2,760,276.43.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve rate contract with Recology Ashland Inc. and allow the Auditor to establish budget.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the First Addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Crisis Support Services of Alameda County, for the term July 1, 2025, commencing through June 30, 2026. Continued...

Consent Agenda - (continued)

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the First Addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Crisis Support Services of Alameda County, for the term July 1, 2025, commencing through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Governing Board Resolution 25-88 with the State of California – Health and Human Services Agency – California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division, funding for the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP), State General Fund (SGF) Evidence Based Home Visiting (EBHV) Funding Award for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-2026, to increase the number of families participating in the five EBHV models, 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 the allocation of \$429,697.00, with spending authority through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division

Approve the Resolution 25-89 for contract between the California Department of Public Health, Tuberculosis Control Branch and Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Division and authorize the CAO to sign Standard Agreement Amendment (STD 213) and authorize the Auditor to establish budget appropriation.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Contract between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and Kevin Kimple for the full term July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.

Probation

Approve First Addendum between Siskiyou County Probation and Dr. Bruce Ebert for juvenile psychological evaluations extending the term through June 30, 2026.

Sheriff

Approve contract with Dan Purtzer, MD to provide forensic pathologist services, at the rates identified in the contract, for the term July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028.

Sheriff

Approve Master Services Agreement with Flock Group, Inc for equipment lease, ongoing software support and license plate readers for a total not to exceed \$84,460 for the term July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.

Weed Recreation and Parks District

Adopt Resolution 25-90 directing the County Treasurer to temporarily loan funds to the Weed Recreation and Parks District, in the amount of \$100,000, which loan shall be repaid to the County on or before April 10, 2026.

Transfer of Funds - Airport - \$21,100. Resolution 25-91 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Airport - \$39,500. Resolution 25-92 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Covid19 ELC Enhancing Detection - CDPH - \$223,481.48. Resolution 25-93 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Covid19 ELC Enhancing Detect Expansion - \$465,531.31. Resolution 25-94 adopted

Transfer of Funds -Health and Human Services - \$11,018. Resolution 25-95 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Probation - \$4,000. Resolution 25-96 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Probation - \$9,900. Resolution 25-97 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Scott Valley Airport - \$19,400. Resolution 25-98 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Sheriff - \$9,500. Resolution 25-99 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Sheriff - \$44,400. Resolution 25-100 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Sheriff - \$1,978. Resolution 25-101 adopted.

Transfer of Funds -Sheriff - \$66,000. Resolution 25-102 adopted.

Sheriff - Approve addendum to Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement to provide law enforcement services to the City of Dunsmuir, increasing compensation by \$416,000 to a total not to exceed \$2,496,000 and extending the term through June 30, 2025. Approved.

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

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the cost to revenue ratio related to the services provided to the cities of Dunsmuir and Dorris by the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue appeared before the Board, addressing Supervisor Kobseff's concerns. Sheriff LaRue advised of the efforts made to develop the law enforcement contract with local cities. Discussion followed between members of the Board, Sheriff LaRue and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding the need to track the services provided, possible liabilities and litigation concerns and potential revision of contracts with regard to insurance and liability coverage.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSTAINING, to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the 3rd Addendum to the Agreement for Dispatch, Records and Law Enforcement Services between the Sheriff's Office and the City of Dunsmuir, to extend the terms through June 30th, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$2,496,000.00.

Sheriff - Approve addendum to Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement to provide law enforcement services to the City of Dorris, increasing compensation by \$219,252 to a total not to exceed \$1,315,512 and extending the term through June 30, 2025. Approved. Kobseff is concerned that the cost to revenue is not equal to services provided to the cities of Dunsmuir and Dorris. Approved.

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

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the cost to revenue ratio related to the services provided to the cities of Dunsmuir and Dorris by the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue appeared before the Board, addressing Supervisor Kobseff concerns. Sheriff LaRue advised of the efforts made to develop the law enforcement contract with local cities.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Sheriff LaRue and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding the need to track the services provided, possible liabilities and litigation concerns and potential revision of contracts with regard to insurance and liability coverage.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSTAINING, to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the third addendum to the MOU for law enforcement services between the City of Dorris and the Sheriff's Office for the term July 1st, 2024-June 30th, 2025 in the amount of \$1,315,515.00.

Public Works - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution declaring the Board of Supervisors' intent to change the names of certain County roads containing the term "Squaw" and to set the time and date for a public hearing on the proposed road name changes, for "Squaw Valley Road" and "Squaw Valley Loop Road" in/around the community of McCloud. Motion failed; Resolution was not adopted.

Director of Public Works Tom Deany appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the request to adopt a Resolution and set a public hearing in order for Public Works to move forward with the name changes for "Squaw Valley Road" and "Squaw Valley Loop Rd"

In response to Supervisor Haupt, Mr. Deany advised that no local Tribes had shared concerns regarding the proposed road name changes.'

Supervisor Harris voiced opposition to changing the names, and cited a first amendment violation.

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Public Works – (continued)

Following brief discussion between members of the Board and Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham regarding the proposed public hearing date of July 8, 2025, it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela and seconded by Supervisor Ogren to adopt a resolution of intention to change road names "Squaw Valley Road" and "Squaw Valley Loop Road", set a date for public hearing of July 8, 2025, and authorize the Department of Public Works to provide notice in accordance with law. Following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela and Ogren voting YES and Supervisors Haupt, Harris and Kobseff voting NO, the motion failed.

General County Fire - Presentation of the 2024 Annual Report of the Siskiyou County Fire Departments, including response totals for fire, medical, and other emergency responses. Presentation and discussion only.

Siskiyou County Fire Warden/CalFire Chief Greg Roath and Siskiyou County Fire Chiefs Association President Bernie Paul appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the 2024 Annual Report concerning fire departments with the County activities.

Mr. Roath and Mr. Paul shared concerns regarding the need for equipment upgrades and volunteer shortages and summarized efforts being made to address both issues. Paul voiced concerns regarding hazardous material issues during fires located in 'the Vistas', specifically foreign/Chinese fumigants and the need for public outreach, education and development of safety alerts.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Mr. Roath and Mr. Paul, regarding efforts to consolidate services and the need to encourage documenting firefighter exposure to hazardous materials.

Further discussion followed regarding various firefighting successes, including newer radios, battery-powered Jaws of Life and improved gear and struggles, including the lack of volunteers and newer equipment that meets OSHA standards.

Additionally, discussion followed regarding the recent fire in the Shasta Vista Subdivision (The Vistas), concerns regarding potentially hazardous materials that firefighters were exposed to during the firefighting efforts and the need to consider an emergency declaration associated with the severity of the hazardous materials.

Mr. Paul summarized training efforts and shared concerns that OSHA had changed requirements for 'turnout' gear which could negatively impact local fire departments.

Discussion followed a change in the Sphere of Influence coverage area (700,000 square miles), the need to contact local legislators regarding funding to cover that large Sphere of Influence and the need to reconsider a County-wide Fire entity, including public outreach efforts and the possible grant funding that could support the costs associated with required additional 'turnout' gear. Supervisor Haupt advised of the need to research the County's Public Health Officer role with regard to the firefighters' exposure to the chemicals. Paul advised of working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding training opportunities.

Mr. Roath advised that firefighters are notified by their Incident Command (IC) when dangerous materials are present. Regarding training allowed regarding the need to consolidate service agents, to request a visit from the EPA, support for an emergency declaration ongoing investigations regarding the causes of recent fires, the need for the final investigation reports to be provided to members of the Board, the potential for ecological issues related to the hazardous materials and the benefits associated with firefighters reporting/documenting exposure to those chemicals. Supervisor Harris shared concerns that local residents/constituents being exposed to those chemicals when they burn and risks to local communities.

Appointments – County Clerk – Appointment of three members to the scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Planning Commission for Supervisorial Districts 1, 2 and 4 representatives, with terms ending June 30, 2029. Blair Hart, Tony Melo, and Dusty Veale were appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that incumbents, Blair Hart District 1 representative, Tony Melo District 2 representative and Dusty Veale District 4 representative were interested in reappointment.

Continued...

Appointments – County Clerk – (continued)

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, Seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela, and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Blair Hart District 1 representative, Tony Melo District 2 representative and Dusty Veale District 4 representative to the scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Planning Commission for Supervisorial Districts 1, 2 and 4 representatives, with terms ending June 30, 2029.

Appointments – County Clerk - Appointment of one member to the unscheduled vacancy on the PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, for a four-year term effective the date of appointment. Genevieve Eller appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that local resident Genevieve Eller was interested in the appointment and members of the PSA 2 Advisory Council and Executive Board were in support of her appointment.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, Seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela, and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Genevieve Eller to the unscheduled vacancy on the PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, for a four-year term effective June 17, 2025, through June 17, 2029.

Appointments – County Clerk - Appointment of three alternate members to the scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Assessment Appeals Board, with terms ending September 4, 2028 and September 3, 2029. Continued to a later date.

Chair Ogren continued this item at the request of Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham, as the Clerk's Office had not received any letters of interest in serving.

Minute Approval – June 3, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, that the June 3, 2025 minutes are approved as presented.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Continued public hearing for the second reading of an Ordinance reclassifying approximately 640 acres of land south and west of the City of Yreka, from Non-Prime Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (AG-2-B-40) and Rural Residential Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (R-R-B-40) to Timberland Production District (TPZ) on APNs 014-200-040 and 014-200-050; Township 44 North, Range 8 West, Section 1, MDB&M and consider a Resolution approving the cancellation of a portion of Williamson Act Contract No. 72025, on the rezone to Timberland Production Zone for the Bennett Zone Change (Z2403) and partial Williamson Act Contract Cancellation Project. Ordinance 25-04 and Resolution 25-103 adopted

This was the time set for a continued public hearing for the second reading of an Ordinance reclassifying approximately 640 acres of land south and west of the City of Yreka, from Non-Prime Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (AG-2-B-40) and Rural Residential Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (R-R-B-40) to Timberland Production District (TPZ) on APNs 014-200-040 and 014-200-050; Township 44 North, Range 8 West, Section 1, MDB&M and consider a Resolution approving the cancellation of a portion of Williamson Act Contract No. 72025, on the rezone to Timberland Production Zone for the Bennett Zone Change (Z2403) and partial Williamson Act Contract Cancellation Project, having been introduced on June 3, 2025.

Assistant Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to rezone approximately 640 acres from Non-Prime Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (AG-2-B-40) and Rural Residential Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (R-R-B-40) to Timberland Production District (TPZ). Ms. Cizin advised that the requirements for inclusion into TPZ per Government code Section 51113.5. Additionally, Ms. Cizin advised that no correspondence related to the issue had been received and that the project was considered by the Planning Commission at a public hearing on March 19, 2025, and voted to adopt a Resolution recommending that the Board determine the project exempt from CEQA and approve the proposed Zone Change (Z-4-03).

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Public Hearings – (continued)

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

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

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to determine the project exempt from CEQA in accordance with Section 15264; and waive the second reading of the draft ordinance amending Zoning District Map 10-6.205-250; and adopt the draft Ordinance 25-04 amending Zoning District Map 10-6.205-250; and adopt the draft Resolution 25-103 cancelling the subject property from the Williamson Act Contract.

Public Hearings - County Administration - Public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Recommended Budget as presented, of which includes but not limited to; County Department budgets, Committed Accounts, Fixed Assets, Capital Improvements, Contribution to Others, Statement of Salaries and adoption of a Resolution amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule and Position Allocation List. FY 2025-2026 Recommended County Budget adopted as presented; Resolution 25-104 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule Resolution adopted.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Recommended Budget as presented, of which includes but not limited to; County Department budgets, Committed Accounts, Fixed Assets, Capital Improvements, Contribution to Others, Statement of Salaries and adoption of a Resolution amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule and Position Allocation List.

Chair Ogren opened public hearing.

Deputy County Administrator - Chief Fiscal Officer Sherry Lawson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the FY 2025/2026 budget, advising that increases in insurance and other costs and revenue that was not keeping pace impacted the final budget figures.

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

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

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Lawson regarding possible methods to generate/increase revenue, possible County departments' increasing fee schedules, efforts to decrease fixed costs (i.e. health care, etc.), previous discussions regarding possible changing from CalPERS for health insurance coverage and the possible \$10 million deficit next year.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren, YES, to adopt the FY 2025-2026 Recommended County Budget as presented, adopt Resolution 25-104 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule and Position Allocation List, adopt the Statement of Salaries, authorize the Auditor to establish budget upon approval by County Administration, to fund allocated vacant positions as requested by the respective department, and issue a countywide directive instructing departments to implement fee increases for services where justified by cost analysis.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Harris advised of his attendance at a Dorris Lyons Club meeting, a Farm Bureau meeting and the Economic Development Council Spring Meeting.

Supervisor Ogren advised of participating in a prescribed burn at Yreka's Greenhorn Park, her attendance at a Continuum of Care (CoC) meeting, a wildfire resilience meeting, a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) meeting, and collaborative PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and Executive Board meeting and a Economic Development Council meeting.

Closed Session – Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), four cases, conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4), one case, commenced at 11:01 a.m., concluded at 12:46 p.m., with action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 12:46 p.m., with reportable action taken.

In regard to Item 12.A., Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Kevin Loynachan, et al., v. Darlene Smiley, in her official capacity as a law enforcement officer for Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Sacramento Division, Case No. 2:22-cv-00841-WBS-JDP, Ms. Reed advised that. Supervisor Ogren recused herself and left the Board's closed session chambers at 11:46 a.m. and returning at 12:03 pm.

In regard to Item 12.C., Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Jason Mark Gillis v. County of Siskiyou, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Sacramento Division, Case No. 2:25-cv-01490, Ms. Reed advised that it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela and seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried with a unanimous vote of YES to authorize defense of suit and representation by the law firm of Marie & Deedon.

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

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Nancy Ogren, Chair

By: _____
Deputy