

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, September 16, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 16th day of September 2025; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Nancy Ogren and Ray A. Haupt, Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson, 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 Michael N. Kobseff was absent.

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 Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Supervisor Harris led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), one case, commenced at concluded at 8:30 a.m., concluded at 9:01 a.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 9:01 a.m., with no reportable action taken. In addition, Ms. Reed advised that the balance of the closed session would be taken up at the end of the meeting.

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

Presentations from the Public

Audience members Jessica Vickers, Neal Aronson and Renee Klous appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the minimal number of hours and minimum wage paid to In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) care providers and requesting that the County consider approving increased pay.

Butte County resident Julie Threet and audience member Ronald F. Owens Jr. appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the negative impacts associated with the COVID-19 vaccine, warning of the dangers of the vaccine and requesting that the County stop administering the vaccine to members of the public.

County resident Jim Salequi appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the lack of a collective bargaining agreement with IHSS care providers and requested that the County approve a contract with a reasonable cost of living increase.

County resident Sarah Quintana presented and summarized a one-page letter of concerns regarding the lack of an agreement with IHSS care providers that provides pay above the minimum wage level.

Participation in presentations from the public was provided via teleconference phone.

Caller SEIU 2015 Manager/Coordinator Leticia Guerrero spoke in support of the County and local IHSS care providers coming to an agreement, including an increase above the current minimum wage.

Local resident and IHSS care provider Sherry Kay appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the minimum wage pay for IHSS care providers and requesting that the County come to an agreement.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

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

County Administration

Approve the 5th Amendment to the contract with AccuSource. The amendment extends the term through August 9, 2026 and incorporates an annual data and security fee of \$50.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

County Administration

Approve contract with Language Line Services, Inc to provide interpreting services via telephone. This is a rate contract for the term beginning September 17, 2025 through September 30, 2030.

County Administration

Ratify a letter to Governor Gavin Newsom urging a veto of AB 339 (Ortega), revising contracting standards for local governments.

County Administration

Authorize and sign the letter to Director Ward providing an update on the pesticide amnesty program and reporting injuries sustained by first responders from the illegal use of pesticides at illicit cannabis operations.

County Administration - Personnel

Adopt Resolution 25-155 authorizing the Department of Public Works approval, oversight and/or signature authority to the Deputy Director of Road/Bridge Services Division in the absence of the Director of Public Works.

County Library

Approve acceptance of the \$1,200 from NorthNet Library System to be used for staff development and authorize Auditor to establish budget.

Facilities Management – Courthouse and Grounds

Award the Public Works Contract to World Telecom & Surveillance, Inc and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Contract (for Government Center IT upgrades).

General Services - Airports

Authorize the Chair to execute the Ground Lease between the County of Siskiyou and Richard F. Marshall, Inc. at Scott Valley Airport for the term of April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2030.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve 1st Addendum rate contract with Northstate Recycling, Inc., to provide metal recycling at the Oberlin Road Transfer Station and Black Butte Transfer Station, and extend the term of the contract through November 30, 2027.

General Services- Sanitation

Authorize the County Treasurer to establish a Depository Account for General Services to deposit payments made at the Oberlin and Black Butte Transfer Stations, with an initial deposit of \$100.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Addendum between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency - Behavioral Health Division and Etna Police Activities League.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 2nd Amendment to the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Lotus Educational Services to extend the term of the agreement to June 30, 2026, and authorize additional compensation to increase the total Not to Exceed amount to Sixty-Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars and no/100 cents.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and Cal MHSA for the term commencing January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Addendum between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency - Behavioral Health Division and Siskiyou Union High School District.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Addendum for the Contract of Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Happy Camp Community Action, Inc.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Karuk Tribe for the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority for the term commencing 1 July 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the Third Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding between SCHSA and the Siskiyou County District Attorney to increase the staff levels from one 1.5 FTE to up to 1.90 FTE, effective June 22, 2025. The term of Memorandum of Understanding remains effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027.

Transfer of Funds - General Services - \$130,793. Resolution 25-156 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Library - \$1,200. Resolution 25-157 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - HPP Base - \$911. Resolution 25-158 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$730. Resolution 25-159 adopted.

Public Works - Discussion, direction and possible action re an Urgency Ordinance amending Section 3-4.606 of Article 6 of Chapter 4 of Title 3 of the Siskiyou County Code regarding a speed limit reduction from 55 MPH to 35 MPH on Machado Lane from Mile Post 0.00 to Mile Post 2.30. Ordinance 25-05 adopted.

Pursuant to Government Code §25131 a proposed urgency ordinance amending Section 3-4.606 of Article 6 of Chapter 4 of Title 3 of the Siskiyou County Code regarding a speed limit reduction from 55 MPH to 35 MPH on Machado Lane from Mile Post 0.00 to Mile Post 2.30 was introduced.

Public Works Deputy Director of Roads and Bridges Garrett Richardson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to adopt an Ordinance that would reduce the speed limit on Machado Lane from 55 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Richardson regarding the traffic study that was conducted in July 2025 and the location of the requested speed limit reduction.

Machado Lane residents Michele Machado Woods and John Machado appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding potential negative impacts associated with speeding drivers on Machado Lane and spoke in support of the proposed speed limit reduction.

Further discussion followed between members of the Board and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding the urgency ordinance process.

Ms. Reed recommended the addition of 'Declaration of Urgency' and 'and declares that there is a current and immediate threat to public health and safety absent this reduction' within Ordinance Section III.

In response to Supervisor Haupt, Ms. Reed advised that the Ordinance would take permanent effect upon adoption.

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to approve and adopt Urgency Ordinance 25-05 amending Section 3-4.606 to reduce the speed limit on Machado Lane (County Road 6L002) from 55 mph to 35 mph from Post Mile 0.00 to Post Mile 2.30.

County Administration – Personnel - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution adopting the comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding with the Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Miscellaneous Unit and implementing the provisions thereof and Resolution amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule, effective September 28, 2025, September 27, 2026 and September 26, 2027 for same. Resolutions 25-160 and 25-161 adopted.

Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson provided an overview of the request to adopt Resolutions approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Miscellaneous Unit and one approving amendment to the associated Salary Schedule.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to adopt Resolution 25-160 regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Siskiyou and Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Miscellaneous Unit, effective September 28, 2025 and adopt Resolution 25-161 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule as outlined in the attached resolution Attachment A.

County Administration – Personnel - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution adopting the comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding with the Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Management Unit and implementing the provisions thereof and Resolution amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule, effective September 28, 2025, September 27, 2026 and September 26, 2027 for same. Resolutions 25-162 and 25-163 adopted.

Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson provided an overview of the request to adopt Resolutions approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Management Unit and one approving amendment to the associated Salary Schedule.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to adopt Resolution 25-162 regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Siskiyou and Organized Employees of Siskiyou County – Management Unit, effective September 28, 2025 and adopt Resolution 25-163 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule as outlined in the attached resolution Attachment A.

County Administration – Personnel - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to set a public hearing on local public employee vacant positions and recruitment and retention efforts, as required by Assembly Bill 2561. Public hearing set on October 7, 2025.

Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson provided an overview of the request to set a public hearing on October 7, 2025 as required by Assembly Bill (AB) 2561 in order to review and discuss local public employee vacant positions and recruitment/retention efforts.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to set a public hearing to comply with AB 2561 on October 7, 2025.

Minute Approval - September 2, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to approve the September 2, 2025 minutes as presented.

Public Hearings - Budget Hearing - County Administration - Public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget. Resolutions 25-164 and 25-165 adopted.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget.

Chair Ogren opened the public hearing.

Deputy County Administrator - Chief Fiscal Officer Sherry Lawson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the FY 2025/2026 Adopted budget, advising that the final budget figures hadn't changed significantly from those presented at Recommended Budget.

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Public Hearings - Budget Hearing – (continued)

In addition, Ms. Lawson summarized efforts made to balance the 25/26 budget and shared concerns that various budget balancing options would not be available in the future. Ms. Lawson reminded the Board of the directive that County departments review/revise their fee schedules in an effort to potentially revenues and briefly summarized the status of Non General funds.

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

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

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to adopt Resolution 25-164 which adopts the FY 2025-2026 Siskiyou County Budget and approves all additions and deletions to the Recommended Budget for FY 2025-2026, 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 \$463,890,209; adopt Resolution 25-165 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule and Position Allocation list and new job classifications; adopt the County Statement of Allocated Positions and Salary Schedules and authorize the Auditor to establish budget for vacant positions upon approval by County Administration.

Public Hearings - Community Development – Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for substandard parcels under Williamson Act Contract No. 71019 for the Friden Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2501) project, located south and west of the city of Fort Jones, including discussion, direction and possible action re options for proposed Williamson Act rescission/reentry and Agricultural Preserve amendment. Continued to October 7, 2025.

This was the time set for a public continued hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for substandard parcels under Williamson Act Contract No. 71019 for the Friden Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2501) project, located south and west of the city of Fort Jones, including discussion, direction and possible action re options for proposed Williamson Act rescission/reentry and Agricultural Preserve amendment, having been continued from August 5, 2025.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and requested continuation of the public hearing to the next regular Board meeting.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to continue the public hearing to October 7, 2025.

Public Hearings - Community Development – Planning Division - Continued public hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for substandard parcels under Williamson Act Contract No. 75008 for the Martin Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2505) project, located north and east of the community of Big Springs, including discussion, direction and possible action re options for proposed Williamson Act rescission/reentry and Agricultural Preserve amendment. Continued to October 7, 2025.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for substandard parcels under Williamson Act Contract No. 75008 for the Martin Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2505) project, located north and east of the community of Big Springs, including discussion, direction and possible action re options for proposed Williamson Act rescission/reentry and Agricultural Preserve amendment, having been continued from August 5, 2025.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and requested continuation of the public hearing to the next regular Board meeting.

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

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to continue the public hearing to October 7, 2025.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Pubic hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for properties under Williamson Act Contract Nos. 71064B, 92015A, 92015B, 72025B and 71011, Project AGN-25-01, for various Assessor Parcel Nos. identified in the Resolution for locations east of the City of Etna, west of the City of Yreka and north of the City of Etna. Resolution 25-166 adopted.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider a Resolution directing staff to issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for properties under Williamson Act Contract Nos. 71064B, 92015A, 92015B, 72025B and 71011, Project AGN-25-01, for various Assessor Parcel Nos. identified in the Resolution for locations east of the City of Etna, west of the City of Yreka and north of the City of Etna.

Chair Ogren opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to authorize issuance of Non-renewal for five separate Williamson Act Contracts that no longer met the requirements of the Siskiyou County Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts (Guidelines). Ms. Cizin advised that acreage under three contracts for the Whipple property was dedicated to open space with no commercial agricultural uses occurring. In addition, Ms. Cizin advised that the primary use of the Caswell property changed from ranching to timber production (tree nursery) and that the Whiteland/Walker property had no commercial agricultural use occurring as the property was dedicated to timber production. Ms. Cizin further advised that Whiteland/Walker property owners submitted an application to rezone the property to Timber Production Zoning (TPZ) and that Non-renewal of the Williamson Act Contract(s) was the first step in the process to rezone. Ms. Cizin advised that the Contract(s) would be canceled upon completion of the rezone. Ms. Cizin recommended that the project be considered categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15317 and 15061(b)(3), Open Space Contracts or Easements and the 'commonsense' exception.

In response to the Chair, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office had not received any correspondence related to 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 Non-renewal process in relation to the request to rezone the Whiteland and Walker property to TPZ, it was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT to adopt Resolution 25-166 directing staff to Issue a Notice of Non-Renewal for property under Williamson Act Contracts No. 71064B, 92015A, 92015B, 72025B, 71011, and hereby taking the following actions: the Board of Supervisors determine that the proposed issuance of Non-Renewals of Williamson Act contracts is categorically exempt under Section 15317 and 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and authorize staff to process the Notice of Non-Renewals with any changes directed by the Board.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of his attendance at a California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board meeting, a job fair in Mt. Shasta and his participation in a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) meeting and an Air Pollution Control District meeting.

Supervisor Harris advised of his attendance at a townhall meeting in Copco Lake regarding the Copco Road repaving project and an event for Steve Hilton candidate for California Governor.

Supervisor Haupt advised of his participation in a meeting regarding stewardship proposals (Forest Service and private entities' fuels reduction), a meeting regarding Pine Mountain Lakes proposal update, a meeting regarding the County's Williamson Act Program and a townhall meeting in Copco Lake regarding the Copco Road repaving project.

Continued...

Board and Staff Reports

In addition, Supervisor Haupt advised of participating in a tour concerning the Scott Valley, Scott River and various fisheries issues, a Cattleman's tour of the Hale Dairy and an event for Steve Hilton candidate for California Governor.

Supervisor Ogren advised of her attendance at a Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) meeting, an Air Pollution Control District meeting, a Conservative Republican luncheon, a PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging Executive Board meeting, a Cattleman's tour of the Hale Dairy, a Continuum of Care (COC) meeting, an Interstate 5 (I-5) wildlife overcrossing field visit, a California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) Annual Conference planning meeting, a CALAFCO meeting and a Teen Challenge fundraising event. In addition, Supervisor Ogren advised of plans to attend an upcoming Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Annual Meeting.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), two cases, commenced at 10:27 a.m., concluded at 10:37 a.m., with action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 10:37 a.m., with the following reportable action taken.

With regard to item 2B, Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, United States District Court for Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1-17-MD-2804, Ms. Reed advised that it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried with a vote of YES by Supervisors Ogren, Harris, Haupt and Valenzuela with Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT, to authorize County Counsel to execute the participation form and any other agreements or documents needed to participate in the Secondary Manufacturers Opioid Settlement.

With regard to item 2C, Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Estate of Matthew Elkin, et al. v. County of Siskiyou, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:25-CV-01546-TLN-DMC, it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela and seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried with a vote of YES by Supervisor Ogren, Haupt, Harris and Valenzuela with Supervisor Kobseff ABSENT, to authorize defense of suit and representation by outside defense counsel, anticipated to be either the firm of Marie & Deedon or Porter Scott.

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