

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, January 6, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 6th day of January 2026; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren and Ray A. Haupt, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel F. Dean Morgan 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 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, Siskiyou Power Authority, County Service Area 3, County Service Area 4 and In Home Supportive Services Public Authority. County Administrator Angela Davis led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

A moment of silence was observed to honor District 1 Congressman Doug LaMalfa who passed away.

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

Board of Supervisors' Requests - County Clerk/Board of Supervisors - Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2026. Supervisor Haupt elected Chair and Supervisor Harris elected Vice Chair for 2026.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Harris, Kobseff, Ogren and Valenzuela voting YES, to elect Supervisor Haupt as Chair and Supervisor Harris as Vice Chair for 2026.

Board of Supervisors' Requests - County Clerk/Board of Supervisors - Grant County Officials permission to leave the State of California and the United States during 2026. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to grant County Officials permission to leave the State of California and the United States during 2026.

Presentations from the Public

There were no presentations from the public.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, item 6F, Public Health Division's request to accept award from the California Department of Public Health 26-31 STI Prevention and Collaboration allocation was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

County Administration

Ratify a letter to Congressman LaMalfa and Congressman Bentz expressing support for H.R. 845 and requesting continued efforts to advance the legislation.

Facilities Management

Approve the Third Addendum to Service Contract with Elevator Technology, Inc. and authorize the Auditor's office to establish budget.

General Services - Airports

Approve the First Addendum to the Contract between Ronald S. Whipple and the County and authorize the Chair to sign.

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Consent Agenda – (continued)

General Services- Sanitation

Approve the 2nd addendum to the contract with Lawrence & Associates, Inc., to change the scope of services and add additional compensation. The contract revises the amounts to be \$126,278 for FY 25/26, \$156,722 for FY 26/27, and \$148,644 for FY 27/28. This amends the compensation under the contract to a total not to exceed \$682,638.00 for the term of the Contract.

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 His Ideas, Inc. d/b/a Children First Foster Family Agency for the term commencing December 1 2025 through June 30, 2028.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Authorize the Social Services Department to accept the direct allocation from CETF, in the amount of \$15,000, to be used as outlined above. Authorize the Director of Social Services to execute any necessary documents related to the funds and authorize the Auditor's Office to establish budget in coordination with Social Services.

Information Technology

Authorize the renewal of the Microsoft three-year contract that entitles the County to continue using Microsoft software. Authorize the Director of Information Technology to execute the agreement and associated documents.

Office of Emergency Services

Adopt Resolution 26- 01 authorizing the County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator, Director of Emergency Services and Auditor to execute on behalf of Siskiyou County any actions necessary to obtain and administer grant funding provided by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Listos Program.

Office of Emergency Services

Approve the 2025-2027 Siskiyou County Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) as written and authorize the Board Chair to sign.

Probation Department

Approve Health Management Associates, Inc as a sole source vendor for consulting services to Siskiyou County Probation Department for Path 3 Grant CalAIM Justice Involved 90 day reentry initiative. Authorize the Board Chair to execute the Master Services Agreement, and authorize the Chief Probation Officer to execute the Statement of Work Attachment #1 to Master Services Agreement.

Public Defender

Approve Third Addendum to contract with Karpel Solutions, Inc., increasing the contract by \$9,750 to a total not to exceed amount of \$68,900.

Sheriff

Approve the contract for services between the County and Bennett Omalu Pathology, LLC at the rates identified in Exhibit "A" of the Contract from November 18, 2025 through June 30, 2027. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Sheriff

Ratify the Sheriffs Office application to Season of Justice in the amount of \$11,075.00 for the 2026 first quarter application window. If awarded, approve the Sheriff to act as the signing authority on any documents issued by Season of Justice and carry out the permissions of the program.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

Transfer of Funds - District Attorney - Public Administrator - \$10,000. Resolution 26-02 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - General County Fire - \$100,000. Resolution 26-03 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$16,222. Resolution 26-04 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$33,531. Resolution 26-05 adopted.

Public Requests - North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board - Presentation re development of new Water Quality Regulations for commercial agriculture in the Scott and Shasta Watersheds. Presentation and discussion only.

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Scott and Shasta Watershed Steward Eli Scott appeared before the Board and introduced Engineering Geologist Brenna Sullivan.

Mr. Scott presented a powerpoint concerning development of new Water Quality Regulations for commercial agriculture in the Scott and Shasta Watersheds, including the presentation topics (purpose of the draft order, the past program, public outreach opportunities). Mr. Scott provided an overview of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) related to federal listing of water impairment from sediment, temperature, biostimulatory conditions and dissolved oxygen for the Scott and Shasta River Watersheds and summarized the Scott and Shasta Water Quality Program timeline starting in 2001. Mr. Scott additionally provided a history of the TMDL Conditional Waivers of General Waste Discharge Requirements for each watershed and reasons for revising those waivers. Continuing the powerpoint, Mr. Scott summarized development of a new order, including creation of a Technical Team and a Regulatory Team, the process for Tribal consultation and outreach and creation of the Technical Advisory Group and those entities involved. Mr. Scott summarized the enrollment criteria for those commercial agriculture producers/water users that would be affected and proposed prohibitions related to discharge of tailwater, riparian grazing and tillage near the waterside edge of a watercourse. Mr. Scott provided an overview of anticipated farm evaluation process to identify and control Water Quality Threats (WQTs) and an overview of site adaptive management cycle and additionally summarized the Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan process. Mr. Scott provided an overview of coalitions that enrollees may join, what coalitions would be responsible for and significant reduction in fees by joining a coalition.

In response to members of the Board regarding coalitions and associated fees, Ms. Sullivan appeared before the Board, advising that similar programs within the State utilize coalitions that can be formed by certain entities (i.e. growers, farm bureaus, resource conservation districts, non-governmental organizations (NGOs)).

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Sullivan regarding the fee structure set within the State Water Board's fee branch, the potential significant reduction in fees (set by the State) by being a member of a coalition, benefits that can be gained by being member of a coalition (i.e. confidentiality with regard to grower information), coalitions that may charge administrative fees for being a member and the Regional Water Board's ability to facilitate discussions between producers and potential coalitions regarding the State Water Board's fees.

Members of the Board voiced concerns regarding the need to enroll in a new program and the potential to force agricultural producers to enroll in coalitions in order to benefit from the significant fee reduction.

Ms. Sullivan continued the powerpoint, including an overview of state requirements for agriculture (i.e. nitrogen budgeting, drinking water well testing and groundwater monitoring), possible exemptions and methods for collecting certain data.

Continuing the powerpoint, Mr. Scott provided an overview of upcoming public outreach events and proposed schedule for development of the new order, including outreach events, farm tours, public comment draft releases and potential adoption in spring of 2027.

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Public Requests - North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board – (continued)

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Scott regarding tailwater Best Management Practices (BMPs), sediment and nitrate concerns, potential contamination from illegal cannabis cultivation in the Shasta Watershed, the need for data regarding the soil and geology of the area with regard to contamination percolation in the area, water quality protection for fish and public health, concerns regarding loss of fish fingerlings from gas bubble disease after dam removal, possible input from the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force and California Water Code/law that dictates the need for permitting plans for certain discharges.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding possible negative impacts of and oversight on illegal agricultural use.

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Assistant Executive Officer Claudia Villacorta appeared before the Board, advising that due to limited resources the Water Board concentrates cannabis and other illegal agriculture activities in areas with the highest public water quality threat.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the potential to create another bureaucracy and still not see a larger number of fish returning to the systems. Supervisor Kobseff further shared concerns regarding the need to consider ocean conditions and international fishing boundaries with regard to out migrants and returning spawners into the systems.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Scott regarding water quality for juvenile fish, concerns regarding negative impacts to the County's economy associated with certain legislation, the need to recognize voluntary efforts to impact water quality by agricultural water users and efforts being made to address the impact of sediment from wildfires into waterways.

Audience member Ann Steinbring appeared before the Board sharing concerns regarding contact information to have household water tested.

County Administration – Personnel - Discussion, direction and possible action re Proclamation recognizing Director of Community Development Richard Dean for 32 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon his retirement. Proclamation adopted and presented.

Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to adopt a Proclamation recognizing Director of Community Development Richard Dean for 32 years of service at the County.

Supervisor Haupt read the Proclamation into the record.

Members of the Board congratulated and thanked Mr. Dean for his time and efforts at the County in Environmental and Community Development.

Mr. Dean appeared before the Board and thanked the Board, his family and staff for their support during his time at the County.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to approve and adopt the Proclamation congratulating and recognizing Richard Dean for 32 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon his retirement from Siskiyou County.

Members of the Board presented Mr. Dean with the Proclamation.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division - Authorize acceptance of award from the California Department of Public Health 26-31 STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) Prevention and Collaboration allocation, in the amount of \$359,900 for the funding period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2031. Approved.

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

Public Health Division's Fiscal Program Manager Dawn Walton participated via teleconference phone.

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Health and Human Services - Public Health Division – (continued)

In response to Supervisor Kobseff regarding possible Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that a portion of the funding award could support, Ms. Walton advised that a CBO or non-profit health care provider had not been chosen and that there would be a selection process undertaken once acceptance of the award was approved by the Board.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Walton and County Administrator Angela Davis regarding the anticipated timeframe to develop a budget and a provider Request for Proposals (RFP), the need for a CBO or non-profit to be a health care provider within the County, the potential financial impact of not selecting a CBO/non-profit and the process for the Board to consider a future agreement with a selected health care provider.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the 2026-2031 STI Prevention and Collaboration award 26-STI29, from the CDPH, State General Funds (SGF) to support STI Prevention and Collaboration for vulnerable, underserved, Siskiyou County residents at high risk of contracting STIs. The award is for Fiscal Years (FY) 2026, FY2027, FY2028, FY2029 and FY2030. The award is divided equally over the five fiscal years at \$71,980/year for a total award amount of \$359,900.

Board of Supervisors' Requests - Board of Supervisors - Review status of local emergency due to the presence and impact of gray wolves in Siskiyou County as declared by Resolution 25-200, adopted on November 18, 2025; action to extend or terminate local emergency. Local emergency extended.

Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson appeared before the Board and provided a brief update regarding three recent confirmed wolf depredations and the efforts being made to develop signage indicating possible wolf activity in certain areas.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to extend the local emergency due to the presence and impact of gray wolves in Siskiyou County as declared by Resolution 25-200.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of three members to the scheduled vacancies on the Callahan Water District, for terms ending December 3, 2027 and December 7, 2029 to establish a quorum. Hope Evans, Lynda Collins and Cheryl Hayden appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request to fill vacancies on the Callahan Water District in order to establish a quorum.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to appoint Cheryl Hayden to the scheduled vacancy on the Callahan Water District for a term ending December 3, 2027 and appoint Lynda Collins and Hope Evans to the scheduled vacancies on the Callahan Water District for terms ending December 7, 2029 to establish a quorum.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment to various scheduled vacancies on seven Cemetery Districts, for full terms ending January 7, 2030, as follows: Etna Cemetery - three; Fort Jones Cemetery - one; Happy Camp Cemetery - three; Henley-Hornbrook Cemetery – two; Lakeview Cemetery – two; Picard Cemetery – two; and Shasta Valley Cemetery – two. Peggy Whipple, Jeanie Dickinson, Sherry Glendenning, Dion Wood, Bryant Schaffler, Jaron Shellner, Erin Criss, Janet Lutz, Shelley Baldwin, Gary Craddock, Jackie Terwilliger and Donna Bacigalupi appointed to their respective District Boards.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request to fill vacancies on seven cemetery districts with terms ending January 7, 2030. In addition, Ms. Winningham requested that any remaining vacancies be continued to a later date.

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Appointments - County Clerk – (continued)

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to appoint various members to scheduled vacancies on Cemetery District Boards for terms ending January 7, 2030 as follows:

Etna Cemetery District - Peggy Whipple and Jeanie Dickinson appointed;
Fort Jones Cemetery - Sherry Glendenning appointed;
Happy Camp Cemetery - Dion Wood appointed;
Henley-Hornbrook Cemetery - Bryant Schauffler and Jaron Shellner appointed;
Lakeview Cemetery - Erin Criss and Janet Lutz appointed;
Picard Cemetery - Shelley Baldwin and Gary Craddock appointed; and
Shasta Valley Cemetery - Jackie Terwilliger and Donna Bacigalupi appointed.

One vacancy on the Etna Cemetery District and two vacancies on the Happy Camp Cemetery District were continued to a later date.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of three members to the scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Law Library Advisory Board, for one year terms ending December 31, 2026. John Quinn appointed; remaining vacancies continued to a later date.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Wunningham provided an overview of the request, advising that incumbent John Quinn was interested in re-appointment.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to appoint John Quinn to the scheduled vacancy on the Law Library Advisory Board, for a one-year term ending December 31, 2026.

The remaining vacancies were continued to a later date.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of one member to the scheduled vacancy on the Modoc/Siskiyou Community Action Agency Board of Directors, for a year term ending December 31, 2029. Keith Bradley appointed.

Following an overview of the request from Deputy County Clerk Wendy Wunningham, it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to appoint Keith Bradley to the scheduled vacancy on the Modoc Siskiyou Community Action Agency (MSCAA) Board of Directors for a term ending December 31, 2029.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of four members to scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for terms ending December 31, 2028. Earl Chancellor and Paul Contreras appointed; remaining vacancies continued to a later date.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Wunningham provided an overview of the request, advising that incumbents Earl Chancellor and Paul Contreras were interested in re-appointment and requesting to continue the remaining vacancies to a later date.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to appoint Earl Chancellor and Paul Contreras to scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for terms ending December 31, 2028 and continue the remaining vacancies to a later date.

Minute Approval - December 2, 9, 15 and 16, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to approve the December 9, 15 and 16, 2025 minutes as presented.

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

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Minute Approval – (continued)

Supervisor Valenzuela advised that he was absent for the December 2, 2025 Board meeting and should have abstained for the minutes approval vote.

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

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

Public Hearings - County Clerk - Continued public hearing for the second reading of an Ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 2-12.101 Subsection (C) of the Siskiyou County Code regarding County Clerk fees, increasing the Certified Copy of Confidential Marriage License fee by \$2, to \$19. Ordinance 26-01 adopted.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing for the second reading of an Ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 2-12.101 Subsection (C) of the Siskiyou County Code regarding County Clerk fees, increasing the Certified Copy of Confidential Marriage License fee by \$2, to \$19, having been introduced on December 9, 2025.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request to update the Clerk's fee ordinance to correspond with a State fee that would increase amount of a certified copy of a Confidential Marriage License from \$17 to \$19.

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

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

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff, Harris and Haupt voting YES to waive the second reading of and adopt Ordinance 26-01 of the County of Siskiyou Amending Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 2-12.101 Subsection (C) of the Siskiyou County Code regarding the County Clerk Fees.

Board and Staff Reports

There were no Board or Staff reports given.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), two cases, conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), one case, commenced at 11:20 a.m., concluded at 12:13 p.m.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel F. Dean Morgan announced that closed session concluded at 12:13 p.m., with reportable action taken.

With regard to item 18A, Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Scott Branigin v. Siskiyou County, Siskiyou County Superior Court, Case No. 25CV01767, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff and seconded by Supervisor Ogren and with all Supervisors voting YES and no Supervisors voting NO to approve a settlement agreement and delegate authority to the CAO (County Administrator) to execute the agreement.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, the meeting was adjourned in honor of District 1 Congressman Doug LaMalfa who passed away.

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Ray A. Haupt, Chair

By: _____
Deputy

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