

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, August 4, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 4th day of August 2026; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren and Ray A. Haupt, 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 Haupt. 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 and In Home Supportive Services Public Authority. Chair 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

Happy Camp resident Dan Bryan appeared before the Board, presented a two-page document entitled: Support James Gallagher's AJR 23 Resolution to split the State of California and spoke in support of the Board supporting the Resolution.

Undersheriff James Randall appeared before the Board and expressed his opinion regarding a member of the Board overstepping professional boundaries and creating a hostile workplace for certain departments and staff; presenting a Personnel complaint against Supervisor Harris to the County's Personnel Manager pursuant to County policy.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Harris 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:

Assessor-Recorder

Approve the Megabyte Property Tax System Annual Maintenance Contract as submitted, with the Chair authorized to sign.

County Administration

Approve contract with AccusourceHR Inc. This is an all County rate contract with a five year term to August 9, 2031.

County Administration

Approve payment of Awards Network Invoice in the amount of \$586.76.

County Administration

Adopt Proclamation recognizing Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, and authorize the Chair to sign.

County Administration - Personnel

Approve the discontinuation of participation in the CalPERS Health Program for employees, eligible dependents, and retirees covered under the Memorandum of Understanding with Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, effective December 31, 2026 by adopting Resolution 26-120.

County Administration - Personnel

Adopt Resolution 26-121 amending the Siskiyou County Salary Schedule, position classifications, and position allocation list for positions in County service effective June 21, 2026.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve this 4th addendum to the ORRCO contract.

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Consent Agenda – (continued)

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Crisis Support Services of Alameda County, for the term July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027. Authorize the Auditor to appropriate the budget and set expenditures.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the County Administrator to sign the Lease Agreement between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Ryan Rentals and authorize the auditor to appropriate the budget and set expenditures.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Fifth Addendum to the Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and Restpadd Health Corporation - Redding, for the term of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Authorize the Auditor to appropriate the budget and set expenditures.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 1st Addendum to Contract for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and First 5 Siskiyou Children & Families Commission for the term commencing January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Authorize the Auditor to appropriate the budget and set expenditures.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair sign the new Contract for services between County of Siskiyou through the Health and Human Services Agency and Redwood Toxicology Laboratory, Inc., for the term July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and the Chair Sign the County System Improvement Plan, for 2025 - 2030, for submission to the State of California.

Sheriff

Approve Agreement for Coordinator services between the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office and Siskiyou Joint Community College District beginning July 1, 2025 until modified or terminated in writing. Authorize the Chair to sign for the terms desired by the parties.

Sheriff

Approve the Sheriff's five-year grant application to the Northern California Coalition, submitted on June 26, 2026, for fiscal years 26/27-30/31. Authorize the Sheriff to participate in the Coalition's program for fiscal years 26/27-30/31 if awarded, and to sign any documents following a formal award, such as a letter or agreement, anticipated annually. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Siskiyou Modoc Regional Department of Child Support Services

Approve the Plan of Cooperation between Siskiyou Modoc Regional DCSS and Sierra Nevada Regional DCSS.

Siskiyou Modoc Regional Department of Child Support Services

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Shasta County DCSS and SMRDCSS through June 30, 2027, with the option of two additional one-year term renewals.

Transfer of Funds - Alcohol and Drug - \$65,000. Resolution 26-122 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Siskiyou Transit and General Express (STAGE) - \$10,026. Resolution 26-123 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Siskiyou Transit and General Express (STAGE) - \$44,720. Resolution 26-124 adopted.

Public Requests - Friends of the Museum - Discussion and possible direction re Museum operations, visitor counts, current and future projects, and facility maintenance needs, including building painting, weed and pest control and front porch repairs. Presentation and discussion only.

Friends of the Siskiyou County Museum (FSCM) member Grace Bennett appeared before the Board and presented a one-page Family Fun Day 2025 attendance report, a six-page Summer 2026 newsletter and a one-page FSCM information sheet. Ms. Bennett provided an overview of various activities the FSCM has been working on, including archiving artifacts and documents, roof replacements and restoration of outdoor museum buildings/structures. In addition, Ms. Bennett advised of the availability of research materials and information for the public, educational and school opportunities and summarized daily visitor counts and Giving Tuesday donations received for annual scholarships. Mr. Bennett further summarized needed repairs at the Museum and outdoor museum, including paint for the building, repair of the front porch and removal of honey bees in building walls.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Bennett regarding work provided by County maintenance staff and CalFire members, the efforts being made to digitize paper records and files from Bob Rice, the potential that additional Bob Rice records have already been digitized, the recent wedding dresses on display and the need to consider a development of a video display of the County's gold display.

Public Requests - Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County - Presentation of an update re Countywide wildfire mitigation efforts and community resilience programs. Presentation and discussion only.

Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County Coordinator Gizelle Nova appeared before the Board and presented a powerpoint presentation regarding wildfire mitigation programs and project update. Included in the powerpoint was a brief overview of the Fire Safe Council and their mission, and an overview of various current grants and associated projects (i.e. fuels reduction, fuel break creation, biomass removal, etc.). Ms. Nova summarized recently completed projects, including before and after photos of those projects.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Nova regarding the time frame associated with maintaining an area recently treated and the maintenance responsibilities of the property owners.

Ms. Nova continued the powerpoint, including an overview of various outreach efforts and opportunities and an overview of the Siskiyou Area Wildfire Mitigation Coalition and their efforts to collaboratively prioritize and plan for hazardous fuels mitigation project implementation. Additionally, Ms. Nova advised that the Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County serves as the official Firewise USA Regional Coordinator and summarized the Community Wildfire Defense Grant for implementation of defensible space for 500 homes in coordination with Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE) and the project's progress, including outreach/education efforts and homes being treated.

Further discussion followed regarding the potential impact of fuels treatment and management projects on homeowners' insurance rates, masticating versus vegetation removal treatment options, monthly Firesafe Council meetings, efforts made to apply for home hardening grant funding and Caltrans Vegetation Manager's participation at meetings.

County Administration – Personnel - Discussion, direction and possible action re Proclamation recognizing Solid Waste Manager Lorenzo Castro as the recipient of the Peak of Excellence Award for Quarter 2 in 2026. Proclamation approved and presented.

Deputy County Administrator Hayley Hudson appeared before the Board, providing a brief overview of the request and introducing Solid Waste Manager Lorenzo Castro as the Quarter 2 Peak of Excellence Award recipient.

Supervisor Haupt read the Proclamation into the record.

General Services Director Adam Filippone, Deputy Director of General Services Jessica Skillen and Mr. Castro appeared before the Board. Mr. Filippone and Ms. Skillen spoke about Mr. Castro's work ethic and thanked him for his efforts at the local solid waste facilities.

Mr. Castro spoke about his work at the County and for the public.

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County Administration – Personnel – (continued)

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 the Award and adopt the Proclamation congratulating and recognizing the Quarter 2 Peak of Excellence winner Lorenzo Castro for his contributions to Siskiyou County.

Members of the Board congratulated Mr. Castro and presented him with the Proclamation.

Office of Emergency Services - Discussion, direction and possible action re Proclamation recognizing National Emergency Management Awareness Month, August 2026. Proclamation adopted.

Office of Emergency Services Director Bryan Schenone appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to proclaim August 2026 as National Emergency Management Awareness Month in Siskiyou 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 recognizing August as National Emergency Management Awareness Month.

Brief discussion followed between Chair Haupt and Mr. Schenone regarding the ongoing red flag alerts related to high fire danger weather locally.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of one member to the scheduled vacancy on the Mt. Shasta Recreation and Parks District, for a term ending June 30, 2030. Quin McDowell appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Clerk's Office received a letter of interest in filling the vacant position from local resident Quin McDowell, who was eligible to serve, and a recommendation from the Recreation and Parks District supporting his appointment.

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 Quin McDowell to the scheduled vacancy on the Mt. Shasta Recreation and Parks District for a term ending June 30, 2030.

County Clerk - Appointment of three members to scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Range Advisory Board for terms ending July 28, 2028. Caroline Luiz, Greg Kuck and Mark Coats appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that incumbents Caroline Luiz and Greg Kuck were interested in reappointment. Ms. Winningham further advised of not receiving confirmation that Mark Coats was interested in reappointment.

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 appoint Caroline Luiz, Greg Kuck and Mark Coats to the scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Range Advisory Board, for terms ending July 28, 2028.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board regarding the status of the Forest Service's Resource Advisory Council (RAC) and the need for an upcoming agenda item to send a letter to the local Klamath National Forest requesting action regarding RAC membership.

Minute Approval - July 7 and 14, 2026. Approved.

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 approve the July 7 and 14, 2026 minutes as presented.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Kobseff reported on his attendance at an Endangered Species Act (ESA) meeting in Ashland, including Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson, regarding work being done toward a new Biological Opinion from the Bureau of Reclamation.

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of his attendance at the 2026 National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

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Board and Staff Reports – (continued)

Supervisor Haupt reported on the status of a high mountain lakes project and related proposals and voiced concerns regarding recent land purchases by the State of California and the potential impacts to the County and Scott Valley water rights.

Closed Session - Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), three cases, Personnel pursuant to Government Code §54957(b)(1), commenced at 10:29 a.m., concluded at 11:37 a.m., with action taken.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel F. Dean Morgan announced that closed session concluded at 11:37 a.m., with reportable action taken.

With regard to item 12A, Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(2), three cases, Mr. Morgan advised that upon motion by Supervisor Kobseff and seconded by Supervisor Harris, the Board voted unanimously to authorize County Counsel to bring an action to declare property as a public nuisance and obtain orders to abate the nuisance.

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

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Ray A. Haupt, Chair

By: _____
Deputy