State of California, County of Siskiyou
Board of Supervisors Minutes, October 6, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 6th day of October 2026; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff and Nancy Ogren, Haupt, County Administrator Cole L. Bray, 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. Supervisor Ray A. Haupt was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Harris. 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. County Administrator Cole L. Bray 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

Tulelake Police Department representative Tony Ross appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding a local bulk petroleum distributor that changed their official location which would negatively impact the City of Tulelake's tax base and requested the County/Board's assistance.

Behavioral Health Services Act Coordinator Sarah Evans appeared before the Board, presenting two two-page fliers for presentations by Rebecca Bender - Elevate Academy related to recognizing exploitation in the digital age. Ms. Evans invited members of the Board to attend the events being held on October 14 and 15, 2026.

Community Development Director Hailey Lang appeared before the Board and introduced recently hired Assistant Planners Marlon Harris and Daniel Suarez.

Siskiyou Humane Society Director Austin Browder appeared before the Board and requested that the Board review current spending levels and consider possible future funding related to animal control and animal welfare at the County and city levels.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, items 5G, County Library's amendment to agreement with the Imperial County Office of Education for the provision, installation and maintenance of broadband services and Public Health's budget transfers, items 5V6, 5V7 and 5V8 were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Ogren's request, items 5S, the Sheriff's addendum to contract with Sun Ridge Systems, Inc. and 5T, the Sheriff's agreement for law enforcement, dispatching and records support with the City of Montague, were 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 and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, that the following consent agenda is approved, and the Chair and/or clerk authorized to execute/record any necessary documents:

Agriculture

Accept remaining funds collected to support the pest management seminar, authorize the contribution of those funds to the UC Davis Extension Office – Steve Orloff Fund, and approve budget appropriation to support this action.

Community Development

Adopt Resolution 26-137 approving an application for funding and the execution of a grant agreement and any amendments thereto in the amount of up to $500,000 of Community Development Block Grant Program Income for the PI Only Fire Emergency Rescue Equipment Purchase.

Continued…

Consent Agenda – *(continued)*

County Administration

Ratify the letter to Governor Newsom requesting his veto of Assembly Bill 2656.

County Administration

Adopt and sign the proclamation recognizing Angela Davis for her service as Siskiyou County Administrator.

County Counsel

Approve the Thirty-Second Addendum to Professional Services Retention Agreement with Nossaman increasing the compensation under the Contract by $10,000, and amends the insurance requirements, and authorize the Board chair to execute same.

County Library

Approve acceptance of the $60 book donation from a library patron to purchase 2 books and allow the Auditor-Controller to establish budget for this donation.

County Library

Accept the contribution from NorthNet Library system to provide staff development funds and allow the Auditor-Controller to establish budget for this donation.

General Services - Airports

Authorize the Chair to execute the Ground Lease between the County of Siskiyou and Kevin Metz at Weed Airport for the term of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2031.

General Services - Sanitation

Approve contract with Scott Valley Disposal, Inc., for operation of the Happy Camp Transfer Station for a period of 5 years beginning 11/01/26 and ending 10/31/31 at a total cost of $1,500,000.

General Services - Sanitation

Authorize the Board to execute (adopt) Resolution 26-138 for submittal of regional payment program applications as the regional lead participant and make related authorizations for all payment programs.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 1st addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and Mt Shasta Ambulance for the term commencing July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2028. 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 2nd addendum for Services between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and Siskiyou Family YMCA for the term commencing July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028. 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 Participation Agreement for Services and the QA/QI Analytics Program, between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division and CalMHSA for the term commencing July 1, 2026, through December 31, 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 a Master Service Agreement between Siskiyou County Behavioral Health and Bonterra Tech LLC, for a term of twenty-four (24) months, starting April 1, 2025 and ending on March 31, 2027, for the not to exceed amount of $51,459.40.

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Consent Agenda – *(continued)*

Health and Human Services - Public and Environmental Health Division

Approve contract with SW Maintenance for remediation services on CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Grant-approved properties containing unauthorized illegal solid waste disposal sites, in the amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand and No/100 Dollars ($150,000). Authorize the Public Health and Environmental Health Division to execute the contract and any related documents, with full reimbursement to be provided through the 2025–2028 CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Grant cycle funding.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve (adopt) and the Chair sign Resolution 26-139 to authorize the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Division, to accept the allocations for the Transitional Housing Program and the Housing Navigator and Maintance Program. Allow the County Auditor to establish a budget once funds are received.

Office of Emergency Services

Approve the contract with Genasys Inc. for the Protect/Evac Zone Based Evacuation Platform.

Sheriff

Approve the Sheriff to enter an agreement with Evans Building & Excavating, Inc., to make a capital improvement to the Sheriff's Firearms Range not to exceed $84,700.00, unless extensions of terms and, or prices are amended in writing and signed by the parties. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Transfer of Funds - Agriculture - $1,604. Resolution 26-140 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Communications - $5,611. Resolution 26-141 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Communications - $27,962. Resolution 26-142 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - Hospital Preparedness Program - $106,878. Resolution 26-143 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - Pandemic Flu - $53,832. Resolution 26-144 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sanitation - $200,000. Resolution 26-145 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - $200. Resolution 26-146 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - $6,000. Resolution 26-147 adopted.

County Library - Approve Amendment to agreement with the Imperial County Office of Education for the provision, installation and maintenance of advanced network (data) services, for broadband services to 12 County library branches, deleting and replacing Appendix 1 as detailed in the Amendment, effective July 1, 2026, in an amount not to exceed $115,336 for FY 26/27. Approved.

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

County Librarian Teresa Johnson appeared before the Board and in response to Supervisor Kobseff advised that provision of broadband service to the twelve library branches was part of the County's responsibility as 'backbone' Library services.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to approve the First Amendment to the agreement between the Siskiyou County Library and the Imperial County Office of Education, with a retroactive date of July 1, 2026, to continue broadband services to our 12 branch libraries and authorize the Chair to sign.

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Sheriff - Approve addendum to contract with Sun Ridge Systems, Inc., to provide certain software support and maintenance services, deleting and replacing Exhibit D - Annual RIMS Support for a term ending July 23, 2029 and increasing compensation by $187,100 to a total not to exceed $913,838. Approved.

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

Supervisor Ogren summarized an error on page 1 of the addendum, advising of the need to correct the written out total compensation amount to match the numerical amount.

Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue and Auditor Diane Olson advised that the error would be corrected prior to the Board Chair/Vice Chair signing the document.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to approve the Sheriff's Sixth Addendum to the Agreement with Sun Ridge Systems, Inc. for $187,100 supporting "RIMS" technical support, software maintenance and updates not to exceed $913,838 for the term of the Contract with revisions to be made to Addendum page #1. Allow the Sheriff an exception to the County's Contracting & Procurement Policy 5.0, normally disallowing more than five (5) amendments to support this Contract through July 23, 2029. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Sheriff - Approve agreement for law enforcement, dispatching and records support with the City of Montague, with the City responsible for reimbursement of employment-related costs as detailed in the agreement, for the term July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. Approved.

This item was pulled from the consent agenda at Supervisor Ogren's request. Supervisor Ogren shared concerns regarding Section 6(b) of the agreement with the City of Montague, requesting advice from County Counsel with regard to the City's and/or County's responsibility related to injury or sickness of a County employee when working in the City's jurisdiction.

In response to Supervisor Ogren, County Counsel F. Dean Morgan advised that his office would review the Section for possible definition/clarification regarding indemnification.

Supervisor Ogren further shared concerns regarding Section 10(f) related to the timeframe (quarterly versus monthly) associated with the County invoicing the City for services rendered and the City's responsibility to pay the invoice and the 1% late fee language and the potentially lengthy time that the County could go without payment.

Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue appeared before the Board, summarizing the ongoing process to work with city jurisdictions concerning law enforcement services and to develop an agreement template that adequately captures the Department's costs to provide those services. Sheriff LaRue advised that language in Sections 6(b) and 10(f) were the result of County Counsel and Risk Management's review and suggested a workshop or workgroup for development of a template agreement for all cities.

Supervisor Ogren requested development of a workgroup, advising that should the agreement be approved, an addendum to address the Board's concerns could come back at a later date.

County Administrator Cole L. Bray advised that he would reach out to the city council to assist with forming a workgroup to address the agreement.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the lack of identifiable rates for services rendered within the agreement.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Sheriff LaRue regarding the City of Montague's payment status for fiscal year 2025/2026, plans to invoice the City for the actual costs of services provided by individual department staff (i.e. deputies, etc.), the potential for unincorporated areas of the County to be left unserved or underserved by the Sheriff's Department while city jurisdictions are covered and previous 'set amount' agreement formats that did not adequately capture actual costs.

Continued…

Sheriff – *(continued)*

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to approve the Agreement to provide law enforcement, dispatching and records management support services from the Sheriff's Office to the City of Montague at the rates outlined in Sections 10 and 11, covering the term from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030 and authorize the Board Chair and the Sheriff to sign the Agreement, with a workgroup to be formed to develop an agreement template for the provision of law enforcement services.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - Environmental Health - $2,239,704. Resolution 26-148 adopted.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard, Staff Services Analyst Joanna Birney and Deputy Director of Environmental Health Rick Florendo appeared before the Board.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Birney advised that the budget transfer was to establish budget for Environmental Health and that the funding was from the Community Development Department (Environmental Health's original location) and not the General Fund.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to adopt Resolution 26-148, Transfer of Funds – Public Health-Environmental Health, in the amount of $2,239,704.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - COVID-19 Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity - $39,138. Resolution 26-149 adopted.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard, Staff Services Analyst Joanna Birney and Deputy Director of Environmental Health Rick Florendo appeared before the Board.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the potential for a future requested payback of COVID-19 funding.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Birney advised that, per the State, the Department was clear to claim the reimbursement.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Collard advised that, should payback be requested, the funding was available within the Department and would not be requested from the General Fund.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to adopt Resolution 26-149, Transfer of Funds – Public Health - COVID-19 Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity, in the amount of $39,138.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - COVID-19 Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity - $97,966. Resolution 26-150 adopted.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard, Staff Services Analyst Joanna Birney and Deputy Director of Environmental Health Rick Florendo appeared before the Board.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns regarding the potential for a future requested payback of COVID-19 funding.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Birney advised that, per the State, the Department was clear to claim the reimbursement.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Collard advised that, should payback be requested, the funding was available within the Department and would not be requested from the General Fund.

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Transfer of Funds - Public Health – *(continued)*

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to adopt Resolution 26-150, Transfer of Funds – Public Health - COVID-19 Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity, in the amount of $97,966.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division - Presentation re Social Services Division caseload statistics for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2025/2026 for various programs. Presentation and discussion only.

Social Services Division Director Trish Barbieri and Deputy Director of Administrative Services Kirk Hendricks appeared before the Board.

Mr. Hendricks provided an overview of the caseload statistics for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2025/2026, including ongoing cases, new cases and fraud activity for various Social Services Division programs. In addition, Mr. Hendricks summarized active persons count statistics for various programs.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board, Mr. Hendricks and Ms. Barbieri regarding the need for a graph detailing active persons count for child abuse cases, apparent downward trends related to cases and the impacts associated with the recently passed HR 1 Bill.

District Attorney - Presentation re illegal pesticides and illicit cannabis operations in the County by the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation. Presentation only.

District Attorney Investigators Levi Machado and James Clair appeared before the Board and presented a powerpoint presentation regarding illegal cannabis cultivation operations located in the Mt. Shasta Vista Subdivision, which included a brief history of the growth of cannabis operations in the area since 2014.

Mr. Machado continued the powerpoint, including an overview of the negative impacts associated with illegal, unregulated pesticides and fertilizers being used in many of the operations and an incident in 2025 during which members of law enforcement were exposed to combustible, actively burning pesticides that resulted in physical symptoms from the exposure.

Continuing the powerpoint, Mr. Clair provided an overview of the environmental impacts associated with illegal cultivation, the use of unregulated pesticides/fertilizers, human waste (open sewers), mechanical equipment leaking gas and diesel and showed pictures of various piles of garbage and trash throughout the area.

Mr. Clair and Mr. Machado voiced concerns regarding the loose sandy soil in the area allowing various environmental wastes to leach into the local watershed/water table.

Agriculture - Animal Control - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution proclaiming a Local Emergency due to illegal cannabis cultivation, illegal pesticide use, and the resulting animal welfare and public safety crisis in the Shasta Vista area. 26-151

Deputy County Administrator Sherry Lawson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request to declare a local emergency due to the negative animal welfare impacts associated with illegal cannabis operations in the Mt. Shasta Vista and other areas of the County. Ms. Lawson shared concerns regarding the large number of dogs rescued from those operations which exceed the County and local rescue facilities' capacity.

Following brief discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Lawson regarding plans to send the approved Resolution to the State for their review/approval and a planned tour of the area that was cancelled, it was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT to enact this local state of emergency by adopting Resolution 26-151 due to the mistreatment and neglect of animals at illegal cannabis cultivation sites.

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County Administration - Discussion, direction and possible action re Proclamations recognizing Frank Cena, Bill Haars, Phil Peck and Kenneth Keyes who recently retired from the Grenada Sanitary District Board. Proclamations adopted.

Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson appeared before the Board, briefly summarizing the request and inviting the retired members of the Grenada Sanitary District Frank Cena, Bill Haars, Phil Peck and Kenneth Keyes to the podium.

Supervisor Kobseff provided an overview of the efforts made by the District and former Directors to improve the services to Grenada residents during their time on the District Board.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, that the Board adopt and sign the Proclamations recognizing Frank Cena, Bill Haars, Phil Peck and Kenneth Keyes for their service on the Grenada Sanitary District Board.

Board of Supervisors' Requests - Board of Supervisors - Review status of local emergency related to the proliferation of illegal cannabis cultivation declared by Resolution 25-11, adopted on January 21, 2025; action to extend or terminate local emergency. Local emergency extended.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to extend the local emergency related to the proliferation of illegal cannabis cultivation declared by Resolution 25-11.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of six (five members and one alternate member) to the unscheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for terms ending December 31, 2026, December 31, 2027 and December 31, 2028. Dr. Nicholas Brown appointed as Member; remaining vacancies continued to a later date.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Behavioral Health Services Board supported appointment of Dr. Nicholas Brown. Ms. Winningham requested continuation of the remaining vacancies.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to appoint Dr. Nicholas Brown, Member, to an unscheduled vacancy on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for a term ending December 31, 2028.

Minute Approval - September 1 and 15, 2026. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to approve the September 1, 2026 minutes as presented.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Ogren, Kobseff and Harris voting YES, Supervisor Kobseff ABSTAINING and Supervisor Haupt ABSENT, to approve the September 15, 2026 minutes as presented.

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), four cases, Personnel pursuant to Government Code §54957, Liability claims pursuant to Government Code §54956.95, conference with labor negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54957.6, commenced at 10:40 a.m., concluded at 12:14 p.m., with action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel F. Dean Morgan announced that closed session concluded at 12:14 p.m., with the following reportable action taken.

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Report On Closed Session

With regard to item 12C, Liability claims pursuant to Government Code §54956.95, Claimant: Adam Crisci, Agency claimed against: County of Siskiyou, Mr. Morgan advised that, upon motion of Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Harris with Supervisors Kobseff and Ogren voting in the affirmative, the Board is willing to settle three claims of Adam Crisci in an aggregate amount of $244,000.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Valenzuela reported on his attendance at the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Annual Meeting and a PRISM conference.

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

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Ray A. Haupt, Chair

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

By: _____
Deputy

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