

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, December 9, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 9th day of December 2025; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren and Ray A. Haupt, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel Natalie E. Reed and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Laura Bynum by Deputy County 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, County Service Area 3, County Service Area 4 and In Home Supportive Services Public Authority. Supervisor Harris 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

Director of Social Services Division Trish Barbieri and Deputy Director of Administrative Services Kirk Hendricks appeared before the Board, distributing and summarizing a one-page document including caseload statistics related to ongoing cases, new cases and instances of fraud in various Social Services' programs (i.e. CALWORKS, CALFRESH, Medi-Cal, etc.)

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Barbieri and Mr. Hendricks regarding the types of fraud being seen, the process to investigate reports of fraud, data related to the CALFRESH (food stamps) Program and processes related to Adult Protective Services (APS) and In Home Supportive Services Public Authority (IHSS).

Consent Agenda – Approved.

At Chair Ogren's request, item 5C, County Administration – Personnel's Proclamation recognizing Civil Engineer Assistant Kyla Burton on the occasion of her retirement was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, item 5I, Public Health's Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the award under the CDPH CHVP Innovation 3.0 Project Grant was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

County Administration

Approve third to the contract with PACE Engineering, authorize Chair to execute the addendum, and authorization for the Auditor to establish budgets as necessary.

County Administration

Approve Third Addendum to the contract between the County of Siskiyou and Occu-Med Corporation and authorize Chair to sign.

County Administration - Personnel

Approve and adopt the Proclamation congratulating and recognizing Jeff Hall for 20 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon his retirement from Siskiyou County.

County Administration - Personnel

Approve and adopt the Proclamation congratulating and recognizing Teresa Newton for 20 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon her retirement from Siskiyou County.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

County Administration/Supervisor Valenzuela

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the letter to Governor Newsom requesting funding for a Male Community Reentry Program in Shasta County.

County Library

Approve acceptance of the \$500 award from ByWater Solutions to be used to support the promotion of the Student Success Card Program.

District Attorney

Approve 6th addendum to increase funding of contract between Siskiyou County District Attorney and Karpel Solutions for a Rate .01 contract.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and chair sign the Contract between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and SolutionsWest, effective December 9, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division

Approve and chair sign the Contract between the Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and SolutionsWest, effective December 9, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

General Services - Airports

Approve the First Addendum to the Airport Ground Lease between Vernon G. Buodro and the County and authorize the Chair to sign.

Modoc Siskiyou Community Action Agency

Approve and the Chair to sign the Fourth Amendment to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Modoc Siskiyou Community Action Agency Board extending the term through December 31, 2027.

Probation Department

Ratify the Siskiyou County Probation Department's application for Path 3 Justice Involved grant funds, totaling \$1,500,000, and authorize the Chief Probation Officer to execute the grant agreement and receive grant funds.

Sheriff

Approve the second addendum for services between National Medical Services Labs, Inc. and the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office for toxicology analysis for the period of July 1st, 2025 through June 30th, 2026. Authorize the Chair to sign the addendum and allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Sheriff

Approve the first addendum between the Sheriff and Flock Group, Inc. increasing compensation for 24/25 by \$2,400.00 for additional implementation fees. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

Sheriff

Approve the Sheriff's Office's to apply for funding towards the 26/27 Boating Safety and Enforcement Financial Aid Program with the California Department of Boating and Waterways. Authorize the Sheriff to sign any documents required to accept award, participate in accordance with State program guidelines, and the Board adopt Resolution 25-205 attached.

Sheriff

Approve the Third Addendum to the Master Services and Purchasing Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and Axon Enterprise, Inc. not to exceed \$393,234.47 for the term of the Agreement. Authorize the Auditor to make appropriations for said Agreement.

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

Treasurer - Tax Collector

Approve the sale of the attached list of tax-defaulted properties via Chapter 7 Sale, or Chapter 7 Sealed Bid Sale, at the minimum bids set pursuant to Section 3698.5 of the California Revenue & Taxation Code, and authorize the Tax Collector to re-offer any unsold properties at a subsequent sale for a price that stimulates competitive bidding.

Transfer of Funds - Providing Access and Transforming Health (PATH) - \$5,400. Resolution 25-206 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Public Health - \$13,155.87. Resolution 25-207 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$1,168. Resolution 25-208 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$4,521. Resolution 25-209 adopted.

County Administration – Personnel - Adopt Proclamation recognizing Civil Engineer Assistant Kyla Burton for 21 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon her retirement. Approved.

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

Deputy County Administrator/Personnel-Risk Manager Hayley Hudson appeared before the Board, distributing and summarizing a revised retirement Proclamation for Kyla Burton.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to approve and adopt the Proclamation congratulating and recognizing Kyla Burton for 21 years of dedicated service and contributions to the community upon her retirement from Siskiyou County as revised.

Health and Human Services - Public Health Division - Adopt Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the award under the CDPH CHVP Innovation 3.0 Project Grant for County of Siskiyou, for an allocation of \$1,648,815 from California Department of Public Health for the California Home Visiting Program, with spending authority through June 30, 2029. Resolution 25-210 adopted.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Fiscal Program Manager Dawn Walton appeared before the Board.

Following discussion between Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Collard and Ms. Walton regarding the funding, staffing and services anticipated to be provided by the grant funding, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to ratify submission of application for the CHVP Innovation Grant, and to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Governing Board Resolution 25-210 to authorize acceptance of the award if the bid is successful with the State of California – Health and Human Services Agency – California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division, California Home Visiting Program (CHVP), State General Fund (SGF) Grant. If awarded, authorize the County Administrator to act on behalf of the County to accept the award and execute any and all program award documents as outlined in Section 2 of the Resolution and authorize the Auditor to establish budget appropriation and set expenditures per the agreement amendment guidelines, for the award of \$1,648,815.00, with spending authority through June 30, 2029.

County Library - Presentation re County Library activities, including County Library Fair Report 2025, Siskiyou County Free Library Annual Report 2025, Literacy Program and Student Success Cards for all. Presentation and discussion only.

County Librarian Teresa Johnson appeared before the Board and introduced Literacy Program Coordinator Debra Davis and Yreka Friends of the Library representative Vickie Driver to provide the presentation.

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County Library – (continued)

Ms. Johnson provided an overview of the County Library Annual and County Library Fair Reports for 2025, activities (i.e. new flooring, remodeling) that took place at local Library branches, the Library's attendance at the Siskiyou County Museum's Family Fun Day and other local events and participation in the Read Across America/Read Across Siskiyou annual event. Ms. Johnson summarized California legislation SB 321 and updated SB 1329 making it easier for public libraries to put library cards into the hands of every California child under the Student Success Cards for All program.

Ms. Davis provided an overview of the County Library's Literacy Program, including three levels (i.e. Adult, Family and 0-5 Family Literacy) of assistance provided to low literate populations in the County.

Ms. Driver provided an overview of various services provided at the Yreka Branch Library location by Yreka Friends of the Library volunteers, including front desk operations, funding raising, grant writing, general public assistance efforts and activities provided for children and adults.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and those present regarding the illiteracy rate in siskiyou County.

Health and Human Services - Social Services Division - Presentation re changes to Medi-Cal (Medicaid) and CalFresh (SNAP) programs. Presentation and discussion only.

Director of Social Services Division Trish Barbieri and Deputy Director of Social Services Corey Watson appeared before the Board. Ms. Barbieri distributed a 16-page powerpoint presentation, advising that minor corrections/updates were made to the document. In addition, Deputy Director of Administrative Services Kirk Hendricks was available for questions.

Ms. Watson presented the powerpoint, advising that most Medi-Cal members' eligibility and benefits would remain the same and briefly summarized certain benefits. Ms. Watson summarized Asset Limits (to renew or apply for Medi-Cal benefits) and Enrollment Freeze (related to immigration status) that would be effective starting January 1, 2026, Dental Coverage changes effective July 1, 2026, Immigration Status changes, effective October 1, 2026 and potential that some Medi-Cal members would pay a small monthly premium starting July 1, 2027. Continuing the powerpoint, Ms. Watson summarized Work Rules, starting January 1, 2027 (required to maintain Medi-Cal coverage for certain adults) and provided an overview of the requirement starting January 1, 2027 for some Medi-Cal members to have their eligibility reviewed/checked every six months versus annually and a requirement starting October 1, 2028 related to co-payments for some adults on Medi-Cal for certain services.

Ms. Watson continued the powerpoint, including an overview of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) also known as CalFresh, the need for re-evaluation of the Thrifty Food Plan to occur no earlier than October 1, 2027 and participation requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) starting as early as November 1, 2025. Ms. Watson shared concerns that California's waiver for this requirement and that the Department would need to develop plans for the more than 3,000 individuals in the County affected. Ms. Watson summarized the Matching Funds Requirement and Administrative Cost Sharing required of all California counties and the County's potential associated fiscal impacts. Ms. Watson concluded the powerpoint with an overview of CalFresh eligibility limitations with regard to citizen status.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Watson, Ms. Barbieri and Mr. Hendricks regarding the process to evaluate asset limitations for local landowners/ranchers, the Department's anticipated process to monitor work/school requirements for ABAWD individuals, the unknowns regarding potential impacts associated with federal rule changes at the state and county levels and the potential need for the Department to add approximately eight additional eligibility staff to meet the anticipated increased workload.

County Administration - Discussion, direction and possible action re employment agreement with Mr. Forest Dean Morgan for appointment as County Counsel, for an annual salary in the amount of \$264,600.50, for the term January 4, 2026 through January 3, 2030. Approved.

County Administrator Angela Davis provided an overview of the request, recommending the appointment of Mr. Forest Dean Morgan to the position of County Counsel and provided an overview of the associated employment agreement with Mr. Morgan.

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County Administration – (continued)

Ms. Davis invited Mr. Morgan to appear before the Board.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Morgan regarding the need for awareness of and his possible experience regarding Siskiyou County issues, including natural resources (fish, water, forestry) and federal and public lands legal issues.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Mr. Forest Dean Morgan to the position of County Counsel for the term January 4, 2026 through January 3, 2030 at the annual salary of \$264,600.50 and approve and sign the employment agreement by and between Mr. Morgan and the County of Siskiyou.

County Administration - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to appoint Mr. Garrett Richardson to the position of Director of Public Works, effective December 7, 2025. Approved, with effective date of December 9, 2025.

County Administrator Angela Davis provided an overview of the request, recommending the appointment of Mr. Garrett Richardson to the position of Director of Public Works, effective December 9, 2025, rather than December 7th. Ms. Davis invited Mr. Richardson to appear before the Board.

Following brief discussion between members of the Board, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Mr. Richardson to the position of Director of Public Works, effective December 9, 2025.

County Administration - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to appoint Ms. Hailey Lang to the position of Director of Community Development Department, effective December 30, 2025. Approved.

County Administrator Angela Davis provided an overview of the request, recommending the appointment of Ms. Hailey Lang to the position of Director of Community Development Department, effective December 30, 2025. Ms. Davis invited Ms. Lang to appear before the Board.

Following brief discussion between members of the Board, it was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Ms. Lang to the position of Director of Community Development effective December 30, 2025.

Appointments - County Clerk/Board of Supervisors - Discussion, direction and possible action re: Appointment of a Delegate and one Alternate from the Board of Supervisors to the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Board of Directors for 2026; to the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) Board of Directors for 2026; and to the Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors for 2026. Supervisor Kobseff and Supervisor Ogren appointed Delegate and Alternate to the RCRC and GSFA Boards of Directors, respectively. Supervisor Ogren and Supervisor Kobseff appointed Delegate and Alternate to the GSCA Board of Directors, respectively.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that for 2025 Supervisor Kobseff served as Delegate and Supervisor Ogren served as Alternate to the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Board of Directors for 2026 and to the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) Board of Directors for 2026.

In addition, Ms. Winningham advised that Supervisor Ogren served as Delegate and Supervisor Kobseff served as Alternate to the Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors for 2025.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint Supervisor Kobseff as Delegate and Supervisor Ogren as Alternate to the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) and the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) Board of Directors for 2026; and to appoint Supervisor Ogren as Delegate and Supervisor Kobseff as Alternate to the Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors for 2026, effective January 1, 2026.

Appointments - County Clerk/Board of Supervisors - Discussion, direction and possible action re appointment of a delegate and alternate(s) to the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA) Board of Directors for 2026. Supervisor Kobseff appointed as Delegate and General Services Project Coordinator Emily Harper and Deputy Director of General Services Jessica Skillen as First and Second Alternates respectively.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that General Services' Director Adam Filippone requested appointment of General Services Project Coordinator Emily Harper and Deputy Director of General Services Jessica Skillen as First and Second Alternates respectively.

Supervisor Kobseff advised that he was willing to serve as Delegate for 2026.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to appoint Supervisor Kobseff as Delegate and General Services Project Coordinator Emily Harper and Deputy Director of General Services Jessica Skillen as First and Second Alternates respectively, to the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA) Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2026.

Minute Approval - November 18, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to approve the November 18, 2025 minutes as presented.

Public Hearings - County Clerk - Public hearing for the first 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 total. First reading approved; public hearing continued to January 6, 2026 for the second reading.

This was the time set for a public hearing for the first reading of an Ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 12, Section 2-12.101 Subsection (C) of the Siskiyou County Code regarding County Clerk fees.

The Chair opened the public hearing.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request to increase the Certified Copy of Confidential Marriage License fee by \$2 to \$19 total.

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

There were no public comments received.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to introduce, waive, and approve the first reading of the Ordinance 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 and direct the Clerk to schedule a continued public hearing for the second reading of the ordinance on January 6, 2026.

Board and Staff Reports

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of his attendance for the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Annual Conference also attended by Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson.

Supervisor Harris advised of his attendance for an Economic Development meeting, Light Up Yreka event and Shasta Valley Producers Fall Social event.

Supervisor Kobseff advised of his attendance for a Local Transportation Commission (LTC) meeting, a Golden State Natural Resource meeting, a meeting with and townhalls by Assemblymember Heather Hadwick, a California Rifle and Pistol Association (CRPA) dinner and a meeting with the local Farm Bureau.

Supervisor Ogren advised of attending the Golden Eagle Charter School DARE graduation, a Continuum of Care (COC) Advisory Board meeting and a North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) Resilience Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

Closed Session - Personnel pursuant to Government Code §54957(b)(1): Discipline, dismissal or release of a public employee, conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), three cases, Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4), two cases, commenced at 10:32 a.m., concluded at 1:12 p.m., with action taken.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 1:12 p.m., with the following reportable action taken.

With regard to item 13C, Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Kevin Loynachan, et al., v. Darlene Smiley, in her official capacity as a law enforcement officer for Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Sacramento Division, Case No. 2:22-cv-00841-WBS-JDP, Ms. Reed advised that Supervisor Ogren left the closed session chambers at 1:09 p.m. and did not return. Ms. Reed further advised that it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff and seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried with a vote of YES by Supervisors Valenzuela, Kobseff, Haupt and Harris, with Supervisor Ogren RECUSED/ABSENT, to approve settlement and authorize the CAO to execute a settlement agreement. The terms of settlement are that Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing and liability. To resolve the action the County will make a settlement payment of \$650,000, within five days of payment Plaintiffs will file for dismissal of suit and Plaintiffs and their successors and heirs will provide a full release.

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