

# State of California, County of Siskiyou

## Board of Supervisors Minutes, November 18, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 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 Winingham.

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 Power Authority, County Service Area 3 and In Home Supportive Services Public Authority. Supervisor Valenzuela led in the salute to the flag of the United States of America.

**Invocation** - Siskiyou County Sheriff Chaplain Jim Jacobsen provided an invocation.

### **Presentations from the Public**

Social Services Division Director Trish Barbieri appeared before the Board and provided an update regarding impacts experienced during the federal government shutdown, including the status of clients receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, efforts made by local food pantries/banks to assist during the shutdown and current legislation continuing the SNAP benefit program. Ms. Barbieri additionally advised of upcoming changes in the benefit application process.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Barbieri regarding the anticipated changes and the brief delay in benefits experienced by County SNAP clients.

Elissa Fox and Renee Klaus appeared before the Board and spoke in support of local In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers, advising that Family Caregivers Month is observed annually in November and asked the Board to support IHSS providers.

### **Consent Agenda – Approved.**

At Supervisor Haupt's request, item 5C, County Clerk's approval of appointment of Joan Smith Freeman to the PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Executive Board and removal of Marie Ingram from same, was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Kobseff's request, items 5G and 5I, Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division's addendum to contract with Yreka Union High School District and Community Care Expansion Preservation Program Operator Agreement between the California Department of Social Services, Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency (Sponsor) and Yreka Guest Home (Recipient), were pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Ogren's request, item 5N, Sheriff's addendum to Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement to provide certain services to the City of Etna, was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

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

#### **Community Development**

Approve, authorize the Chair to sign the 3<sup>rd</sup> Addendum to the contract between the Siskiyou County Community Development Department and Vestra Resources, Inc. regarding the Williams Pit.

#### **County Administration**

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the letter to Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara expressing opposition to the proposed 36% average increase in California FAIR Plan premiums.

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## **Consent Agenda – (continued)**

### **General Services - Airports**

Authorize the Chair to execute the Third Addendum to the Weed Airport Ground Lease between the County of Siskiyou and Duane Brooks.

### **Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division**

Approve and authorize the lease between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Thomas L. Spaulding, Trustee of the Spaulding Family Trust to extend the term July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 with a not exceed amount of Two Hundred Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$214,500)(309-2 Lawrence Lane Yreka).

### **Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division**

Approve and authorize the lease between Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Thomas L. Spaulding, Trustee of the Spaulding Family Trust to extend the term July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 with a not exceed amount of Two Hundred Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$214,500)(531 Outsen Road Yreka).

### **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 Siskiyou Community Resource Collaborative for the term commencing January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

### **Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division**

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Lease Agreement between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Division, and Sisson Development, LLC for the term of November 18, 2025 to November 17, 2035.

### **Health and Human Services - Public Health Division**

Approve the CMS Plan for FY 2025/2026 and authorize the Chair to sign the Certification Statement for HCPCFC on page 5 and CCS on page 6.

### **Health and Human Services - Social Services Division**

Approve and the Chair sign the Contract for Services between the SCHHSA and the Adult Protective Services Training Consultants, for the development of training programs and professional development of staff for a two-year term, effective September 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.

### **Public Defender**

Formally ratify the Holistic Defense in Siskiyou County grant application.

### **Sheriff**

Approve this fifth addendum to the agreement between Sun Ridge Systems, Inc and the Sheriff's Office for an additional program purchase of "RIMS > KARPEL" in the amount of \$13,450 for technical support in 25/26, and the overall contract not to exceed \$726,738. Allow the Auditor to establish appropriations as needed.

### **Sheriff**

Approve the Sheriffs Office to extend the term of services with Guardian Alliance Technologies, Inc through June 30, 2030 at the rates identified in Exhibit "A" of the original contract. Allow the Auditor to make appropriations.

### **Big Springs Irrigation District**

Appoint in lieu of election Woodrow Tannaci to the Big Springs Irrigation District Board of Directors for a four-year term, beginning December 5, 2025 until December 7, 2029.

### **Grenada Irrigation District**

Appoint in lieu of election to the Grenada Irrigation District, Eldon Beck and Terry Smith to full terms December 5, 2025 ending December 7, 2029.

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## Consent Agenda – (continued)

Montague Water Conservation District

Appoint in lieu of election David Cowley for Division 1 and Chase Mercier for Division 2 to the Montague Water Conservation District Board of Directors for four-year terms, beginning December 5, 2025 until December 7, 2029.

Transfer of Funds - Health and Human Services - \$5,572. Resolution 25-194 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$7,000. Resolution 25-195 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$13,450. Resolution 25-196 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Sheriff - \$125,000. Resolution 25-197 adopted.

**County Clerk** - Approve appointment of Joan Smith Freeman to the PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Executive Board for an unspecified term and removal of Marie Ingram from same. No action taken.

This item was pulled from the consent agenda at Supervisor Haupt's request. Supervisor Haupt requested a voice vote for the item.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided a brief overview of the request.

Supervisors Haupt, Harris and Kobseff voted NO and Supervisors Valenzuela and Ogren voted YES.

No action was taken with regard to this item.

**Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division** - Approve addendum to contract with Yreka Union High School District to provide certain Prevention, Outreach, and Access and Linkage services, deleting and replacing Exhibit A - Scope of Services, increasing compensation by \$150,000 to a total not to exceed \$450,000, increasing general liability and professional liability insurance as detailed in the addendum and extending the term through June 30, 2026. Approved.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard appeared before the Board, advising that there was no increase in the annual contract compensation nor the total not to exceed amount of \$450,000. Additionally, Ms. Collard advised that this was the final year of the three-year contract under Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Kobseff voting NO, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Second Addendum between Siskiyou County Health & Human Services Agency - Behavioral Health Division and Yreka Union High School District.

**Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division** - Approve Community Care Expansion (CCE) Preservation Program Operator Agreement between the California Department of Social Services, Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency (Sponsor) and Yreka Guest Home (Recipient) for Operating Subsidy Payment funding in an amount not to exceed \$216,537 for the term July 1, 2025, expiring June 30, 2029 and associated Declaration of Restrictions to be recorded. Approved.

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

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Project Coordinator Maddelyn Bryan appeared before the Board.

Ms. Bryan provided an overview of the request, advising that Yreka Guest Home applied to the County for funding to rehabilitate and assist licensed care/housing facilities that serve low income, elderly population within the County to remain open and available. In addition, Ms. Bryan provided an overview of the Declaration of Restrictions associated with the rehabilitation funding and shared concerns that other similar facilities in the County had closed.

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## **Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division – (continued)**

Ms. Collard advised that this program was part of the County's continuum of care and spoke in support of the cost savings associated with utilizing the care/housing facilities to serve certain elderly clients.

Following discussion between members of the Board, Ms. Bryan and Ms. Collard regarding facility's housing capacity and rates, anticipated long-term benefits associated with rehabilitating the facility and efforts being made to develop a budget to ensure long term success, 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 CCE Preservation Program Operator Agreement and Declaration of Restrictions for Yreka Guest Home. Authorize the County Administrator or designee to execute and, if necessary, approve non-substantive changes to these documents and any subsequent documents required to implement the CCE Preservation grant. Approve and authorize the recording of the Declaration of Restrictions.

**Sheriff** - Approve addendum to Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement to provide dispatch and records services to the City of Etna, amending certain language as detailed in the addendum, increasing compensation by \$20,500 to a total not to exceed \$118,432 and extending the term through June 30, 2025. Approved.

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

Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue and Administrative Services Manager Courtney Greenley appeared before the Board.

In response to Supervisor Ogren, Ms. Greenley provided an overview of the process and associated timeline to develop agreements with local cities to provide certain services.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Greenley and Sheriff LaRue regarding efforts made by the Department to develop an agreement template to include direct service costs and cover multiple years and concerns regarding delays in the city and county approval processes.

Sheriff LaRue advised of efforts being made to minimize impacts on local communities the delays might cause.

In response to the Chair, City of Etna representative Cliff Munson appeared before the Board and briefly summarized the City's process for reviewing/approving this and similar agreements.

Following further discussion regarding potential impacts associated with Etna Police Department providing law enforcement services to the Town of Fort Jones and the need to address development of a template for indirect costs, 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 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the 4th Addendum to the Agreement for Dispatch & Records Services between the Sheriff's Office and the City of Etna, to extend the terms through June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$118,432.

**County Administration** - Discussion, direction and possible action re Proclamation recognizing November 17 through November 21, 2025 as California Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Week. Approved.

County Administrator Angela Davis provided a brief overview of the request to adopt a Proclamation honoring Clerks of the Board of Supervisors statewide.

Supervisor Ogren read the Proclamation into the record.

Following discussion between members of the Board regarding thanks to the Clerk's Office for their efforts managing elections and assisting with special district and other appointments, it was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to adopt the Proclamation recognizing November 17 through November 21, 2025 as California Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Week.

**Community Development** - Planning Division - Discussion, direction and possible action re two Resolutions determining the issuance of a Type 21 (Off-Sale General) Alcoholic Beverage Control License for Grenada Shell Gas Station/3J's Deli & Mini Mart will serve or will not serve public convenience or necessity (Form ABC-245), for Applicant Grenada Oil, Inc. located at 338 Highway A12, Grenada CA 96038. Resolution 25-198 adopted.

Senior Planner James Phelps appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request from Grenada Oil, Inc. to obtain a Type 21 Alcoholic Beverage License (ABC) (beer/wine/liquor) for the Grenada Shell Gas/3J's Deli & Mini Mart. Mr. Phelps advised that the Applicant currently holds a Type 20 ABC license (beer/wine only) which would be transferred or sold should the request for a Type 21 ABC license be approved.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Phelps regarding the possibility of Grenada Shell Gas expansion, the lack of objections from the local community to the request and the anticipated process for disposition of the current Type 20 ABC license by the Applicant should the Type 21 be approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to adopt Resolution 25-198 determining that issuance will serve Public Convenience or Necessity, and authorize the Chair to complete PART 3 of Form ABC-245.

**Community Development Department** - Presentation of an update re fee increases in Community Development's Building, Environmental Health and Planning Divisions. Presentation and discussion only.

Community Development Director Rick Dean appeared before the Board, advising of efforts being made to reduce the impact of the Planning and Building Divisions costs on the General Fund (General Fund subsidy 90% and 59%, respectively). Mr. Dean additionally advised that Environmental Health Division is subsidized by realignment dollars, not by the General Fund and suggested fee increases approximately 40% for the Division which would be significant. Mr. Dean shared concerns that fee increases in 2017 should have included a CPI increase in order to keep pace with inflation. Mr. Dean recommended Building Division fee increases through Ordinance adoption (anticipated to be before the Board in 2026) and a basic building permit fee specified in the International Code Council (ICC) Building Code to be increased by a multiple factor of 2 to be effective in January 2026. Mr. Dean advised that new fees would increase building costs significantly.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Mr. Dean and County Administrator Angela Davis regarding examples of building costs at the current fees and the increased fees, the last time Building fees were increased in 1979, potential negative impacts to those residents planning to build in the next few years, how Siskiyou County compares to other similar counties with regard to fees, support for a 'phased in' process to increase fees, possible impact of permit fees on property/home values and the impact of available fee waivers for wildfire impacted properties.

**Community Development Department** - Presentation of an update re amnesty pesticide collection events held in the County to collect for proper disposal illegal pesticides utilized for illicit cannabis cultivation. Presentation and discussion only.

Community Development Director Rick Dean appeared before the Board and summarized statistics related to two illegal pesticide collection events held on August 13, 2025, and September 10, 2025, including the agencies that participated/assisted with the events. Mr. Dean shared concerns regarding little participation in the first event by community members with only 50 pounds of illegal pesticides collected. Mr. Dean advised of increased participation, although even fewer (approximately 20 pounds) illegal pesticides were collected at the second event.

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Dean regarding evidence of fewer fumigants being seen in the area.

**County Administration** - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution declaring a parcel of land (APN 030-230-460-000) to be "Exempt Surplus Land" under the Surplus Land Act and approving the agreement to convey this parcel to the City of Dunsmuir pursuant to Government Code Section 25365, delegating transactional authority to the County Administrator, and finding this action exempt, for property located along Mott Road near Dunsmuir-Mott Muni Airport, for a purchase price of \$63,000. Resolution 25-199 adopted.

Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the request, advising that the subject property was designated as surplus County property in 2021 and the current resolution would reaffirm that fact. Ms. Johnson additionally provided an overview of the process to transfer the property to the City of Dunsmuir.

There being no public comments made, 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 declare (APN 030-230-460-000) to be "Exempt Surplus Land" under the Surplus Land Act, approve the agreement to convey this parcel to the City of Dunsmuir pursuant to Government Code Section 25365, authorize the Chair to sign Resolution 25-199, delegate transactional authority to the County Administrator and find this action exempt.

**County Administration** - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to the presence and impact of gray wolves in Siskiyou County. Resolution 25-200 adopted.

Project Coordinator Joanne Johnson appeared before the Board, briefly summarizing the request and a recent meeting in Sierra Valley concerning gray wolves. Ms. Johnson invited Agricultural Commissioner Jim Smith to provide a report regarding gray wolf depredations within the County.

Mr. Smith appeared before the Board and provided an overview, including statistics (i.e. pack size, adult and juvenile wolves, cattle deaths, etc.) related to gray wolf activity within the County and the local areas/ranches being impacted by the presence of wolves. Mr. Smith shared concerns regarding stress deaths that can occur in cattle when wolves are present, the lack of compensation to cattle producers for those losses and low numbers of cattle returning from grazing allotments. Mr. Smith summarized efforts being made to collar additional wolves to provide tracking data and provided an overview of recent sightings of wolves shadowing cattle herds in local areas. Mr. Smith additionally advised that the County Agriculture Department was providing the majority of wolf depredation investigation services rather than the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and he summarized the impacts to the Department's Predatory Program budget.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Mr. Smith regarding the Department's efforts to receive compensation for the investigative work being done, the need to contact state and federal legislative representatives regarding those efforts and lack of compensation, the availability of wolf activity information and the possibility of wolf presence in Scott Valley.

In response to Supervisor Haupt, UC Cooperative Extension Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor Grace Woodmansee appeared before the Board, advising that there were organizations pursuing legal action with regard to gray wolves but not specific to the gray wolf listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Brief discussion continued regarding the need for DNA sampling to determine which wolves are responsible for depredations.

Ms. Johnson presented and summarized a four-page red-lined revised Resolution, including recommended additions and language changes.

Supervisor Harris suggested development of tree line mapping that could indicate locations of habituated wolves are traveling and entering areas of the County and shared concerns regarding recent wolf activity not far from the Grass Lake Rest Area on State Highway 97, the lack of support from the state agency, the need for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to send a task force to collaborate with County staff regarding the gray wolf issue and the immeasurable negative impacts of wolf depredations on local cattle producers. Supervisor Harris spoke in support of engaging US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in an effort to address habituated wolves in the landscape.

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## **County Administration – (continued)**

Further discussion followed regarding the efforts being made by local organizations (i.e. Siskiyou County Cattlemen) to gather data related to the issue and support for the emergency proclamation Resolution.

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to adopt the Resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to the presence of and impacts from Gray Wolves in Siskiyou County.

Discussion followed, including Ms. Woodmansee, County Administrator Angela Davis and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed, regarding possible development of mapping, including the need for voluntary data from those impacted by wolf activity, the unknowns related to the impacts of gray wolf activity on producers utilizing federal land grazing permits, the need to address the issue with federal and state agencies, potential negative impacts should cattle no longer graze and reduce wildfire risk on federal lands, various Board members' participation in meetings regarding gray wolves, suggested discussion topics at those meetings and possible creation and distribution of signage in certain areas warning of wolf sighting/activity.

**County Clerk** - Discussion, direction and possible action re Appointments In Lieu of Election of eligible persons to various Special Districts pursuant to California Elections Code §10515. Various appointments in lieu of election made; remaining continued to December 2, 2025.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Clerk's Office was notified that Dunsmuir Fire Protection District incumbents Russell Elgin and Shirley Mei were interested in continuing to serve.

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 in lieu of election Shirley Mei to the Dunsmuir Fire Protection District for a full term, December 5, 2025, ending December 7, 2029 and Russell Elgin for a short term, December 5, 2025, ending December 3, 2027.

Continuing, Ms. Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office received information from the Copco Lake Fire Protection District that four incumbents were interested in continuing to serve.

It was moved by Supervisor Harris, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to appoint in lieu of election Derek Stevens and Susan Watts to the Copco Lake Fire Protection District for full terms, December 5, 2025, ending December 7, 2029 and appoint in lieu of election Patricia Grieb and Susan Ikenberry for short terms, December 5, 2025, ending December 3, 2027.

Following brief discussion regarding the process to manage special district appointments, the Chair advised that this item was continued to December 2, 2025.

**Appointments** - County Clerk - Appointment of one member and one alternate member to scheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for terms ending December 31, 2027. James Elliott appointed.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Behavioral Health Services Board recommended appointment of James Elliott who was interested in serving.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to appoint James Elliott to the scheduled vacancy on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for a term ending December 31, 2027.

No action was taken with regard to the remaining alternate member vacancy.

**Minute Approval** - October 21, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Valenzuela, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to approve the October 21, 2025 minutes as presented.

**Public Hearings** - County Administration - Public hearing to consider voluntary withdrawal of Siskiyou County from the Siskiyou Transportation Agency Joint Powers Agreement. Siskiyou County to voluntarily withdraw from the Siskiyou Transportation Agency Joint Powers Agreement; County Administrator authorized to issue/send a withdrawal notice to the Siskiyou Transportation Agency and County Clerk indicating an effective date of May 18, 2026.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider voluntary withdrawal of Siskiyou County from the Siskiyou Transportation Agency Joint Powers Agreement.

The Chair opened the public hearing.

County Administrator Angela Davis provided an overview of the request, including the process and associated timeframe to withdraw from the Siskiyou Transportation Agency (STA) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Ms. Davis advised that it may be longer than 120 days to complete the withdrawal process and recommended an effective date of May 18, 2026, which was six months out.

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

City of Dunsmuir representative Matthew Bryan appeared before the Board and shared concerns regarding the County's possible withdrawal from the STA and requested that the County wait to make the decision to withdraw.

City of Etna representative Cliff Munson appeared before the Board, requesting that the County wait to gain additional information before making the decision to withdraw from the STA.

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

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns that creation of the STA created additional staff workload and potentially increased costs associated with hiring an Executive Director and legal representation which would decrease funding that could be applied to transportation projects. Supervisor Kobseff additionally shared concerns regarding the potential negative impacts to County staff (i.e. County Counsel) and resources for support of the Local Transportation Commission (LTC) and the STA and spoke in support of dissolving the STA and withdrawing from the JPA.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and County Counsel Natalie E. Reed regarding impact to County staff/resources and the ability of local cities/jurisdictions to remain represented in the provision of transportation services.

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 voluntarily withdraw from the Siskiyou Transportation Agency, which shall cause the winding down and dissolution of the Agency and termination of the Siskiyou Transportation Agency Joint Powers Agreement made between the County, local jurisdictions and the Siskiyou County Local Transportation Commission, with the County Administrator authorized to issue/send a withdrawal notice to the Siskiyou Transportation Agency and County Clerk pursuant to the Siskiyou Transportation Agency Joint Powers Agreement Article 12 indicating an effective date of May 18, 2026.

**Public Hearings** - Community Development - Planning Division - Public hearing for the first reading of an Ordinance reclassifying approximately 318.73 acres of land north of the City of Etna, from Rural Residential Agricultural, 5-acre minimum (R-R-B-5) and Rural Residential Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (R-R-B-40) to Timberland Production District (TPZ) on APNs 023-060-640 and a portion of 023-060-650; Township 42 North, Range 9 West, Sections 17 & 20, MDB&M, and Resolution approving the cancellation of a portion of Williamson Act Contract No. 71011, upon the rezone to Timberland Production Zone, for the Whiteland Walker Zone Change Z2501 project. First reading approved; public hearing continued to December 2, 2025 for the second reading.

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

This was the time set for a public hearing for the first reading of an Ordinance reclassifying approximately 318.73 acres of land north of the City of Etna, from Rural Residential Agricultural, 5-acre minimum (R-R-B-5) and Rural Residential Agricultural, 40-acre minimum (R-R-B-40) to Timberland Production District (TPZ) on APNs 023-060-640 and a portion of 023-060-650; Township 42 North, Range 9 West, Sections 17 & 20, MDB&M, and Resolution approving the cancellation of a portion of Williamson Act Contract No. 71011, upon the rezone to Timberland Production Zone, for the Whiteland Walker Zone Change Z2501 project.

The Chair opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Bernadette Cizin appeared before the Board and provided an overview of the proposed zone change for certain parcels to Timber Production District (TPZ) and cancellation of the associated Williamson Act contract upon rezoning to TPZ.

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

Brief discussion followed between members of the Board and Ms. Cizin regarding the parcels that would remain within a Williamson Act contract and the parcels that would be removed/cancelled from Williamson Act contract once zoned TPZ.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff 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 proposed ordinance rezoning approximately 318.73 acres of land to Timberland Production District (TPZ) and amending Zoning District Map 10-6.205-362; and direct the Clerk to schedule a continued public hearing on adoption of the CEQA exemption, a second reading of the ordinance amending Zoning District Map 10-6.205-362 and consideration of the adoption of the resolution cancelling the portion of the Williamson Act Contract on December 2, 2025.

**Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division -** Continued public hearing to consider a Resolution approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and a Resolution approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-25-22 and finding the project exempt from CEQA for The Nature Conservancy Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2522) project, located north and west of the city of Weed, including discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution denying the rescission and re-entry and issuance of a Notice of Non-renewal for property under Williamson Act Contract No. 74008. No action taken.

This was the time set for a continued public hearing to consider a Resolution approving an amendment to an existing Agricultural Preserve and a Resolution approving the rescission and re-entry of existing Williamson Act Contracts under Application APA-25-22 and finding the project exempt from CEQA for The Nature Conservancy Agricultural Preserve Amendment and Williamson Act Contract Rescission and Reentry (APA2522) project, located north and west of the city of Weed, including discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution denying the rescission and re-entry and issuance of a Notice of Non-renewal for property under Williamson Act Contract No. 74008, having been continued from October 21, 2025.

Planning Division Director Hailey Lang appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the need for research and evaluation of issues that have arisen concerning the recent processing of Williamson Act (WA) contract amendments. Ms. Lang recommended a six-month moratorium on the processing of WA contract amendment applications, rescission and re-entry and WA contract non-renewal requests. Ms. Lang advised that staff would continue to process certain cancellation applications/projects in the interim and that staff would develop a 'white paper' to present and discuss with the Board at a future date in order to gather direction regarding the future of WA contract amendment processing.

Supervisor Kobseff spoke in support of the proposed moratorium and the need to research and discuss The Nature Conservancy's (TNC's) grant agreement that requires a permanent dedication of a significant portion of the property's water rights for instream flow within six years of the close of escrow on the Parks Creek Ranch purchase.

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

Discussion followed between members of the Board regarding the potential infringement of private property rights from the Board's actions and similar questions involving water rights and adjudications in the Scott Valley.

In response to the Chair, County Counsel Natalie E. Reed advised that pursuant to agreement of the Applicant (TNC) and the Planning Division, the Board would not be requested to take further action on this matter and the public hearing would close until the Planning Division presents a 'white paper' and possible revised Williamson Act rule/guidelines and reconsideration of this and other similar projects at a later date.

There being no public comments received, the Chair declared the public hearing closed with no action taken.

In response to audience member Amy Campbell, Ms. Reed advised that the Chair could re-open the public hearing to allow for public comments.

Chair Ogren re-opened the public hearing.

TNC Senior Project Director Amy Campbell appeared before the Board, presenting and summarizing a one-page flyer regarding TNC's vision for Parks Creek Ranch. Ms. Campbell provided an overview of TNC's plans for the property over the next ten years, including anticipated placement of the property in conservation easement and with a desired sale of the property to a private third party interested in continuing agricultural usage of the land.

Parks Creek Ranch Manager Molly Breitmun appeared before the Board speaking in support of the efforts made on the Ranch to support the agricultural community, assist the ranching tenants succeed in their ranching operations, monitor and gather data regarding irrigation water usage and efficiency and to reduce wildfire fuels hazards. Ms. Breitmun spoke in support of the property remaining under Williamson Act contract.

There being no further public comments, Chair Ogren declared the public hearing closed with no action taken.

## **Board and Staff Reports**

Supervisor Harris advised of attending the Cattleman's Dinner, the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Sculpture Garden and his participation in the Read Across Siskiyou event at Montague Preschool. Supervisor Harris additionally advised of attending a Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission meeting and a wolf tour with Supervisor Kobseff and County staff.

Supervisor Haupt advised of attending the Cattleman's Dinner, Veterans' Day services at the Etna and Fort Jones cemeteries, the Read Across America event and Criminal Justice Partnership meeting.

Supervisor Valenzuela advised of attending the Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce meeting, California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Finance Corp meeting and the Latino Caucus and participating in a tour of an oil refinery in Lafayette California.

Supervisor Kobseff advised of his participation in a Zoom call with Blue Shield of California staff regarding Blue Shield and Included Health service issues and advised of attending the annual Hammond Ranch Homeowners meeting, a meeting with City of Weed staff and the Cattleman's' Dinner. Supervisor Kobseff further advised of attending a meeting regarding the Sierra Valley wolf issues, a Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission meeting, a meeting with the Farm Bureau, a Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Predatory Species Management Committee meeting via Zoom and Family Water Alliance event and a tour of wolf impacts in the County with Supervisor Harris. Supervisor Kobseff advised of plans to attend an upcoming Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR) meeting.

Supervisor Ogren advised of her attendance, via Zoom for a Pacific Power California Wildfire Advisory Board meeting, a Continuum of Care (CoC) Advisory Board meeting, a walk-through of the County Library and advised of participating in the Read Across America event. Supervisor Ogren further advised of her attendance at a PSA 2 Area Agency on Aging Executive Board meeting, a Criminal Justice meeting, Siskiyou County Fish and Game Commission meeting, a Collier Interpretive and Information Center (CIIC) meeting and an EMS Advisory and Healthcare Coalition meeting.

Continued...

## **Board and Staff Reports – (continued)**

In addition, Supervisor Ogren advised of attending a Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting and the Cattleman's Dinner.

**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, initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4), two cases, commenced at 12:29 p.m., concluded at 12:51 p.m., with action taken.

### **Report On Closed Session**

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 12:51 p.m., with the following reportable action taken.

With regard to item 13A, 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 recused herself, leaving the Board Room at 12:47 p.m., and not returning.

With regard to item 13C, 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, Ms. Reed advised that it was moved by Supervisor Harris and seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried with a unanimous vote of YES to initiate litigation. The defendants and other particulars of the case shall be disclosed to any person upon inquiry once formally commenced.

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

Attest:

Laura Bynum, County Clerk

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Nancy Ogren, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Deputy