



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SIERRA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

Lee Adams, Vice-Chair, District 1

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Peter W. Huebner, District 2

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The Sierra County Board of Supervisors met in special session commencing at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 16, 2020. This meeting was recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors' website at www.sierracounty.ca.gov

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Chair Beard

ROLL CALL

Present: Lee Adams, Vice-Chair, Supervisor, District #1
Peter W. Huebner, Supervisor, District #2
Paul Roen, Supervisor, District #3
Jim Beard, Supervisor, Chair, District #4
Sharon Dryden, Supervisor, District #5

Staff: Heather Foster, County Clerk-Recorder
Amanda Uhrhammer, Deputy County Counsel
Van Maddox, Auditor/Treasurer-Tax Collector
Tim Beals, Director of Planning and Transportation
Lea Salas, Director of Behavioral Health
Vickie Clark, Director of Health and Social Services
Celia Sutton-Pado, County Health Officer
Mike Fisher, Sheriff-Coroner

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REGULAR AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda.

APPROVED. Motion: Huebner/Dryden/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At 9:02 a.m. Chair Beard opened public comment.

Supervisor Adams commented that Sierra County is 168 years old today.

At 9:03 a.m. Chair Beard closed public comment with no further persons addressing the Board.

3. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

3.A. Update from County Public Health, County OES, and County Sheriff Office (“EOC Group”) on the Declared Local State of Emergency and the County Health Officer-Public Health Emergency Declaration surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic and discussion and direction to staff on the following:

Reports were given by the Director of Public Works, Director of Health and Social Services, County Health Officer, Director of Behavioral Health and the Sheriff regarding the status of County operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) status and recommendation to the US Forest Service and Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA).

Comments were received by the Director of Public Works, Supervisor Huebner, Supervisor Adams, and Congressman LaMalfa’s Field Representative Shane Starr regarding the County’s concerns pertaining to the impacts to the community of Sierra City from the PCT hikers and reaching out to the Reno postal distribution center to express the County’s concerns with respect to the delivery of PCT hiker packages to the Sierra City Post Office.

Following considerable discussion, the Board moved to authorize drafting and submitting a letter to the Nevada Postal Director expressing the County’s concerns regarding the delivery of PCT hiker’s packages to the Sierra City Post Office with copies to the PCTA and Congressman LaMalfa’s office.

APPROVED. Motion: Adams/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

2. Discussion of special events permitted or planned for 2020.

The Director of Public Works provided background on the number of special event permits that have been filed and the events that have been canceled for this year.

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Discussion ensued with the Board.

Following discussion and by consensus, the Board directed suspending encroachment permits for special events based on the current public health order and state order, and to reevaluate the issuance of permits at the June 2, 2020 Board meeting.

Public comment was received by Greg Carter, Jesse Passafiume and Greg Williams on behalf of the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship in regards to this year's Downieville Classic Mountain Bike Race.

Considerable discussion ensued in regards to whether the Downieville Classic Mountain Bike Race could be held in late July or August or if the event should be canceled.

Public comment was received by Bill Copren in regards the San Francisco State's Sierra Nevada Field Campus and the Kentucky Mine.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

Following discussion, the Director of Public Works clarified that the Kentucky Mine should remain closed through June 1, 2020 and there should not be an issue with having the curator on site.

3. Measures proposed to be implemented to communicate community exposure concerns from visitors coming into the county.

The Director of Planning commented on posting signs to encourage people to stay home due to the number of people traveling to this region and compromising the community health.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

Public comment was received by Donna Hayes, Goodyears Bar, regarding the number of rafters and kayakers on Highway 49.

The Sheriff indicated that based on their investigation it was determined this was a private group of individuals rafting and they are packing up and leaving.

Public comment was received by Chris Fichtel on behalf of the Nature Conservancy regarding limiting the number of people traveling on the County road that ends at the Independence Lake Preserve parking lot.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Board would be in favor of closing the County road.

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Following discussion and by consensus, the Board authorized the Nature Conservancy to place a sign in the public right-of-way, without blocking the County road, stating that the Independence Lake Preserve is closed at the Henness Pass crossing.

The Director of Public Works commented on the status of the Jackson Meadows campground and boat ramp complex, the Webber Lake campground and hotel, and the roads the County and Forest Service serve to these properties.

4. Courtesy notification to Forest Service summer home tract permittees and recreational subdivision property owners on county activities regarding the current pandemic response.

The Director of Public Works proposed sending a courtesy notice to each summer home tract permittee and property owner at Greene Acres informing them of what the County is doing in response to the pandemic.

By consensus, the Board authorized the Director to proceed with sending courtesy notices to the summer home tract permittees and Greene Acre property owners.

The Director continued to comment on plans to mitigate the influx of visitors to the area over Memorial Day weekend and the letter requested by CSAC regarding COVID-19 funding for counties.

Comments were received by Supervisor Adams regarding the proposed letter.

The Board moved to approve the letter to the County's state congressional delegation in regards to COVID-19 funding for counties.

APPROVED. Motion: Huebner/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

Discussion ensued regarding Memorial Day weekend and waiting to see how things progress before reacting.

ADJOURN

At 11:40 a.m., with no further business, Chair Beard adjourned the meeting.

JIM BEARD, CHAIR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

HEATHER FOSTER
CLERK OF THE BOARD