



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SIERRA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Lee Adams, District 1**

P.O. Box 1 - Downieville, CA 95936 - 530-289-3506 - supervisor1@sierracounty.ca.gov

**Lila Heuer, District 2**

P.O. Box 485 - Sierra City, CA 96125 - 916-580-5608 - lheuer@sierracounty.ca.gov

**Paul Roen, Vice Chair, District 3**

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**Terry LeBlanc, District 4**

P.O. Box 387 - Loyalton, CA 96118 - 707-489-0314 - tleblanc@sierracounty.ca.gov

**Sharon Dryden, Chair, District 5**

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The Sierra County Board of Supervisors met in regular session commencing at 9:00 a.m. on April 18, 2023, at 105 Beckwith Street, Social Hall, Loyalton, CA. This meeting was recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors' website at [www.sierracounty.ca.gov](http://www.sierracounty.ca.gov).

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Supervisor LeBlanc

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Lee Adams, Supervisor, District #1  
Lila Heuer, Supervisor, District #2  
Paul Roen, Supervisor, District #3  
Terry LeBlanc, Supervisor, District #4  
Sharon Dryden, Supervisor, Chair, District #5

**Staff:** Heather Foster, County Clerk-Recorder  
David Prentice, County Counsel  
Van Maddox, Auditor/Treasurer Tax Collector  
Tim Beals, Director of Planning/Public Works/Transportation/OES  
Lea Salas, Director of Behavioral Health  
Lori McGee, Interim Director of Social Services  
Rhonda Grandi, Interim Director of Public Health

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Mike Fisher, Sheriff/Coroner

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

**14. CONSENT AGENDA**

14.A. Amendment to Agreement 2021-024 between Feather River Forestry, LLC and the County of Sierra for Green Acres Forest Health and Resilience Project. (PUBLIC WORKS)

**APPROVED,** Agreement 2023-022

14.B. Resolution approving amendment to sub-award Agreement 2022-025 between the County of Sierra and the California Fire Safe Council for the California Fire Safe Council Coordinator Grant Program and authorizing the Deputy Director to execute the agreement. (PUBLIC WORKS)

**ADOPTED,** Resolution 2023-032 and **APPROVED,** Agreement 2023-023

14.C. Resolution renewing the local state of emergency proclamation adopted on March 7, 2023, resulting from severe winter storms. (PUBLIC WORKS)

**ADOPTED,** Resolution 2023-034

14.D. Resolution approving Boating Safety and Waterways Financial Aid Program Agreement for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 between Sierra County and the California State Parks Boating and Waterways. (SHERIFF)

**ADOPTED,** Resolution 2023-035 and **APPROVED,** Agreement 2023-024

14.E. Minutes from the regular meeting held on March 21, 2023. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

14.F. Minutes from the regular meeting held on April 4, 2023. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

**APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

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At the request of the Clerk on behalf of the Chief Technology Officer, the Board moved to add the following item to the Regular Agenda as the matter came up subsequent to the posting of the agenda and requires action before the next meeting.

- 11.B. Master Service Agreement between Charger Access and Sierra County Health and Human Services for Ethernet (Direct Internet Access) service beginning approximately on July 1, 2023 through July 1, 2026 utilizing the Rural Healthcare Program through Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC).

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

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda as amended.

**APPROVED as amended.** Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

At 9:03 a.m. Chair Dryden opened the public comment opportunity.

Comments were received by Janet McHenry, Loyalton resident and former educator reminding the Board that May 4, 2023 is the National Day of Prayer which will be held at the Loyalton Fire House at noon.

Closed at 9:09 a.m. Chair Dryden closed the public comment opportunity.

## **3. COMMITTEE REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Dryden read an email received from Charles Schrammel, Friends of Plumas Wilderness Executive Director with respect to their board holding a meeting later this month to determine a path forward regarding the national monument campaign and not wanting to commit to holding a public meeting in Sierra County prior to their meeting.

Supervisor Roen commented on having received information that one of the Friends of Plumas Wilderness board members made a representation during their last public meeting held in Chester, that Sierra County was in support of the proposed national monument. Supervisor Roen further clarified for the record that Sierra County has not taken any position on this matter.

Supervisor LeBlanc reported on Family Day in the Park to be held this weekend and his intent to hand out his recycling books to the kids as it is also Earth Day.

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#### **4. DEPARTMENT MANAGERS' REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Director of Behavioral Health reported on the decision not to pursue the Bridge Housing Funding and the announcement of the Facilities Manager's retirement effective June 22, 2023 and the intent to advertise and hire the position prior to the current manager leaves.

The Interim Director of Public Health provided an update on the Cal-PPH Fellowship program and working to get a fellow on board in September; the Community Health Assessment and town hall meetings scheduled for April 26, 2023 at the Sierra City Community Hall and April 28, 2023 at the City of Loyalton Auditorium; and the upcoming COVID immunization program audit.

The Interim Director of Social Services reported on the completion of the adoption assistance payment review with no errors; the status of recruitments for the Integrated Case Worker and Social Worker positions which are now up on the Merit Systems website; having received the material on how to exit Merit Systems so the County can recruit on its own; and the California Social Work Education Center which provides education and monetary support to undergraduates pursuing carriers in social work.

#### **5. FOREST SERVICE UPDATE**

Beckwourth District Ranger Michael Rahe provided an update on working to hire 20 positions on the district; the obligation of approximately 90% of the large amount of funding the district received; the recreational site concessionaire looking to sell their permit to another organization; and having secured funding for the Frenchman Lake paving project.

Acting Yuba River District Ranger Andrew Mishler provided an update on staffing and various projects going on in the district.

#### **6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - LEA SALAS**

- 6.A. Approval of job description for Child and Family Psychologist and employment contract between Alisha Woods and County of Sierra for Behavioral Health Services.

The Director of Behavioral Health provided background on the proposed employment contract which allows the county to have a child phycologist three days a week and the availability of two educational loan repayment grants to this individual.

Chair Dryden expressed her appreciation that this position will be available in person.

The Director further clarified that this individual will be available one day a week on each side of the county.

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The Board moved to approve the job description for Child and Family Psychologist and employment contract between Alisha Woods and County of Sierra for Behavioral Health Services.

**APPROVED**, Agreement 2023-025. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **7. AUDITOR / TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR - VAN MADDOX**

- 7.A. Resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the 2022/2023 Final Budget making transfers pertaining to the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF) and authorizing certain LATCF expenditures out of the 2023/2024 Preliminary Budget.

The Auditor provided background on the LATCF and the Finance Committee's recommendations for use of the LATCF in the 2023/2024 Preliminary Budget.

Supervisor Adams explained that the list of recommended expenditures is considered to be the top priorities.

The Auditor clarified that the Finance Committee recommended \$50,000 for the Office 365 upgrade and \$6,000 of this will come out of this year's budget and the remaining \$44,000 will come out of next year's budget.

Chair Dryden expressed her appreciation to the Finance Committee.

Supervisor Adams also commented on the Finance Committee's recommendation to put forward \$200,000 towards new road equipment due to the new CARB requirements and the recommendation to fund one-time infrastructure requests including the Downieville and Calpine Community Halls, the county phone system and the required match to the Forest Service for the Green Acres and Roadside Fuels project.

Supervisor Roen indicated that the Sheriff informed him that the cost for the dispatch center has increased to \$35,000 and is requesting the Board make this adjustment. Supervisor Roen also clarified that he is working with Caterpillar on an opportunity to replace the county's road equipment.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the 2022/2023 Final Budget making transfers pertaining to the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds (LATCF) and authorizing certain LATCF expenditures out of the 2023/2024 Preliminary Budget as amended to increase the cost for the dispatch center to \$35,000.

**ADOPTED as amended**, Resolution 2023-036. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

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- 7.B. Resolution approving the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Participation Agreement 23-MCIPSIERRA-46 between the County of Sierra and the State of California Health and Human Services Agency Department of Health Care Services and authorizing the County Risk Manager to execute the agreement.

The Auditor provided background on the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Participation Agreement which is a renewal of the program and allows any inmates who need hospitalization to use Medi-Cal and protects the county against heavy medical losses from inmates.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Participation Agreement 23-MCIPSIERRA-46 between the County of Sierra and the State of California Health and Human Services Agency Department of Health Care Services and authorizing the County Risk Manager to execute the agreement.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2023-037 and **APPROVED**, Agreement 2023-026. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **8. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (OES) -TIM BEALS**

- 8.A. Resolution approving the transfer of the County OES Department to the County Sheriff-Coroner effective Thursday, May 25, 2023.

The Director of OES provided background on the proposed resolution transferring the responsibilities of OES to the Sheriff effective May 25, 2023.

Chair Dryden briefly explained that this reorganization is due to the Director of Planning's retirement after 50 years of service and the number of hats he has worn.

The Sheriff commented on the reorganization of OES and moving the Public Health Educator to OES half-time, which he believes she will be a fantastic addition to the OES process, and he is looking forward to developing the OES program under the Sheriff's office.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the transfer of the County OES Department to the County Sheriff-Coroner effective Thursday, May 25, 2023.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2023-038. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **13. TIMED ITEMS**

### **13.A. 10:00 AM SIERRA NEVADA CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND FIRST 5**

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Presentation by the Sierra Nevada Children's Services and First 5 and adoption of resolution declaring April 2023 "Month of the Young Child" in Sierra County.

Presentations were made by Katie Holley Filimonov, Sierra Nevada Children's Services Executive Director; Jessica Norman Sierra County Community Coordinator; and Candy Corcoran First 5 Executive Director

Following the presentation, Dana McAdams and the preschoolers distributed artwork and shared songs with the Board.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution declaring April 2023 "Month of the Young Child" in Sierra County.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2023-039. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

**9. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - TIM BEALS**

9.A. Resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the 2022-2023 Final Budget making transfers to the Department of OES budget due to the local state of emergency.

The Director of Transportation explained that the proposed resolution reflects the cost of the warming centers and purchase of distribution of fuel for generators to the west side communities due to the winter storms.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the 2022-2023 Final Budget making transfers to the Department of OES budget due to the local state of emergency.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2023-040. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

9.B. Approval of Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) to Master Stewardship Agreement 2020-095 for the North Yuba-Green Acres Roadside Fuels Project-IRA.

Supervisor Roen provided background on the receipt of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant in the amount of \$500,000 for the North Yuba Project; the Sierra Nevada Conservancy planning grant in the amount of \$100,000 for the Green Acres Project adjacent to the North Yuba Project; and the \$250,000 implementation grant to move the Green Acres Project forward.

Supervisor Roen continued to provide background on the Tahoe National Forest Supervisor reaching out to him questioning whether the county could utilize funding for emergency roadside fuels reduction and to support the Green Acres Project; working with Supervisor Adams, Danielle Bradfield, and county staff to come up with the best strategy

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to utilize the \$3.3 million which would require a \$165,000 match; and the determination to propose the Mountain House Road roadside fuels project to the Forest Service, which was approved and is what is before the Board today.

Supervisor Adams commented on the map in the board packet which identifies the fire breaks to help protect the communities of Goodyears Bar, Alleghany, Forest City, Downieville and Green Acres.

Chair Dryden expressed her appreciation to the Forest Service for recognizing Sierra County's needs and committing \$3.3 million.

Brief discussion ensued with the Board.

In response to Sandy Sanders' inquiry, Supervisor Roen clarified they are hoping to have this project completed by the end of summer.

The Director of Planning reviewed in detail the proposed Supplemental Agreement, which is under the umbrella of the Master Stewardship Agreement and the commitments necessary by the county to move forward with the project.

The Director further explained that he has requested the Finance Committee to meet to discuss what the administrative expectations are going to be with respect to this project.

Supervisor Roen clarified that the implementation of this project shouldn't be too daunting as the County Forester has been working on the RFPs for the North Yuba Project which should be rather reflective of this project.

The Board moved to approve the Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) to Master Stewardship Agreement 2020-095 for the North Yuba-Green Acres Roadside Fuels Project-IRA.

**APPROVED**, Agreement 2023-027. Motion: Adams/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

**13.B. 10:30 AM RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

Presentation of Resolution of Appreciation for Irv Christensen, Planning Commissioner.

Supervisor Adams presented the Resolution of Appreciation to Irv Christensen, Planning Commissioner.

Mr. Christensen thanked the Board for having the opportunity to serve Sierra County.



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Comments were received by the Director of Planning and Monica Beachell, Planning Administrative Secretary.

- 9.C. Resolution declaring a parcel of County property located in Downieville as surplus and declaring intention to convey property to Cemetery District #3.

The Director of Planning provided background on a prior inquiry to the Board from an individual interested in purchasing this property from the county, which property houses grave sites and is being used for this purpose. The Board declined and expressed the desire to convey the property to the Cemetery District #3.

The Director continued to explain that the proposed resolution begins the conveyance process.

Supervisor Adams expressed his support of the conveyance as he is concerned with the loss of the institutional memory of this property containing grave sites should this issue come up 30 years from now. Supervisor Adams added that the Cemetery District is also in favor of the conveyance.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution declaring a parcel of County property located in Downieville as surplus and declaring intention to convey property to Cemetery District #3.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2023-041. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **10. PLANNING / BUILDING - TIM BEALS**

- 10.A. Discussion/direction on reduced hours for the current Building Inspector phasing into retirement.
- 10.B. Discussion/direction to advertise for a Building Inspector I through III position prior to the retirement of the current Building Inspector.

The Director of Planning provided background on the current Building Inspector's decision to phase into retirement, anticipating a reduction of hours to 32 beginning in June, and requesting to advertise immediately for a Building Inspector to have this position shadow the current Building Inspector who has been here for 18 years.

Following brief discussion and by consensus, the Board directed staff to authorized for the current Building Inspector phasing into retirement and to advertise for a Building Inspector I through III position prior to the retirement of the current Building Inspector.

- 10.C. Discussion/action to authorize the budget source for payment of the required \$25,000 match for the County Broadband Strategic Plan grant.

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The Director of Planning provided background on the prior discussions regarding the match for the County Broadband Strategic Plan grant and the need to determine the source of the match which is necessary to move forward with this process.

The Board moved to authorize the \$25,000 match for the County Broadband Strategic Plan grant out of the LATCF (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund).

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

## **11. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

11.A. Appointments to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board for terms that will expire April 30, 2023. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Board moved to appoint Sara Wright and Debra Guzman to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

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

11.B. Master Service Agreement between Charger Access and Sierra County Health and Human Services for Ethernet (Direct Internet Access) service beginning approximately on July 1, 2023 through July 1, 2026 utilizing the Rural Healthcare Program through Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC).

The Chief Technology Officer provided background on Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) which pays a portion of telecom internet access for the departments of Health and Human Services, the proposed agreement with Charger Access which will drop the costs from \$250 a month to \$160, and the requirement to approve this by May 1, 2023 to avoid an increase in the price.

The Board moved to approve the Master Service Agreement between Charger Access and Sierra County Health and Human Services for Ethernet (Direct Internet Access) service beginning approximately on July 1, 2023 through July 1, 2026 utilizing the Rural Healthcare Program through Universal Service Administrative Co. (USAC).

**APPROVED,** Agreement 2023-028. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT**

### **12. CLOSED SESSION**

12.A. Closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54957 - performance review regarding Director of Planning/Public Works.

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12.B. Closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54957 – Public Employment – County Counsel.

The Board met in closed session from 11:20 a.m. to 12:24 p.m. With respect to the two closed session items, Chair Dryden reported that no action was taken, and direction was given to staff.

**ADJOURN**

At 12:24 p.m., with no further business, Chair Dryden adjourned the meeting.

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SHARON DRYDEN, CHAIR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

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HEATHER FOSTER  
CLERK OF THE BOARD