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

Lee Adams, District 1
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Paul Roen, Chair, District 3
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Terry LeBlanc, District 4
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The Sierra County Board of Supervisors met in special session commencing at 10:00 a.m. on June 29, 2022 in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers, Courthouse, Downieville, CA. This meeting was recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors’ website at www.sierracounty.ca.gov.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Supervisor Adams

ROLL CALL

Present:
Lee Adams, Supervisor, District #1
Peter W. Huebner, Supervisor, District #2
Paul Roen, Supervisor, Chair, District #3
Terry LeBlanc, Supervisor, District #4
Sharon Dryden, Supervisor, Vice 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
Laura Marshall, Assessor/Solid Waste Fee Administrator
APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.A. Resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the County 2021/2022 Final Budget regarding Law Enforcement Realignment. (AUDITOR)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2022-076

6.B. Resolution authorizing the Auditor to make certain changes to the 2022/2023 Preliminary Budget to encumber funds for the Clerk-Recorder’s new land management and clerk related system. (CLERK-RECORDER)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2022-077

6.C. Review and approval of application for vacant Director position on the Nevada County Resource Conservation District. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA

REGULAR AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At 10:06 a.m. Chair Roen opened and closed the public comment opportunity with no persons addressing the Board.

3. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

3.A. Report on meeting held June 22, 2022, with the Acting Tahoe National Forest Supervisor Matt Jedra to address a number of issues of concern previously identified by the Board of Supervisors, and possible action/direction to staff. (CHAIR ROEN)

Chair Roen provided an update on the meeting held June 22, 2022.
In response to Chair Roen’s inquiry, the Assessor indicated that she had not received any response from the Forest Service since the meeting.

Chair Roen continued to comment on Acting Forest Supervisor Jedra’s offer to utilize the MSA (Master Stewardship Agreement) to have the county clean-up the campgrounds and around the communities if the Board is willing to consider it. The County Forester, Danielle Bradfield is willing to accept the task if the Board is willing to give the authority to move forward and investigate this.

Supervisor Adams indicated he is in favor of the county contracting the work out with oversight by the County Forester.

By consensus, the Board directed Chair Roen to move forward with looking into the opportunity of utilizing the MSA to have the county contract the clean-up of the campgrounds and work around the communities under the County Forester’s oversight.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

The Director of Planning commented on the issues discussed at the meeting and suggested following up with a letter to the Forest Service summarizing the county’s expectations.

Additional discussion ensued.

4. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - TIM BEALS

4.A. Resolution approving proposed Solid Waste Budget for the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year.

The Director of Public Works reviewed the status of the closure account and its potential impact to the budget, including the question of whether the county will have to have active or passive venting for the methane gas at the landfill site as the county has not received an answer from the State Regional Board.

The Director further reviewed in detail the history and status of the closure account and the authority from the state to transfer funds from the closure account to the operating side, so when all settles there will be approximately $650,000-700,000 remaining in the closure account that is not committed to financing the closure of the landfill. He intends on recommending these funds go towards the closure/post closure account for maintenance and monitoring of the landfill.

The Director continued to review the Solid Waste Fee Administrator’s expected revenues and the operating budget previously transmitted to the Board.

In response to Chair Roen’s inquiry regarding the $400,000 rollover, the Director explained the rollover is from anticipated budget items that weren’t utilized.
The Director continued to review the budget in detail including the significant increase in pollution insurance and A87 costs. The Director further explained that he doesn’t believe there needs to be a fee increase this year, however he anticipates the rollover next year to be significantly less so there may be a need to increase the fee next year.

Chair Roen suggested that if the fee increase next year is going to be significant, it might be a good idea to discuss an increase today.

Supervisor Dryden questioned what the effects will be to the budget as the only recycler is closing in Portola. Supervisor Dryden also expressed concerns with the attendants checking ID’s due to people from outside the county dumping at the county transfer stations, and the need to start discussing green waste management at the transfer sites due to the increase in green waste with all the firewise communities becoming very active.

Brief discussion ensued regarding green waste management options.

The Director commented on the closing of Daw’s Recycling Center in Portola and the county avoiding implementing a buyback program due to the state’s accounting requirements.

The Director continued to review what is being recycled by the county and the projected revenues; the need to continue to be firm in enforcing the county’s ordinance; and the amount of waste coming off federal lands.

Supervisor Adams extended his appreciation to staff and indicated he is willing to make a motion with the caveat that the Board needs to go into this with their eyes open and be realistic about a fee increase next year.

The Auditor commented on the need to have a reserve in the operating fund.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the proposed Solid Waste Budget for the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year.

ADOPTED, Resolution 2022-078. Motion: Adams/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

5. ASSESSOR / SOLID WASTE ADMINISTRATOR - LAURA A. MARSHALL

5.A. Resolution pertaining to Solid Waste Fees for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

The Solid Waste Fee Administrator commented on having a balanced budget this year but expressed concerns of not having a reserve and not having a rollover next year. The Solid Waste Fee Administrator further reviewed in detail what the fee increase
would need to be in the event the county needed to close a $100,000 to $700,000 hole in the budget.

Discussion ensued regarding a minimal increase to build up the reserve.

Following discussion, the Board made a motion of intent to increase the solid waste fees for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year to $20.38 per loose cubic yard – a $2.00 increase.

In response to the Solid Waste Fee Administrator’s inquiry regarding the unsecured mining claim bills going out prior to the hearing, the Auditor indicated that the increased rate won’t affect the unsecured until next year.

The Clerk requested holding the special meeting on August 23, 2022 to allow staff time to prepare and mail the protest ballots out.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY - continued

At 11:13 a.m. Chair Roen reopened the public comment opportunity.

The Sheriff provided an update on the Rices fire and the potential need to request mutual aid in the event the fire moves into Sierra County, which could have some significant financial impacts.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the status of the power outages in the county due to the fire.

The Director of Public Works strongly recommended the Board authorize him to proceed with a local state of emergency in the event the fire moves into the county, as this is a good measure to have in place for cost recovery.

Supervisor Adams clarified that by operation of law the Sheriff or the Director can declare a local state of emergency, which would be ratified by the Board.

The Clerk briefly reviewed the proposed resolution approving the Solid Waste Fee for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year – increasing the fee to $20.38 per loose cubic yard (a $2.00 increase), the required Proposition 218 protest vote and hearing notice, and setting the protest hearing for August 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in Downieville.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the Solid Waste Fee for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year and authorized the Clerk and Assessor to make any necessary corrections.
June 29, 2022

ADOPTED, Resolution 2022-079. Motion: Adams/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

ADJOURN

At 11:57 a.m., with no further business, Chair Roen adjourned the meeting.

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PAUL ROEN, CHAIR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

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HEATHER FOSTER
CLERK OF THE BOARD