



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

Lee Adams, District 1

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Lila Heuer, District 2

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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 October 17, 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Supervisor Adams

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
Rhetta Vander Ploeg, County Counsel
Van Maddox, Auditor/Treasurer Tax Collector
Bryan Davey, Director of Public Works/Transportation
Brandon Pangman, Director of Planning/Building
Sheryll Prinz-McMillan, Director of Behavioral Health

October 17, 2023

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

12. CONSENT AGENDA

12.A. Authorization to pay Quote# NPGK005 for 36-month term of Microsoft 365 Enterprise Licensing. (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)

12.B. Second amendment to Agreement 2023-117 between Feather River Forestry, LLC and the County of Sierra for North Yuba Landscape - Greene Acres Fuel Reduction & Restoration Professional Forester Services. (PUBLIC WORKS)

APPROVED, Agreement 2023-132

12.C. Minutes from the regular meeting held on September 19, 2023. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At 9:03 a.m. Chair Dryden opened and closed the public comment opportunity with no members of the public addressing the Board.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Adams reported on the Finance Committee meeting and the discussions regarding the issues with the health insurance increase inequality and the determination that it can't be fixed; department manager salaries and the committee's recommendation to have the department managers bring a recommendation back to the committee; and the general plan update costs which will be discussed under the item on today's agenda.

Supervisor Adams further reported on RCRC's Fire Insurance Committee meeting and the discussions regarding the push to get as many people as possible off the California FAIR Plan; whether rate payers will see a decrease in rates due to the low fire

danger this year; and concerns with the majority of fires occurring on national forest lands and RCRC working with other western states to put more pressure on congress to help the Forest Service mitigate fire danger on national forest lands.

Supervisor Adams added that he also questioned RCRC on the HCD housing element issue and RCRC commenting on HCD being overdue in putting together a working group and that Sierra County isn't likely the only agency dealing with the issue of requiring an updated housing element when there is a decline in population.

Supervisor Roen reported on the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District meeting and the district's intent to install a monitoring well on county property located on Smithneck Road. The agreement between the district and county will be on the next meeting agenda for consideration.

Supervisor Heuer reported on AAA4 meeting and working on implementing programs for the county.

Chair Dryden also commented on the AAA4 working on a needs assessment for the county's senior population.

4. DEPARTMENT MANAGERS' REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Director of Transportation reported on the Solid Waste Committee meeting regarding discussions on the final closure of landfill and the state finally signing off on the passive vent system; the agreement with Plumas County for transferring solid waste; the long term hauling contract with Intermountain Disposal; and additional operational items.

5. FOREST SERVICE UPDATE

Sierraville District Ranger Rachel Hutchinson reported on the status of the Sagehen under burn project; the summit under burn project on Highway 89; timber sales; and campground closures.

Beckwourth District Ranger Michael Rahe reported on fire restrictions ending; ongoing prescribed burn and timber sale projects in the district; the termination of the campground concessionaire contract and actively soliciting for a new contractor; the status of the Frenchman Lake road construction; completion of the phase 1 roadside hazard project and working on soliciting phase 2 of the project; and a recent request for an outfitter and guide permit in the Lakes Basin area.

Yuba River District Ranger Thomas Parrack reported on the status of burning near the 09 Road; the status of the Highway 49 project; campground closures; continuing hazardous tree work on campgrounds; and staffing.

In response to Ranger Parrack’s inquiry, the Director of Transportation indicated that the Salmon Lake Road Bridge project is complete, and the Packer Lake Road Bridge project is incomplete but will be shutting down on October 27th.

Supervisor Roen indicated that in response to the recent prescribed burns he has reached out to the Fire Safe Council to contact all the firewise communities so they can give a prewarning to the communities about prescribed burns.

Supervisor Adams questioned if the Forest Service will leave any lower elevation campgrounds accessible to the public, and if not, to please consider keeping at least one open.

Ranger Parrack responded that he isn’t familiar with the area yet but would definitely consider the request.

6. PUBLIC HEALTH / SOCIAL SERVICES

6.A. Presentation and discussion regarding Sierra County's Community Health Assessment (CHA).

The Interim Director of Public Health provided detailed background on the findings of the Sierra County Community Health Assessment. The Interim Director further reviewed measures taken to meet some of the needs that were identified early on including the senior outreach nursing program; implementation of an evidence based home visiting program for parents of young children; hiring of a part-time veterans service position; the dental van; working on the implementation of the CalFresh Healthy Living Program focusing on the senior population; increased collaboration between Public Health and Behavioral Health; and researching potential partners to assist the department with the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) process in Spring of 2024

In response to Chair Dryden’s inquiry, the Interim Director explained the she feels it would be beneficial to bring someone in from the outside to analyze the findings in the needs assessment and step the department through the CHIP process.

The Interim Director further commended Public Health Nurse Sally Easy for the presentation and thanked the Board for their time.

Supervisor Adams and Chair Dryden briefly commented on the presentation.

7. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - BRYAN DAVEY

7.A. Resolution authorizing payment to Home Hardening Solutions, Inc. for roof repair on the Sierra Brooks Well 2 Pump House.

The Director of Transportation provided background the roof repair on the Sierra Brooks Well 2 Pump House.

In response to Chair Dryden’s inquiry, the Director clarified that the project will be completed before winter.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution authorizing payment to Home Hardening Solutions, Inc. for roof repair on the Sierra Brooks Well 2 Pump House.

ADOPTED, Resolution 2023-119. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

8. PLANNING / BUILDING - BRANDON PANGMAN

8.A. Agreement between Sierra County and Truckee River Watershed Council securing cash deposit to cover performance bond for mitigation, monitoring, and remediation associated with a grading permit for a stream restoration project (Lower Lacey Meadows - Phase 2).

The Director of Planning provided background on the proposed agreement.

The Board moved to approve the agreement between Sierra County and Truckee River Watershed Council securing cash deposit to cover performance bond for mitigation, monitoring, and remediation associated with a grading permit for a stream restoration project (Lower Lacey Meadows - Phase 2).

APPROVED, Agreement 2023-133. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

8.B. Agreement with Price Consulting Services for the 7th Cycle General Plan Housing Element Update, including a General Fund transfer and additional allocation up to \$15,000.

The Director of Planning provided background on the requirement to update the housing element every five years; the negotiations with the City of Loyalton’s consultant for the 7th Cycle General Plan Housing Element Update which proposal came in \$15,000 higher than the \$50,000 allocated in the budget; and utilizing the \$25,000 allocated in his budget for the Sierra Buttes Master Plan to offset the \$15,000, as he doesn’t anticipate completing the project this year.

The Director added that the Loyalton City Council has asked him to make a similar presentation to the city.

In response to Chair Dryden’s inquiry, the Director clarified that he will still collaborate with the City of Loyalton and take advantage of cost savings where possible, including undertaking more of the presentations rather than having the consultant do them, carving out some of the meetings, and holding joint meetings/workshops with the city. The Director further clarified that the proposal is not to exceed \$65,000 with or without the city.

Supervisor Adams commented on his discussions with RCRC regarding the county having to spend money on this when we have negative population numbers and working to correct this in the future. Supervisor Adams added that the Finance Committee agreed with the recommendation to transfer the \$15,000 for this project and to park \$189,000 of COVID funds for the general plan update.

The Board moved to approve the agreement with Price Consulting Services for the 7th Cycle General Plan Housing Element Update, including a General Fund transfer and additional allocation up to \$15,000.

APPROVED, Agreement 2023-134. Motion: Roen/Adams/Unanimous

9. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

9.A. Appointment of board representative and alternate to the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board of Directors for year 2023/2024. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Board moved to appoint Supervisor Adams as the board representative and Supervisor Dryden as the board alternate to the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board of Directors for year 2023/2024.

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

9.B. Introduction and waive first reading of an ordinance amending Section 2.04.070 of the Sierra County Code pertaining to compensation for County Supervisors. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Clerk provided brief background on the proposed ordinance which increases the Board of Supervisors' salary by the same amount as the represented and non-represented employees.

Chair Dryden recommended increasing the amount the Chair receives to \$100 per meeting due to the required amount of work.

The Clerk clarified that any changes to the proposed ordinance would need to come back as a first reading.

The Board moved to waive the first reading of an ordinance amending Section 2.04.070 of the Sierra County Code pertaining to compensation for County Supervisors.

Supervisor Adams expressed concerns when dealing with their own salaries.

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

10. AUDITOR / TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR - VAN MADDOX

- 10.A. Resolution adopting revised wage tables for the County of Sierra and Special Revenue Funds to reflect the approved salary increase for represented employees due to the increase in health insurance and authorizing the same increase for non-represented employees.

Supervisor Roen briefly commented on the Board of Supervisors' intent for every employee to receive an equal increase of \$150.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution adopting revised wage tables for the County of Sierra and Special Revenue Funds to reflect the approved salary increase for represented employees due to the increase in health insurance and authorizing the same increase for non-represented employees.

The Auditor explained how adding \$150 to each step in the pay table would throw off the integrity of the table, so there would no longer be a 5% spread between each step. The Auditor also referred to his comments in a prior meeting wherein he was referring to how this increase impacts the classes and promotions.

ADOPTED, Resolution 2023-120. Motion: Adams/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

11. CLOSED SESSION

- 11.A. Conference with labor negotiators pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6, Rhetta Vander Ploeg Negotiator, all units.
- 11.B. Closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8 - Conference with Real Property Negotiators. Property: 105 Beckwith Street Loyalton CA. Rhetta Vander Ploeg, Negotiator. Negotiating parties: County of Sierra and City of Loyalton. Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment.
- 11.C. Closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54957 – performance review regarding Interim Director of the division of Social Services.
- 11.D. Closed session pursuant to Government Code section 54957 – Public Employment – Director of Health and Social Services.

CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT

The Board met in closed session from 10:19 a.m. to 11:40 p.m. County Counsel reported Item 11.A. was taken off calendar; no action was taken, and direction was given to staff on Item 11.B.; the performance review was given on Item 11.C.; and no action was taken, and direction was given to staff on Item 11.D.

October 17, 2023

ADJOURN

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

SHARON DRYDEN, CHAIR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

HEATHER FOSTER
CLERK OF THE BOARD