



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

Lee Adams, Chair, District 1

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Peter W. Huebner, Vice-Chair, District 2

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Paul Roen, District 3

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Terry LeBlanc, District 4

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Sharon Dryden, District 5

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The Sierra County Board of Supervisors met in regular session commencing at 9:00 a.m. on March 16, 2021. This meeting was recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors' website at www.sierracounty.ca.gov.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Supervisor Roen

ROLL CALL

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

Staff: Heather Foster, County Clerk-Recorder
Melissa Kinneer, Assistant Clerk-Recorder
David Prentice, Deputy County Counsel
Van Maddox, Auditor/Treasurer Tax Collector
Tim Beals, Director of Planning/Public Works/Transportation/OES
Lea Salas, Director of Behavioral Health
Vickie Clark, Director of Health and Social Services
Jeremy Miller, Chief Technology Officer

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APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

13. CONSENT AGENDA

13.A. Resolution adopting the Sierra County Lunch and Break Policy.
(PERSONNEL)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-031

13.B. Resolution adopting the Sierra County Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy. (PERSONNEL)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-032

13.C. Advance approval of expenditures in the amount of \$9,500 to Cashman Equipment for main control valve repair and related parts and labor for Road Department vehicle #285, a Caterpillar backhoe. (PUBLIC WORKS)

13.D. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement 2014-095 with MGE Engineering for time extension on the Salmon Lake Road Bridge Replacement Project. (PUBLIC WORKS)

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-019

13.E. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement 2014-096 with MGE Engineering for time extension on the Packer Lake Road Bridge Replacement Project. (PUBLIC WORKS)

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-020

13.F. Amendment to Professional Services Agreement 2014-097 with MGE Engineering for time extension on the Plumbago Creek Bridge Replacement Project. (PUBLIC WORKS)

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-021

13.G. Resolution approving plans, specifications and bidding documents and authorization to solicit bids for the 2017 Storm Damage project RD-490 Brandy City Roads Sites 1 & 2 FEMA-4308-DR-CA P.A. ID 091-99091-00. (PUBLIC WORKS)

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ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-033

- 13.H. Resolution approving plans, specifications and bidding documents and authorization to solicit bids for the 2017 Storm Damage project RD-520 Jim Crow Road FEMA 4301-DR-CA P.A. ID 091-99091-00. (PUBLIC WORKS)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-034

- 13.I. Resolution approving plans, specifications and bidding documents and authorization to solicit bids for the 2017 Storm Damage project RD-570 Long Valley Road FEMA-4301 DR-CA P.A. ID 091-99091-00. (PUBLIC WORKS)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-035

- 13.J. Resolution approving plans, specifications and bidding documents and authorization to solicit bids for the 2017 Storm Damage project RD-402 Old Tollbridge Road FEMA-4308 DR-CA P.A. ID 091-99091-00. (PUBLIC WORKS)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-036

- 13.K. Resolution authorizing expenditures under the Fiscal Year 20 State Homeland Security Grant Program. (PUBLIC WORKS)

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-037

- 13.L. Amendment to Lease Agreement for office space with Western Sierra Medical Clinic. (AUDITOR)

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-022

- 13.M. Authorization to pay Cadence for Core Switch Update Project in the amount of \$8,139.47. (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)
- 13.N. Authorization to pay Cadence for VM Host Server Upgrade Project in the amount of \$27,971.78. (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)
- 13.O. Authorization to pay Cadence for Wi-Fi Update Project in the amount of \$29,996.81. (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)
- 13.P. Resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Sierra and Nor-Cal Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) to redirect the total allocation of Sierra County's Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 2 (HHAP-2) program funds in the amount

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of \$5,987 and authorize the Administrative Director of Behavioral Health to sign.

ADOPTED, Resolution 2021-038

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-023

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

At 9:03 a.m. Chair Adams opened and closed the public comment opportunity with no persons addressing the board.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

No reports given.

4. DEPARTMENT MANAGERS' REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Director of Planning reported on the availability of public funding through CalFire for external assistance with fuel treatments, landscapes, fire resiliency, and planning projects.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

In response to Supervisor Dryden's inquiry, the Director indicated that the grant application deadline is approaching and recommends that the matter be placed on the next agenda for discussion and possible action.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

In response to Chair Adam's recommendation to work with the Fire Safe Council, the Director of Planning reported that other than cities and counties, it is unknown at this time who the eligible applicants are for the grant.

By consensus, by the Board directed the Director of Planning to bring the matter back to the next meeting for discussion.

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The Director of Planning reported on the Department of Conservation's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Protection Program guidelines and deadline for comments.

By consensus, the Board directed the Director of Planning to forward comments to the Department of Conservation.

The Director of Planning provided an update on a field review to be conducted on the Ridge to accommodate a request from the Yuba County Water Agency for a site to dump dredged material from the Our House Dam.

The Director continued to provide an update on the filing of the Calpine Community Hall CSAC-EIA grant for structural repairs and on the upcoming meeting scheduled with James Berardi, Superintendent of Schools, on the disposition/use of the Sierraville School.

The Director of Health and Social Services reported on the Loyaltan Cogen Plant, upcoming interview for the Registered Environmental Specialist position, and delay of the Financial Officer start date.

Personnel Analyst, Judi Behlke, also commented on the interview status of the Registered Environmental Specialist position and delay of the start date for the Financial Officer and reported that March has been declared as Ethics Training month, which is a mandatory requirement for all county employees in a supervisor position.

The Chief Technology Officer provided an update on the recent exchange hacks effecting many organizations and notified the board that Sierra County's exposure was very limited and should be clear of the issue.

The Director of Behavioral Health provided an update on two bills in legislation; the California Advancing Innovation in Medi-Cal (Cal AIM) initiative related to Medi-Cal billing and Senate Bill 803, which would authorize funding for a peer support certification program.

The Director of Behavioral Health also provided an update on the status of the structural issues related to the Wellness Center, with the next step being to hire a Structural Engineer to better assess the damages.

5. FOREST SERVICE UPDATE

Sierraville District Ranger Quentin Youngblood provided an update on Forest Service activities in the county; upcoming timber sales; weather data; opening of the upper and lower Little Truckee campgrounds for fishing season; and Calpine and Sardine lookout station closures.

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Sierraville District Ranger Quentin Youngblood also provided an update on behalf of acting Yuba River District Ranger, Sonja Lin, on pile burning for the Camp and Garden Valley projects and on the return date of the Yuba River District Ranger, Lon Henderson.

6. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- 6.A. CONTINUED COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY UPDATE:
Report from Sierra County Public Health, County Office of Emergency Services, County Department Managers, Forest Service Representatives, and other local agencies on recent developments relating developments to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and possible action/direction to staff. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Director of Health reported on the number of statewide case counts, hospitalizations and ICU's stabilizing, testing updates, and administered vaccines.

The Health Officer provided an update on the transmission and effects of the new variants and on how vaccines are providing protection against the variants.

The Director of Health provided an update on local case counts and the current tier assignment, in which the Director has filed for adjudication due to a discrepancy between state and county numbers.

Supervisor Roen expressed gratitude to the Director of Health for advocating for the county.

The Director of Health further reported on current testing options and locations in the county, the status of the schools, vaccinations, and changes to the third-party agreement with Blue Shield of CA.

In response to the Director's request, County Counsel provided additional background on the third-party contract with Blue Shield of CA and on the current requirements set forth from the state.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

Supervisor Adams encouraged the Director of Health and local media to notify residents to get vaccinated.

The Health Officer reported on vaccination efforts in the county and the potential staffing issues related to opening vaccinations to outside residents.

Discussion ensued regarding the third-party agreement with Blue Shield of CA and the America Rescue Plan federal funding to the county in the amount of \$580,000

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Following discussion and at the request of Supervisor Adams, the Board moved to allocate \$5,000 to NorCal EMS upon receipt of their letter of request and directed the Auditor to make the determination whether to pay out of the general fund or COVID funding.

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

The Director of Health also reported that the California travel advisory is still in effect.

- 6.B. Approval of letter to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy in support of the application for funding filed by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District regarding Smithneck WUI Fuel Reduction Project. (SUPERVISOR ROEN)

Supervisor Roen reported on the application for funding filed by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District for the Smithneck WUI Fuel Reduction Project to cover roughly 700 acres around the community of Sierra Brooks.

Supervisor Dryden expressed gratitude to all parties supporting the project.

Sierraville District Ranger Quentin Youngblood also expressed appreciation to the county for the letter of support for the project and reported that there is an urgency and need to treat the land adjacent to the Sierra Brooks area for fuel reduction.

The Board moved to approve the letter to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy in support of the application for funding filed by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District regarding Smithneck WUI Fuel Reduction Project.

APPROVED: Motion Roen/Dryden/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

- 6.C. Discussion regarding the United States Agriculture Department (USDA) Secretarial disaster designation for 50 California counties due to drought. (SUPERVISOR ROEN)

Supervisor Roen recognized Tracy Shore, UCC Extension Agent, for her hard work on getting this project started.

Board discussion ensued.

Supervisor Roen further reported that discussions have begun with Mr. LaMalfa's office to assist with changing local protocols and that they are working on getting additional watering locations.

The Director of Planning reported that a discussion may need to take place in the future about adopting local proclamations to support the agricultural industry.

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Board discussion ensued.

- 6.D. Discussion/authorization to submit a letter to the California State Board of Forestry regarding the proposed amendment to the State Fire Regulations requiring all existing roads and driveways to conform to current fire safe standards. (CHAIR ADAMS)

Chair Adams provided background on the proposed amendment to the State Fire Regulations requiring all existing roads and driveways to conform to current fire safe standards and on the potential impacts to homeowners in Sierra County.

Chair Adams further reported that the Board of Forestry is conducting a special hearing that he will be attending on the matter.

The Board moved to approve the letter to the California State Board of Forestry regarding the proposed amendment to the State Fire Regulations and directed Chair Adams to speak on behalf of the full Board at the special hearing.

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

By consensus, the Board directed the Director of Planning to also attend the special hearing to represent the Planning side of the matter.

7. AUDITOR / TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR - VAN MADDOX

- 7.A. Discussion/direction to staff regarding CalPERS Unfunded Liability (UAL) and possible solutions.

The Auditor provided an update on the CalPERS Unfunded Liability (UAL) and on the additional payment options.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

By consensus, the Board directed the Auditor to look at the best options to better address the CalPers Unfunded Liability (UAL).

8. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES - VICKIE CLARK

- 8.A. Approval of letter to the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) indicating Sierra County's intent to transition to a local Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP) with Partnership Health Plan of California.

The Director of Health and Social Services provided an update on the Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP) and benefits provided under this partnership.

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The Board moved to approve the letter to the California Department of Health Care Services indicating Sierra County's intent to transition to a local Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP).

Comments were received from Justin Caporusso, from California Health and Wellness, encouraging the county to consider an extension of time to explore additional options.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

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

9. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - LEA SALAS

9.A. Discussion and direction on the use of the extended Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment dollars.

The Director of Behavioral Health provided an update on the status of the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment dollars currently available for transitional housing in Sierra County and on the option to utilize one property located in Downieville for said services.

Supervisor Dryden expressed concern over the lack of resources available in the county and suggested contracting with Plumas County to provide housing options.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

The Director of Planning reported on the potential permitting, zoning, and occupancy issues related to the matter.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

By consensus, the Board denied the use of the extended Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment dollars for long-term transitional housing.

10. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - TIM BEALS

10.A. Discussion and direction with regard to issuing permits for special events permitted or planned for Sierra County in 2021.

The Director of Public Works provided an update on the current issues surrounding special use events in Sierra County due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair Adams suggested lifting the complete moratorium on issuing special use permits, with a change to the application review process, requiring both the Planning and Health Departments inspection for approval or denial.

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Supervisor Roen expressed support in reducing restrictions on issuing special use permits and requested that discussions continue following changes to the state's regulations.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

By consensus, the Board directed the Director of Public Works to bring an action item back to the next meeting removing the moratorium on issuing special use permits and to send notices to potential applicants of said removal, effective April 6th.

10.B. Professional Services Agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC to provide professional services for administrative and management on behalf of Sierra County for the Green Acres Forest Health and Resilience Project, funded by a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant.

The Director of Public Works provided background on the agreement for the Green Acres Forest Health and Resilience Project, which would replace the existing information on the original agreement, such as changes in the performance date and name of the business.

The Board moved to approve the agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC for administrative and managements services for the Green Acres Forest Health and Resilience Project, funded by a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant.

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-024. Motion: Huebner/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call
Vote: 5/0

10.C. Professional Services Agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC to provide professional services for administrative and management on behalf of Sierra County for the Upper North Yuba Forest Health and Resilience Project.

The Director of Public Works provided background on the proposed agreement for the Upper North Yuba Forest Health and Resilience Project for the aspen regeneration component.

The Board moved to approve the agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC for administrative and professional services for the Upper North Yuba Forest Health and Resilience Project.

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-025. Motion: Huebner/Roen/ Unanimous Roll Call
Vote: 5/0

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10.D. Professional Services Agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC to provide professional services for forestry services on an as-needed basis.

The Director of Public Works provided background on the agreement for unspecified forestry related services in the county.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

The Director of Public Works further commented that creating a new Forester position in the county may be appropriate going forward.

The Board moved to approve the agreement with Feather River Forestry LLC to provide services for forestry services on an as-need basis.

APPROVED, Agreement 2021-026. Motion: Huebner/LeBlanc/ Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

11. PLANNING / BUILDING - TIM BEALS

11.A. Discussion and direction regarding allocation of State Park Bond Act funding and authorizing applications for funding to State Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Director of Planning reported on the State Park Bond Act funding available to the county that may be used for repairs on the Downieville Community Hall and Sierraville School. The Director further updated the Board on the grant application process/deadlines, project completion dates, and bidding process.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

The Board Directed the Director of Planning to bring back resolutions determining projects and funding.

By consensus, the Board moved to allocate the State Park Bond Act funding as an even split, between the Downieville Community Hall and Sierraville School.

CLOSED SESSION STATEMENT

Chair Adams reported out from the March 6, 2021 meeting.

10.A. Closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 - conference with legal counsel - anticipated litigation - 1 case.

Chair Adams reported the Board received information from County Counsel and gave direction to staff.

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12. CLOSED SESSION

12.A. Closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 - performance review regarding County Counsel.

The Board met in closed session from 12:27 p.m. to 12:42 p.m.

14. CORRESPONDENCE LOG

14.A. Notice of intent to harvest timber submitted by Dan Ziebron for Sierra Pacific Industries. Project is located approximately 2.75 miles south-east of Sierra City, California.

No action taken.

ADJOURN

At 12:42 p.m., with no further business, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting.

LEE ADAMS, CHAIR
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

MELISSA KINNEER
ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE BOARD