

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 9:33 a.m. Present: Supervisors Robert Pyle, Jim Chapman, Lloyd Keefer, Brian Dahle, and Jack Hanson; County Counsel John Ketelsen, County Administrative Officer (CAO) Andy Whiteman and County Clerk Theresa Nagel. Following the flag salute, the invocation is offered by Supervisor Keefer.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Chapman announces that no closed session was held.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to approve the agenda as posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Gauthier reports the Fire Council began the Paiute Creek fire clearing project this morning and notes how scary the conditions are. He also reports that 20 acres in Janesville have been cleaned for Senior Citizens with another 18 acres planned for cleaning. Supervisor Keefer states he is very pleased with the work and notes the Janesville Fire Council has very professional signs to identify the projects.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Dahle states that Barbara Tiner from COMPAC will be making a presentation at the next meeting on the Family Resource Center planned for the Bieber area along with a budget. Funding will also be requested.
2. Supervisor Dahle reports on a meeting he attended with Mary Nichols from the State Resources Department and states he found out the County should not expect any PILT funds from the State for the wildlife areas (Ash Creek and Willow Creek). There will be work done to attempt to secure federal PILT funding.
3. Supervisor Keefer discussed his trip to Hawaii.
4. Supervisor Keefer received a request to honor Bob & Elizabeth Bradford on their 65th Wedding Anniversary. He circulates a card of congratulations and asks the meeting today be adjourned in their honor.
5. Supervisor Keefer discusses the concerns and needs of Honey Lake Valley Riders for equestrian facilities. He notes there is a new

federal regulation that requires certification that animals are on weed free feed before using federal lands. He feels there is a need to develop an equestrian park and will be working with the BLM to determine if there is any available property for such use.

6. Supervisor Hanson informs the board members that Casey Ardrey, a Shaffer School 7th grader, is the State Winner in the 2002/2003 "Imagine this ... Story Writing Contest", a program of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. There were more than 15,000 entries. He would like to honor Casey at a future meeting.

7. Supervisor Hanson discusses a problem he is working on in the South County relating to senior citizens being shorted when purchasing wood from one specific wood cutter.

8. Supervisor Hanson makes comments on various meetings he has attended: Solid Waste Board meeting and tour; Mental Health Facilities tour with Andy Whiteman; Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board Meeting; met with CalTrans representatives to discuss possibility of lowering the speed limit through Standish; found out that traffic studies are out-of-date which means the Highway Patrol cannot use radar in certain areas; also discussed traffic issues relating to the Dyer Mt. Project and the new hospital. Supervisor Chapman suggests the matter of traffic studies be referred to the Public Works Department for a report. Supervisor Dahle notes the studies can actually increase speed limits when the community may want limits lowered.

9. Supervisor Hanson notes that he visited the Sierra Army Depot and there is a good possibility the County will become responsible for maintaining buildings and grounds without deriving any income from the acquired property.

10. Supervisor Chapman reports on the CSAC meeting at which ongoing discussions of the budget issues were held. He also reports on discussions held relating to Indian gaming issues.

11. Supervisor Chapman has been working with Agriculture Commissioner Kenneth Smith to address concerns of a new property owner who does not want any weed control chemicals used near her property.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Juvenile Hall Superintendent Roy Thiels requests a change in the Juvenile Hall staff work schedule and explains how it will help the operations. He also notes the employees are in favor of the change. Following a series of questions and answers, Supervisor Dahle states he would like a report back to the board after the new schedule is implemented comparing the use of sick leave and extra help between the current schedule and the new schedule.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried on a roll call vote, with Supervisor Chapman voting NO, to:

1) approve change in schedule for Juvenile Hall staff to a new 12 hour work schedule, effective February 16, 2003; 2) approve reclassification of one position from Juvenile Hall Counselor II (Range #15) to Senior Juvenile Hall Counselor (Range #17); 3) approve and authorize the CAO to sign an addendum to United Public Employees of California (UPEC) Memorandum of Understanding, setting forth the conditions of the 12 hour work schedule; and 4) adopt Resolution No. 03-008, changing the Personnel Rules and Regulations to reflect the change in the Juvenile Hall work week.

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Lassen County Mental Health Advisory Board Chairman Tom Gauthier presents the 2002 Annual Report of the Mental Health Advisory Board to the Board of Supervisors along with Action Steps for 2003. The report identifies the accomplishments and activities of the advisory Board. He reads a statement that focuses on the advisory board's initiatives on community outreach and improved communication, stating it has been his mission to sort out what is fact from what is simply commonly held beliefs about Lassen County's mental health services. In doing this he found it was helpful to look at the department from three views.

First view considers that the mental health department is a state mandated function subject to a mountain of requirements for procedural governance and reporting. The department generally receives grades of A+ from state officials and from professional peers in this area.

Second view incorporates the facts of day-to-day operations and there is a very real penalty of being a "small county". Capital and infrastructure requirements to administer a 21st century public mental health system are absent. Antiquated computer systems, difficulty in recruitment, and overloading of human resources leave the department scrambling to reach the levels of efficiency that are strived for. Findings show that the employees of the department are applying creativity and extra energy that delivers services to the county well beyond what could be expected from the resources given to them to work with.

Third view is the most contentious and painful as it is public perception of mental health services. Past and recent history contains examples of inefficiencies and of poor communication. A deeper look at the facts finds that cause and complicity must be shared across many venues beyond the mental health staff and includes prior contractors, officers of the court, police agencies, medical services and the mental health board itself. He states that he has noted too many public pronouncements on the subject of mental health services that are virtually devoid of any understanding of critical

facts or scientific knowledge. In regard to the "small county" problem, neither the hospital nor police agencies have specialized training or resident psychiatric staff that are common in the "big city" facilities. The effect is there is no opportunity for professional to professional incident assessment discussions. It all falls on the county mental health department, which then becomes the focus of unqualified second guessing and "Monday-morning" judgment. Too many people with a bully pulpit have been speaking outside of their areas of expertise, which contributes nothing to improving either understanding or perceptions. These pronouncements have inflicted unwarranted harm on the reputations and personal feelings of too many hard working people. The advisory board is unified in the belief that we can do a much better job as community leaders in understanding and communicating among ourselves. To that end formal communication and learning opportunities have been initiated for mental health staff in cooperation with the community hospital staff, private medical community, law enforcement, and education professionals in Lassen County. He speaks of the need to determine if a person brought to the emergency room has a medical condition causing problems before determining it is a "mental case". It has also been found the hospital was missing out on revenue because cases were being incorrectly coded for Medi-Cal.

He states the advisory board intends to work toward raising the knowledge and understanding - if not the comfort level - for Lassen County's community mental health services. They are approaching their work as if serving their own families and spending their own money. This mindset helps to remove the bureaucratic face from a human enterprise and hopefully make them more effective in meeting their mandate. Mr. Gauthier states he can truly report that this is a different kind of "maverick" mental health advisory board.

Supervisor Chapman commends Mr. Gauthier for the leadership he has brought to the advisory board and states his belief this leadership is a vindication of the restructuring of the advisory board. He commends the mental health staff for the positive steps that are being taken to make improvements. He states that he may find himself going from a "chief critic" to a "chief advocate" of the department. Each board member express their pleasure at Mr. Gauthier's enthusiasm and the positive work being done.

Recess 10:39 - 10:47 a.m. (Supervisor Hanson enters at 10:48 a.m.)

SPALDING'S WASTEWATER SYSTEM

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to: adopt Resolution No. 03-

012, urging the California Department of Housing and Community Development to approve Community Development Block Grant funding to assist qualifying households with the costs of assessments associated with the development of a wastewater collection and disposal system for the community of Spalding; adopt Resolution No. 03-013, urging USDA Rural Development (RD) to provide funding essential to planning and constructing a wastewater collection and disposal system for the community of Spalding; and adopt Resolution No. 03-014, urging the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to provide funding essential to planning and constructing a wastewater collection and disposal system for the community of Spalding.

ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Rodney G. Colvin and Carol Jean Curry to the Assessment Appeals Board.

BIG VALLEY PEST ABATEMENT DISTRICT

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Dale Albaugh, Michael D. Babcock, Charles Kramer, Robert Nelson, Dr. Tom Vestal to the Big Valley Pest Abatement District, for a term of one year.

HONEY LAKE VALLEY RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICT

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Mary Conway and Jeffrey Pudlicki each for a term of 4 years.

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to accept the letter from Charlotte Leicester resigning from the In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Board.

LASSEN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to appoint Supervisor Chapman as member and Supervisor Dahle as alternate on the Lassen County Children and Families Commission.

LASSEN COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Don Colvin, Arlene Sealock and Patrick S. Wood to the Lassen County Waterworks District, each for a term of 4 years.

LASSEN - MODOC FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and

carried to appoint Dale Albaugh, Roger Cruikshank, Peter Gerig, Jim Halpenny, Charles Kramer for a term of one year.

PIT RESOURCES CONSERVATION DISTRICT

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Louis Haas, James W. Johnston and Charles "Chuck" Signs to the Pit Resources Conservation District, each for a term of four years.

SOLID WASTE HEARING PANEL

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to reappoint Mike Murray and Brian Dahle each for a term of 2 years.

SUSANVILLE RANCH REGIONAL RECREATION AREA ADVISORY

Supervisor Dahle requests this board be looked at for restructuring. Chairman Chapman directs that Supervisor Dahle, Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag and himself work with the current advisory board members on ideas for restructuring, with a report back to the Board at a future meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Keefer requests that Item G-1, minutes, be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration.

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to take the noted action on the following Consent Calendar items:

COUNTY CLERK/COUNTY COUNSEL ITEM

Approve new Conflict of Interest Code for Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), which has been reviewed by County Counsel.

COUNTY COUNSEL ITEM

Reject claims of Jenny Phinney, Thomas Phinney, Joshua Phinney and Luana Phinney, each in its entirety, and direct County Clerk to send Notices of Rejection.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - PUBLIC HEALTH ITEM

Approve the Declaration of Intent Not to Apply for FY 2003/2004 Emergency Medical Services Appropriation (EMSA); and authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the declaration.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ITEM

Ratify continuation Declaration of State of Disaster / Drought Emergency in Lassen County for 2002.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. Lassen County Planning Commission revised meeting agenda for February 5, 2003.
- b. Local Agency Formation Commission special meeting agenda for February 10, 2003.
- c. Lassen County Fair Advisory Board meeting agenda for February 11, 2003, and minutes of November 12, 2002 meeting.
- d. Lassen County Mental Health Advisory Board agenda for February 11, 2003, and minutes of January 14, 2003.
- e. Lassen Transit Service Agency agenda for February 10, 2003.
- f. Lassen County Transportation Commission agenda for February 10, 2003.

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTES

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried, with Supervisor Keefer abstaining, to approve Board of Supervisor's minutes of January 28, 2003.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - PERSONNEL DIVISION

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to approve Drug Free Workplace Policy; Animals on County Property Policy; and Personnel Records Policy.

ASSESSOR

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to adopt, by title only, Ordinance No. 553, exempting low value escape assessments.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

In response to a question from Chairman Chapman, County Counsel John Ketelsen states the easement deeds are sufficient to accomplish providing access through Susanville Ranch Park to properties north of the park. He notes the easement provided by the Susanville Indian Rancheria is limited in two ways: 50 year term with a reopener clause, and limited in burden and scope to current access only and any future expansion of access would probably require a revision of the easement.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to adopt Resolution No. 03-009, accepting easement deeds from Susanville Indian Rancheria and from property owners north of Susanville Ranch Park and granting an easement deed to the same property owners through Susanville Ranch Park in order to establish reciprocal access to and through the

respective parcels; and approve easement deed with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

TREASURER / TAX COLLECTOR

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried to approve the Banking Services Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association (US Bank) and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to adopt Resolution No. 03-010, declaring intention to sell surplus property (APN 129-060-04, 463-960 Raines Rd., Janesville) by sealed bid for a minimum price of \$50,000.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE - BUDGET REVIEW

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to adopt Resolution No. 03-011, opposing the Governor's 2003-2004 State Budget Proposal to permanently eliminate the Open Space Subvention Program.

CAO Whiteman presents the Mid-year Budget update stating that revenues and expenditures are "right on track" for all departments with the exception of Juvenile Hall. Juvenile Hall is experiencing a decrease in out of county placements which decreases revenues. Board members and Roy Thiel exchange questions and answers followed by a direction from Chairman Chapman that this situation be carefully monitored.

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to authorize expenditures for Health and Welfare pass-through funds.

INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

1. CAO Whiteman announces that QLG Forester Frank Stewart will be present next week to present a report to the Board. Chairman Chapman asks about the 2001/2002 payment for the forester from Lassen County which has not yet been made to Plumas County. CAO Whiteman responds that he is looking at why this fell through the cracks.
2. CAO Whiteman informs the board members that he will be out of the office on Thursday and Friday of this week.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 11:25 a. m. in honor of Bob and Elizabeth Bradford's 65th Wedding Anniversary.

SUPERVISORS

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD