

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MAY 20, 2003

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 20, 2003, at 9:30 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 Chapman.

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 Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to approve the agenda as posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Fontana from the Bureau of Land Management introduces the new BLM Field Manager Dane Barron. Mr. Barron expresses his pleasure at now living in Lassen County and his desire to work with the board members and residents to maintain the working landscapes of this area. Board members welcome him to Lassen County.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Hanson attended the Annual RC&D meeting and briefly reviews the subjects discussed.
2. Supervisor Hanson notes this is Mental Health Month and he congratulates the department on the improvements they have made to services.
3. Supervisor Keefer attended the RCRC Conference and was very impressed with the informative programs presented. He was most impressed by a program entitled Managing the Criminal Justice System and he reviews the program. He feels it might be a good investment to utilize the available services to provide a cursory review.
4. Supervisor Keefer received some more information on the proper uses of Title II and III Program funds. There has been a determination that Search and Rescue diving gear is proper use of Title III funds and the funding for the Big Valley Sustained Yield Unit needs to be moved to the category Community/Fire Safe Planning.
5. Supervisor Keefer notes that Butte County has just completed a thorough assessment of their groundwater resources which he was very impressed with. He has asked CAO Whiteman to obtain a copy of the assessment.
6. Supervisor Dahle also felt the RCRC Conference was great and he encourages the Board to look into services to review the criminal

justice system operations and states in this time of tight budgets it would be very helpful to determine if there is a way to save money. He notes this is looking at operations not looking at decreasing positions.

7. Supervisor Dahle notes the donated baskets for the RCRC Conference generated over \$2,000 which will be given to Mt. Jewel Ranch. He wants to present the check at the next meeting.

8. Supervisor Dahle states that nothing significant has really happened in regard to the budget with the exception that the Governor has backed off of the proposals to cut Williamson Act funding and to assess a per acre fee for State fire protection.

9. Supervisor Dahle makes the following designations from his discretionary funds - \$500 to each of the following agencies: Northwest Lassen Fire District, Pumpkin Center 4-H Club, Big Valley 50 + Club, and Stones-Bengard Community Services District.

10. Supervisor Hanson toured the juvenile hall and notes the population is up. He was able to observe Judge Bradbury conduct hearings at the hall.

11. Supervisor Pyle states the grand opening for the Westwood Visitor's Center will be held Friday, May 23rd at 1:00 p.m.

12. Supervisor Dahle notes the Big Valley Chamber of Commerce is asking for support to urge the Department of Fish and Game to pursue alternative means to comply with the obligation to pay "in-lieu fees to counties". He asks the CAO to place this on a future agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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 ITEM

Approve Minutes of May 13, 2003.

COUNTY CLERK - PROPOSITION 65 REPORT ITEM

Receive and file report #03-03, filed by Lieutenant H. N. Linschoten, Susanville CHP Commander, on May 8, 2003 - NOTIFICATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASE: On April 21, 2003, a tractor trailer combination loaded with lumber products was involved in a head on collision with another big rig on State Route 44 approximately 5 miles west of State Route 36. During the collision a saddle fuel tank ruptured, resulting in an undetermined amount of diesel fuel spilled onto the dirt shoulder. Clean up of the contaminated soil was coordinated by the CA Department of Transportation, with an anticipated completion date of April 30, 2003.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - PERSONNEL ITEM

Receive and file Personnel Movement report for April, 2003.

PRISON TRIALS COST REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ITEMS

Receive and file Recap of CCC Prison Trials Cost Reimbursement Billing

for the month of April, 2003; and High Desert State Prison Trials Cost Reimbursement Billing for the month of April, 2003.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ITEM

Approve contract between Lassen County Sheriff's Department, the United States Forest Service and Lassen National Forest for patrol services (areas include Eagle Lake, Pegleg, Bogard and Roxie Peconom Willard Creek Campground); and authorize Sheriff to sign contract.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. Lassen County Air Pollution Control District Governing Board meeting agenda for May 20, 2003, and minutes of April 15, 2003.
- b. Lassen County Mental Health Advisory Board meeting agenda for May 15, 2003.
- c. Lassen County Fair Advisory Board minutes of May 13, 2003.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

It is moved by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to adopt Resolution No. 03-039, of application by the County of Lassen requesting the Lassen County Local Agency Formation Commission initiate proceedings for the formation of the Hallelujah Junction County Service Area to provide for structural fire protection and extended Emergency Medical Service in Southern Lassen County.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

It is moved by Supervisor Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to adopt Resolution No. 03-040, seeking an increased continuous appropriation to the USDA-APHIS, Wildlife Services budget to support the Wildlife Services Cooperative Program in California; and authorize Chairman to sign letters to U. S. Congressman Doolittle and U. S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer.

RECOGNITION COMMITTEE - PRESENTATION

Chairman Pyle makes the following presentations for years of service:

Ten years: a brass letter opener to Robert Burns (District Attorney).
Fifteen years: a two pen desk set to Howard Heard (Public Works/Roads) and Rodney DeBoer (Sheriff's Department).

Retired Auditor Irene Doyle along with Chairman Chapman make the presentation of "Irene Doyle Excellence in County Service Award" to Chet Streible after Health and Human Services Director Tom Keeffer reads the nomination letter he wrote.

The following individuals were also nominated for the award and it was noted there were so many very good nominations the decision was difficult: Cheryl Brewster, Anitta Davis, Carole Dustin, Sonjia Edwards, JoAnn Martin and Nancy Urionaguena.

BUDGET UPDATE

CAO Whiteman does not have anything new to report.

INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

CAO Whiteman states the County Picnic will be held on June 13th.

LOCAL REUSE AUTHORITY

The Board of Supervisors recess and convene as the Local Reuse Authority (LRA).

LRA Project Manager Regina Rankin provides an overview of Draft Final Sierra Army Depot (SIAD) Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Army and Lassen County Local Reuse Authority (LRA) for transfer of excess BRAC property and requests direction from the board members on the following issues: resolution of issues; LRA reporting requirements; electric distribution system; environmental cleanup of ordinance explosives (OE) on northern East Shore and Western Airfield Parcels; Lease in Furtherance of Conveyance (LIFC); deed restrictions imposed by State of California, EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control; anticipated schedule of transfers; plan of action upon transfer; and outstanding issues.

Supervisor Dahle wonders why we are interested in the East Shore parcel since it appears to have no use and also what liabilities the county would be taking on in regard to ordinance and contamination. Regina discusses the cross-depot road that borders this property. BRAC Coordinator Lauri McDonald states the Army is responsible even after transfer "Cradle to Grave" if something is found on the property, excluding known and exempted items such as lead based paint.

Supervisor Hanson thanks the staff, particularly Regina, for getting him "up to speed" on the property transfer. He feels the county needs to move forward with the transfer.

It is noted the LRA is planning to create a redevelopment agency for Herlong. Supervisor Chapman notes that actions by the State appear to be aimed at sucking up redevelopment dollars.

The Local Reuse Authority adjourns and the Board of Supervisors reconvene.

ABANDONED VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Supervisor Keefer introduces discussion on the issue of Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program - to consider participation in this program by imposing a \$1 registration fee on all vehicles registered within the County. (Supervisor Hanson is absent 10:36 - 10:39 a.m.)

Brian Phillips, owner of Susanville Towing, states that abandoned vehicles are becoming an epidemic and he cannot handle the hauling of

these vehicles any longer without financial help. He notes that in addition to disposing of cars, the tires, oil and air bags must be disposed of properly. He notes that cars are being abandoned on streets and public lands. There is a charge of \$125 to take a vehicle to him for disposal. When scrap prices were higher he could afford to haul the vehicles, go through the extensive paperwork to designate the vehicles abandoned and then sell them for scrap, but with prices low he is losing money.

Supervisor Chapman asks numerous questions relating to the responsibility of the persons who are abandoning these cars. He feels there has to be some law that deals with this. County Counsel John Ketelsen states what must be faced is the difficulty of collecting enough funds to administer a collection program.

CHP Commander Harry Linschoten has information on what is needed for the development of the program to collect \$1 for each registered vehicle for use in dealing with abandoned vehicles. He also notes if abandonment occurs out of the presence of an officer it is very difficult to criminally prosecute.

Susan Coffi reads a letter from Westwood Community Service District Manager Charles Anders supporting any program to remove dead and/or abandoned vehicles in the community. Besides being a eyesore the vehicles are also hindering access to the district's right-of-ways and water lines. Supervisor Pyle also notes that some alleys are so congested it hinders access by fire trucks. Susan reads a similar statement from herself and another letter from Debbie Wilson. Chairman Chapman states that specific problems on private property should be referred to the Code Enforcement Office.

It is moved by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to direct CAO Whiteman to have staff begin the process, in cooperation with the City of Susanville, to develop an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program and to look at any manner to hold persons abandoning vehicles responsible.

Supervisor Dahle and Supervisor Chapman will also work to determine if the process to handle abandoned vehicles through the DMV can be streamlined.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Forest Supervisor Ed Cole informs the board members that the Forest Service can no longer do any NEPA work on FERC hydropower relicensing as FERC is now the lead agency. They have submitted comments on the PG&E Pitt River Relicensing and the EIS is out with public comment ending on June 21st.

The Sierra-Nevada Framework Supplemental EIS, which provides more effective fuels treatment, will be released on June 6th and there will

be efforts to get lots of public input. Supervisor Dahle found it most interesting that studies have found that 2/3 of spotted owl populations are located in urban interfaces so apparently the owls must like people and treatment of forests should not interfere with them.

Mr. Cole distributes a news release relating to the awarding of 13 Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Grant Awards for 2003. Approved proposals include:

two county-wide noxious weed control programs; Lassen County Youth Camp Bat Houses; Pine Creek Fish Trap to the Fish and Game; Tribal Youth Crew with Susanville Indian Rancheria; Janesville Shaded Fuel Break to Janesville Fire Safe Council; Diamond Mt. Shaded Fuel Break to Lassen County Fire Safe Council; South Knob Fuel Reduction and Forest Road Surfacing to Tom Esgate; Robbers Creek Road Restoration; Chico Flat Davis Creek Thinning to Pat Oiler; and Diamond Mt. & Fredonyer Road improvements.

Recess 11:47 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

STUDY SESSION ON WATER RESOURCE

Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag introduces the study session on water resources by reviewing water resources goals and policies from the Lassen County General Plan Natural Resources Element and provides background information.

Dept. of Water Resources Northern Division Chief Dwight Russell introduces staff and indicates which subjects each will review.

Associate Engineering Geologist Noel Eaves distributes and reviews information on Honey Lake and Long Valley Monitoring wells.

Land and Water Use Analyst Tito Cervantes, Sr. distributes maps depicting land use, water resources and irrigation types. He notes that Lassen County is one of only 13 counties that have the water resource and irrigation type maps. He explains the maps and how they can be used.

Assistant Community Development Director Bertotti states the county received an AB 303 Local Groundwater Assistance Grant in the amount of \$200,000 to be used to bring together several GIS Data Sets that have been developed piecemeal. This information will be used to analyze groundwater, surface water, water quality and land uses.

Washoe County Dept. of Water Resources Director Steve Bradhurst distributes information and discusses the Regional Water Management Plan and Northern Importation Project options. He provides information on the Washoe County Hydrographic Basins, Duck Lake Valley, Smoke Creek Desert and Dry Valley along with current plans and

amounts of water that could be drawn from those basins. He notes that Fish Springs Ranch is not in the hands of Washoe County. It is private water. He also notes Nevada State Law requires water availability and land use plans to be in conformance. If planned land use exceeds the available water supply they will have to look for water outside their jurisdiction.

Water Management Planning Coordinator Jim Smitherman distributes a packet of information and discusses the Washoe County Regional Water Planning Commission organization and purpose, which is to outline how water will be managed to meet the needs of the citizens into the future.

Supervisor Chapman is concerned about the impacts on Lassen County from the water projects Washoe County is considering and would like a cooperative process that allows Lassen County to have a representative presence as an affected party.

Supervisor Hanson asks what the plans are for Dry Valley water and Mr. Bradhurst responds the historic consumptive use is 2800 acre feet per year and the discussions are to pipe this amount of water to either Lemmon Valley or Spanish Springs Valley. Mr. Bradhurst states the USGS reports show a water yield from Dry Valley of 1000-1500 acre feet per year and the plans are to pipe 3000 acre feet, therefore there is a need for more detailed analysis.

Chairman Chapman continues to a future meeting discussion of the Honey Lake Valley Groundwater Basin Act and the district formation process.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF

SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD