

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MAY 27, 2003

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 27, 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. Supervisor Hanson is not present at the start of the meeting (attending a meeting with Attorney General in regard to Herlong housing issue). 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 Dahle and carried, with Supervisor Hanson absent, to approve the agenda as posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Starlyn Clare addresses the closing of the Mt. Lassen Assisted Living Facility and what an adverse impact this will have on the community. She would like the City and County to delve into this to see if there is anything that can be done to help keep the facility open. She notes the manager turns people away because they, for whatever reason, do not meet the criteria to be accepted in the facility. She notes that 31 skilled nursing beds were lost when the hospital annex was closed and Banner Health has no plans to replace those beds.

Chairman Chapman asks staff to present a report at the next meeting on any ways the County may be able to help with this situation.

2. Clear Creek resident Al Hoop distributes a tape to each board member which presents the down side of putting fluoride in water supplies. He states that fluoride is rat poison and eats through metal.

3. Ted Tamborski would like a little leniency in regard to parking classic cars and tractors on his property in Westwood. He does not feel his vehicles are a detriment to the community.

Chairman Chapman notes this matter has not been brought to the Board and refers Mr. Tamborski to the Code Enforcement Officer.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Dahle will be attending the Western Region NACO meeting in Reno this week. Land use and the National Fire Plan along with other items will be covered.
2. Supervisor Keefer will be attending the ribbon cutting for the Volcanic Legacy All American Road Designation Celebration on May 31st.
3. Supervisor Pyle attended the grand opening of the Westwood Visitor's Center last Friday.
4. Supervisor Chapman also attended the Westwood Visitor's Center grand opening and discusses what a great building this is for the community and also notes it is perfect for use as an election polling location.
5. Supervisor Chapman attended the City Council meeting and reports the City is also considering the abandoned vehicle program. He states neither the City or County will pursue the \$1 fee on vehicle licenses, to fund abandoned vehicle abatement, unless there is some way to collect money from, or prosecute, the persons abandoning vehicles.
6. Supervisor Chapman attended the CSAC meeting and reports on the discussion of vehicle license fees in relation to the State budget. He reviews the discussions on how local government will be hurt and also reviews the current status of budget negotiations.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

COUNTY CLERK ITEM

Approve Minutes of May 20, 2003.

AUDITOR AND TREASURER DEPARTMENTS ITEM

Receive and file Treasurer's Investments Report and Auditor's verification for the month of March, 2003.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT ITEM

Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Office of Education and the Probation Department for the State Department of Education Foster Youth Services Grant, for FY 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, establishing a position within the Probation Department that will be responsible for coordination of Foster Youth Services and implement the program Foster Youth Services Coordinator; and authorize the Chief Probation Officer to sign the MOU for both years.

TREASURER ITEM

Receive and file Treasurer's Fund Balance Report for March, 2003.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. Lassen County In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Board special meeting agenda for June 4, 2003, and minutes of April 23, 2003.
- b. Lassen County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board meeting agenda for May 22, 2003, and minutes of April 24, 2003.
- c. Lassen County Technical Advisory Committee meeting agenda for June 3, 2003.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CAO Whiteman and Health and Human Services Director Tom Keeffer present and discuss a draft response to 2002 Grand Jury Executive Summary Update - Child Protective Services. Based on an internal review of the Child Protective Services (CPS) Division and a 3-year State study of the Child Welfare System, they believe it is time to conduct a major feasibility study of the Health and Human Services Department with the goal to restructure the organization. It is envisioned that a separate, multidisciplinary, strength-based, family-focused, division (Family Services) will be created. They are also setting up meetings with school superintendents to discuss CPS obligations.

Supervisor Chapman finds one thing missing from the response memo and that is an acknowledgement that the two previous reorganization plans were, for the most part, pretty shallow and bogus. He expresses his concerns and states that he will wait to see if the program actually is changed for the better.

CAO Whiteman states he will meet with the Grand Jury tomorrow and is willing to take the letter and answer any questions they have.

Supervisor Chapman states one of the things he would like to see in the response is an acknowledgement that the last several months of efforts to tackle the problems have proven fruitless and we recognize it is going to require some bold departure from past thinking to pull this off.

Recess 10:11 - 10:17 a.m.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag informs the board

members that some modifications to the permit for the Civil War re-enactment are being recommended - adding a couple of days on each end of the permit period to allow for set-up and takedown and fire management conditions.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Theresa Crowther presents information on contingency management plans for the event. They have secured a 15 passenger shuttle van which will be making runs between the Lassen College parking lot and Susanville Ranch Park. They will be placing barricades along the Cherry Terrace neighborhood side streets with volunteers manning them for traffic/parking control. They are also working hard to get public service announcements out. (Supervisor Hanson enters at 10:23 a.m.)

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried to approve a modification of approved Permit for Educational Public Exhibition Purposes on County Property for a Civil War re-enactment event at Susanville Ranch Park.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Freitas informs the board members that he has Technology Grant funds, warrants automation funds, funding from the Susanville Police Department and Rural Crimes money for use in purchasing a badly needed Records Management System. Police Chief Chris Gallegher is present and explains how this system will benefit his department.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to authorize purchase of software and associated equipment from LEADS Software Group, Salinas, for the Sheriff's Department, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000. This purchase will be made using Technology Grant funds, warrants automation funds, funding from the Susanville Police Department and Rural Crimes money.

PUBLIC HEARING - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - PLANNING DIVISION
The public hearing is opened at 10:36 a.m. on General Plan Amendment #765.01.07 and Zoning Amendment #318.01.25, Lassen County, amendments to Lassen County General Plan-2000, the Standish-Litchfield Area Plan, and the "M-R" (Mountain Resort) zoning regulations, in order to further the intent of the "Belfast Initiative"; remedy inconsistencies between the "Belfast Initiative" and Lassen County General Plan-2000 and the Standish-Litchfield Area Plan; and ensure consistency between the "M-R" zoning regulations and those lands affected by the initiative under a Williamson Act Contract.

County Counsel John Ketelsen requests the hearing be continued to June 10, 2003. Everd McCain asks that the Board direct the Community

Development Department to issue single family residence building permits for this area and notes they are currently being held-up. County Counsel states pulling the item relating to building permits out from all the other items being negotiated would cause difficulties.

Chairman Chapman continues the hearing to June 10, 2003 at 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

Assistant Community Development Director Bertotti presents and discusses the Geographic Information System (GIS) project update report.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to authorize the CAO to enter into a contract with Vestra Resources for development of a transportation data layer.

LASSEN COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

Juvenile Justice Commission Chairman Donald Carter presents and reviews a Report to the Public on Activities and Projects of the Commission 1997-2002.

He states the commission dealt with oversight of Lassen County Juvenile Hall, mental health services at Juvenile Hall, educational programs for Juvenile Hall, oversight of out-of-county Juvenile Hall placements, truant officer and school attendance review board, oversight of in-county placements in group homes, Child Protective Services (CPS), Teen Court and youth recreation facilities. Special attention was given to the truancy issue.

Juvenile Justice Commissioner Bill Merkle notes the commission cannot require any agency to make changes to operations, but they ask the hard questions and try to get cooperation from agencies on matters that affect another agency.

Discussions are held on the matter of mental health services to Juvenile Hall residents and the need for improvements.

PRESENTATION

Supervisor Dahle introduces Doug Williams, the owner of Mountain Jewels Ranch in Little Valley. Mr. Williams explains the 800 acre operating ranch houses mentally handicapped youths who also work on the ranch.

Supervisor Dahle will be presenting a donation to Mountain Jewels Ranch in the amount of \$2,185. These funds were derived from the RCRC Conference ticket sales for baskets donated by each county.

PROPOSED PHONE SYSTEM

Assistant to the CAO Chris Beard briefly reviews a proposal for a new phone system. She requests the board members approve the implementation of a Voice/IP telecommunications system as a Rural Model Project in collaboration with Peak Systems, Adelphia Cable Company and 3-Com at a cost not to exceed \$350,000. She introduces representatives from Peak Systems, Inc., Bob Brown, President West Coast Data Connect who just acquired Peak Systems, Inc., Jason Eatmon, General Manager Peak Systems, Inc., Michael Nesbitt and O.J. Ngugen.

Jason Eatmon describes the 3-Com Networked Telephone Solutions and answers questions about the system.

Michael Nesbitt talks about the 3-Com Urban Challenge Grant which offers \$100,000 of products and services for select agencies. They were looking for a county to partner with to show the benefits of the technology.

Supervisor Dahle wants more information on what the total expense will be and which departments will be able to purchase their own phones.

Supervisor Chapman states it is important that all departments know the exact costs before budgets are finalized.

Noon recess 12:05 - 1:33 p.m.

SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA MOU

CAO Whiteman presents an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Susanville Rancheria Trust Lands acquisition. He notes all the wording in red and all of Section 8.0, Dispute Resolution, was proposed by the County of Lassen. He states the MOU has been submitted to the tribe and also notes that June 11th is the comment extension deadline.

Supervisor Dahle feels that if a mutually acceptable agreement cannot be reached then the County should oppose placing the land in trust. He states there is a need to let our Congress members, the Rancheria and County staff know what the County's intentions are. He states the County has a good relationship with the Rancheria and he wants to maintain it. The City of Susanville is who the Rancheria should be talking with, but because of other disputes that is not happening.

Supervisor Hanson expresses his concern about the loss of availability of land for development of housing. Supervisor Dahle feels all the thoughts expressed today need to be put together and the agreement put

into as final as possible form, and conveyed to the Rancheria. He also feels the information should be sent to the Rancheria, their attorney and our congressional representatives.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

CAO Whiteman introduces discussion on the proposal to activate redevelopment agencies for Herlong and Westwood. He states a redevelopment agency allows for negotiations with developers. He notes there is consideration of activating a county-wide redevelopment agency.

Extensive discussion is held among board members and staff on how redevelopment agencies and plans work and where the tax dollars must be spent.

Supervisor Chapman is concerned that the County not do what the City did by including areas that are not blighted.

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to direct staff to begin the process to establish a county-wide redevelopment agency.

BUDGET UPDATE

CAO Whiteman has no new information from the State. In regard to budget hearings Supervisor Pyle does not feel there is a need to listen to long presentations by department heads, he just wants to hear the changes to last year's budget. Supervisor Dahle wants to move the budget hearings to July or August in hopes of having a better idea of what the State will do. Following discussion it is determined the presentations will be held July 7, 8 and 9, 2003.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter from California Air Resources Board Planning and Technical Support Division Chief Robert D. Fletcher regarding the new rule on Backyard Household Waste Burning, is received and filed.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

1. Supervisor Dahle informs the board members that the building in Bieber that is to be rented for the Family Resource Center has been offered for sale and he would like to have the County own it. It is listed at \$57,000, but the owner is willing to negotiate.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried to authorize staff (Community Development Department and CAO) to begin negotiations for purchase of John & Hilda Fitts' property in Bieber for Community use.

2. Supervisor Keefer informs the board members the undeveloped 4 acre parcel adjacent to Janesville Park is offered for sale at \$37,000, which is below the appraisal price. He and CAO Whiteman have discussed using Prison Mitigation funds for the purchase.

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried to authorize the CAO to work with Supervisor Keefer to close the purchase of four acres of undeveloped land located in Janesville (APN #129-140-42) for addition to Janesville Park, in the amount of \$37,000 and direct the CAO to determine the appropriate funding source to pay for the property.

Supervisor Pyle brings up the idea of placing a brass plaque on buildings acquired by the county that lists the name of the Supervisor for the area. Supervisor Chapman feels all persons who played a pertinent role in acquiring/building a facility be included along with all board members.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD