

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AUGUST 26, 2003

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 26, 2003, at 9:32 a.m. Present: Supervisors Robert Pyle, Jim Chapman, Lloyd Keefer, Brian Dahle, and Jack Hanson; County Counsel John Ketelsen, Acting County Administrative Officer (CAO) Bob Sorvaag 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 Keefer, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to approve the agenda as posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Chapman asks for public comment and no comments are received.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Dahle announces that he attended RCRC last week and received information on Indian gaming. There is a County Counsel working group preparing guidelines for lands in trust and location of casinos. He feels there is a need for such guidelines and suggests if reasonable agreements cannot be reached with tribes then maybe gambling should be legalized in California. He would like Counsel to look into AB1275 and SB930.
2. Supervisor Dahle brings up the issue of fire agencies not utilizing local people who have received training and have equipment when fighting local fires. He notes that people are being brought from out of the area and have to be paid from the time they leave their home location, while local people are adjacent to fires and are not being used. CDF Unit Chief Don Posten would need more information to provide a definitive answer, but he suspects the fires may have been in Forest Service jurisdiction. He does note that locals can only be used on first strike and when a fire moves to the next stage there is a State policy that requires the use of certified disabled veterans. Supervisor Dahle states there is a belief that retired CDF employees are the ones getting the call-outs. He asks Mr. Posten to get him more information and he will follow-up on it.
3. Supervisor Dahle states the State Budget has passed but there are

lots of trailer bills out there that can have a big impact. He encourages everyone to check the CSAC Website to keep updated.

4. Supervisor Pyle attended the second meeting of the Carson Wandering Skipper Recovery Team. He is arranging a meeting for the public to provide input into the draft document.

5. Supervisor Pyle discusses the matter relating to Clear Creek Water System and the possible impact from an adjacent landowner drilling test wells.

6. Supervisor Pyle announces that he and Supervisor Keefer ran into Congressman Doolittle's Field Representative at the Rodeo barbecue and talked to him about the PILT Funding reduction.

7. Supervisor Hanson will be attending the West Patton Village CSD meeting tomorrow. He also met with a representative from the Bureau of Prisons and received the following information: construction completion is expected to occur by October 25th; a new warden should be on board by mid-November; majority of employees hired after the first of the year; opening maybe a year from now.

8. Supervisor Chapman announces the Indian Elders Council will be operating under the name Lassen Senior Services to better identify their mission. Their Worker's Compensation rate will be decreasing. Executive Director Jackie Musick has taken a position with the Mental Health Department so they will be looking for a replacement.

9. Supervisor Chapman has been working with County Counsel John Ketelsen, CAO Whiteman, and Tom Gauthier on the CPS issues. He really appreciates the work that Counsel has been doing and feels there is nothing but good that will come from recommendations that will be coming from Tom Gauthier.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONT.

Forest Service Information Officer Heidi Perry presents the signed original copy of the Collaborative Fuels MOU.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

COUNTY CLERK ITEM

Approve minutes of August 12, 2003 and August 19, 2003.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT - JUVENILE HALL ITEM

Authorize the transfer of \$31,855 from Fund 114-5610-3007000 Operating Transfers-Out to 145-0562-2012200 Operating Transfers-In (Fund 114 will be used only for juvenile justice programs in FY 03-04); and authorize an increase to the daily bed rate for other counties from

\$85-\$90 per day to \$110 per day, effective September 1, 2003.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. Lassen County Fair Advisory Board meeting agenda for September 3, 2003, and minutes of August 12, 2003.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

Agriculture Commissioner Ken Smith reads a report on the Department of Agriculture Weed Program - Past, Present and Future.

Supervisor Keefer states that his concern is that Lassen County has no contract with CalTrans to treat weeds along State Highway right-of-ways.

Mr. Smith responds the proper equipment to spray along highways is very expensive and there are many safety issues. His department helped the Road Department obtain equipment they are using along county roads. Supervising Agricultural Biologist Craig Hemphill states he has contracted with Modoc County for highway spraying because they have an expensive spray rig and it also lowers Lassen County's liability.

Supervisor Hanson's big concern is for landowners who are controlling weeds on their property but there is no control of weeds along road right-of-ways adjacent to their property. He believes the county policy for weed control is adequate but implementation needs to occur. He would expect the Road Department to keep better track of small colonies of White Top and treat them early.

Supervisor Dahle states no county policy will make a difference - weed control is only as good as the neighbors treatment. He sees a real need to get information to the Road Department and Agriculture Commissioner on the locations of weeds and the need for treatment - not expect them to be weed police.

Ken Smith notes they do mark colonies along state highways to help CalTrans.

In depth discussion is held on the fact that the biggest problem is the need for public education so landowners work on their own property and work with the Agriculture Department.

Supervisor Dahle speaks in defense of the Agriculture Department because Lassen County is a very large county and they are doing a lot to control weeds. In comparison to many other counties, Lassen County

has a smaller problem.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS CONT.

10. Supervisor Chapman will distribute copies of a letter he received from past Grand Jury Foremen (also appears in today's Lassen County Times under "From Where I Stand"). He discusses information he has obtained on who has served as past Grand Jurors. He has found three members of past juries that have had direct contact with CPS and another that works for the department.

INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

Interim CAO Sorvaag announces that George Benesch filed a protest on behalf of Lassen County relating to the proposed change of point of diversion for municipal wells in Dry Valley, Washoe County, about one mile from the Lassen County border.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Last year's County response to the Grand Jury's Inquiry about Brown Act Training, is received and filed.

2. A letter from Director Dallas Jones of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services announcing sign-ups for the Livestock Assistance Program (LAP) began August 6, 2003 and ends October 24, 2003, is received and filed.

FIRE PROTECTION FEES

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Keefer and carried to support RCRC's position and oppose any fire protection fees in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) to generate funding for California Department of Forestry (CDF).

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS CONT.

11. Supervisor Dahle reminds everyone that RCRC will be meeting in Lassen County on September 17th and 18th. There will be a tour of High Desert State Prison on the 17th with a barbecue by the Cattlemen that evening. On the 18th there will be talks relating to Quincy Library Group, Susanville Ranch Park and Long Valley Groundwater Management.

12. Supervisor Dahle keeps being asked what he thinks of the Recall Election and his response is: California is run by special interests and the Recall is a message that the people are fed up.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF

SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD