

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

JUNE 21, 2005

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convene in Regular Session at 9:12 a.m. Chairman Keefer asks for public comment and no comments are received. County Clerk Nagel announces the Closed Session items and the Board recesses to Closed Session at 9:13 a.m. to discuss: Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9; and Public Employee Employment, pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54954.5: County Counsel.

Present in the Closed Session are Supervisors Robert Pyle, Jim Chapman, Lloyd Keefer, Brian Dahle, and Jack Hanson; County Counsel John Ketelsen, Assistant County Counsel Craig Settlemire and County Clerk Theresa Nagel. Closed Session is recessed at 9:41 a.m.

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors reconvenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, June 21, 2005, at 9:45 a.m. Present: Supervisors Robert Pyle, Jim Chapman, Lloyd Keefer, Brian Dahle, and Jack Hanson; County Counsel John Ketelsen, County Administrative Officer (CAO) Bill Bixby and County Clerk Theresa Nagel. Following the flag salute, the invocation is offered by Supervisor Keefer.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

The County Clerk announces the Closed Session dealt with:

Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9 - no reportable action taken; Public Employee Employment, pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54954.5: County Counsel - no reportable action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Diana Wemple provides information relating to CHDP Case Management Data in response to a question presented at the June 14th meeting.
2. Judy Robinson thanks Supervisor Dahle for his time and effort to serve on the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board.
3. Poet Laureate Violet Stout reads a poem entitled "Happy Father's Day".

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

County Clerk Nagel received a request to remove Item G-4, parcel map, from the agenda.

It is moved by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to approve the agenda with the noted deletion.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Hanson requests that Item G-5, wetlands mitigation agreement, be pulled from the consent calendar for separate consideration.

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 June 14, 2005.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ITEM

Approve request for sole-source purchase of an E-BAM portable smoke monitor manufactured by Met One Industries in order to monitor air quality during prescribed burning and wild land fire use projects.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ITEM

Approve and authorize Chairman to sign a letter of endorsement for the Lassen National Forest's proposed addition to the Backcountry Discovery Trail.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - ROAD DIVISION ITEMS

Approve Agreement with C. B. Consulting for professional services for Skyline Road East and Skyline Road Extension Construction Projects and authorize the Director of Public Works to sign upon approval by County Counsel.

TAX COLLECTOR ITEM

Review and approve claims for excess proceeds from the May, 2004 Tax Sale, filed with the Lassen County Tax Collector pursuant to Revenue and Tax Code '4675 as follows:

APN	CLAIMANT	EXCESS
RECOMMENDED		PROCEEDS
APPROVAL		

001-322-04 3,367.19	Lassen Cty Community Development	\$ 3,367.19	\$
001-322-05 \$27,079.54	Lassen Cty Community Development	\$27,079.54	
001-550-28 4,130.12	Julie Ann Morton	\$ 4,130.12	\$
019-290-03 0.00	none	\$ 5,315.10	\$
019-320-08 4,960.26	Brian W. Bibb	\$ 4,960.26	\$
029-140-32 3,150.55	Tower Investments, Inc	\$ 3,150.55	\$
031-170-12 0.00	none	\$ 5,824.65	\$
031-170-35 0.00	none	\$ 2,773.21	\$
031-170-49 0.00	none	\$ 774.54	\$
031-180-26 0.00	none	\$ 1,565.71	\$
043-170-20 0.00	none	\$ 3,915.44	\$
043-200-01 5,296.55	Kenneth Joseph Bertrand	\$ 5,296.55	\$
043-220-35 0.00	none	\$ 5,714.45	\$
059-010-24 0.00	none	\$ 2,466.07	\$
059-010-27 0.00	Tina La France	\$ 2,352.14	\$
059-010-27 2,352.14	Lassen County Child Support	\$ 2,352.14	\$
097-110-13 \$10,642.24	Ron Fairchild	\$21,284.47	
097-110-13 5,853.23	Debbie Fairchild	\$10,642.23	\$
097-110-13 4,789.00	Global Discoveries	\$ 4,789.00	\$
099-230-19	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$15,375.52	\$

805.40			
099-230-19	Franchise Tax Board	\$14,570.12	\$
9,463.88			
099-230-19	Lake Forest Mutual Water Co.	\$ 5,106.24	\$
2,375.65			
101-050-06,101-050-06-41, 101-050-06-42	William Butler	\$33,436.41	\$
8,359.11			
101-050-06,101-050-06-41, 101-050-06-42	Peggy Butler	\$25,077.30	\$
8,359.11			
101-050-06,101-050-06-41, 101-050-06-42	Barbara J. Wilson	\$16,718.19	
\$16,718.19			
105-161-06	none	\$49,063.02	\$
0.00			
116-060-29	Kings County Child Support	\$ 2,633.07	\$
0.00			
116-060-29	Randall Vineyard	\$ 2,633.07	\$
0.00			
116-060-29	Laneen M. Miller	\$ 2,633.07	\$
1,251.93			
116-060-29	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$ 1,381.14	\$
1,381.14			
137-100-10	Susan G. Thomason	\$ 8,104.44	\$
8,104.44			
137-100-11	Susan G. Thomason	\$ 4,504.44	\$
4,504.44			
141-220-64	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$11,774.32	\$
470.12			
141-220-64	Lawrence E. Alicia Jr.	\$11,304.20	\$
3,786.90			
141-220-64	Global Discoveries	\$ 7,517.30	\$
1,865.20			
141-220-64	Norma Alicia	\$ 5,652.10	\$
3,786.90			
141-220-64	Global Discoveries	\$ 1,865.20	\$
1,865.20			
141-220-65	Terry Sullivan	\$11,869.18	
\$11,869.18			

141-220-65 0.00	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$11,869.18	\$
141-220-65 0.00	Lawrence E. Alicia Jr.	\$11,869.18	\$
141-220-65 0.00	Global Discoveries	\$11,869.18	\$
141-220-65 0.00	Norma Alicia	\$11,869.18	\$
141-220-65 0.00	Global Discoveries	\$11,869.18	\$
141-220-66 0.00	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$15,368.93	\$
141-220-66 5,148.60	Lawrence E. Alicia Jr.	\$15,368.98	\$
141-220-66 2,535.89	Global Discoveries	\$10,220.38	\$
141-220-66 5,148.60	Norma Alicia	\$ 7,684.49	\$
141-220-66 2,535.89	Global Discoveries	\$ 2,535.89	\$
141-220-67 0.00	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$ 5,868.55	\$
141-220-67 1,965.96	Lawrence E. Alicia Jr.	\$ 5,868.55	\$
141-220-67 968.32	Global Discoveries	\$ 3,902.59	\$
141-220-67 1,965.96	Norma Alicia	\$ 2,934.27	\$
141-220-67 968.31	Global Discoveries	\$ 968.31	\$
141-220-68 0.00	Lassen County Tax Collector	\$29,505.79	\$
141-220-68 9,884.44	Lawrence E. Alicia Jr.	\$29,505.79	\$
141-220-68 4,868.46	Global Discoveries	\$19,621.35	\$
141-220-68 9,884.44	Norma Alicia	\$14,752.89	\$
141-220-68 4,868.40	Global Discoveries	\$ 4,868.40	\$

SEALED BID EXCESS PROCEEDS

045-150-46	none	\$	400.70	\$
0.00				

Excess proceeds total of \$80,543.48 goes to the General Fund

TREASURER ITEMS

Re-approve the Lassen County Investment Policy dated June 8, 2004.

Adopt Resolution No. 05-028, renewing the Delegation of Authority to Invest and Reinvest Funds of the County and Funds of other Depositors in the County Treasury.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Board meeting agenda for June 22, 2005, and unapproved minutes of May 18, 2005.
- b. Lassen County Air Pollution Control District Governing Board agenda for June 22, 2005, and minutes of April 27, 2005.
- c. Lassen County Fair meeting agenda and minutes for May 10, 2005.
- d. Lassen County Planning Commission special meeting agenda for June 17, 2005.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - ROAD DIVISION

Supervisor Hanson wants assurance the Willow Creek water rights are not compromised by the wetlands mitigation and he asks how the property was chosen. Supervisor Chapman provides his knowledge about the events that led to this site being chosen. He feels the public interest is served by this agreement which will facilitate moving forward with the Skyline Road project. Public Works Director Larry Millar states the monetary value of the easement will be determined through an appraisal. He also states the water rights will remain with the property owners.

It is moved by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to approve Wetlands Mitigation Agreement with Scott and Patricia Ulch and authorize the Director of Public Works to sign upon approval by County Counsel.

PROCLAMATION

It is moved by Supervisor Chapman, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to adopt a Proclamation recognizing Terry Enger, Health and Social Services on his retirement from Lassen County.

RECOGNITION COMMITTEE - PRESENTATION

Chairman Keefer makes the following presentation for years of service:

Twenty years: a desk clock to Larry Millar, (Public Works Department).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Board of Supervisors recess and convene as Community Development Commission.

Assistant Community Development Director Bertotti recaps discussions from the last meeting in regard to the report on the proposed Redevelopment Plan for the Westwood Redevelopment Project. In response to a question from Commissioner Chapman last week, he reports that he has spoken to the owner of the business that was deemed "under utilized" and the owner does consider it under utilized. Commissioner Chapman expresses his appreciation that this discussion was held, but states it should have been held prior to staff including information in the report.

Fred Binswanger wants county staff to work with residents on the redevelopment plan. States there has been misinformation and lack of communication. States he sees priorities differently than county staff in regard to needed projects and states the feasibility study for the alleys can come later. A new spring house for the water supply is the pressing matter now. He does feel that tourism and marketing is important. Speaks of a grassroots group that has been formed which is open to everyone interested.

Bix Blaufuss reads a three page letter from Julie Bustamante expressing the desire that the proposed Westwood Redevelopment Project not go forward at this time.

Steve Warren states he is not for or against the project and states that he understands the action before the Commission is to accept the Report and forward it to the Board of Supervisors so a public hearing can be conducted this evening. He feels the negative comments were all addressed at the community meeting, but does acknowledge there are things we do not know at this time.

Commissioner Chapman explains the process timeframe that is in place is to catch the tax cycle for the coming year. He states if the timeframe is not met it does not preclude taking action later, it just moves the process one year down the road.

Commissioner Pyle will be making a motion to approve the Plan in order to allow residents to address the Board of Supervisors at the public hearing tonight.

It is moved by Commissioner Pyle and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to adopt

Resolution No. 05-007 CDC, approving and adopting the report on the proposed Redevelopment Plan for the Westwood Redevelopment Project incorporating the corrections submitted at last week's meeting; and submitting the report and the Redevelopment Plan to the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Chapman states he remains disappointed in the report. He feels it will do irreparable harm to the public process by moving forward too soon and the community would be better served by waiting. He is not comfortable with a lot that he sees in the report and will vote no, although he will attend the public hearing tonight to hear what the community members have to say.

Commissioner Dahle feels the same.

The motion carries on a roll call vote with Commissioner Chapman voting NO.

The Board of Supervisors reconvene.

PUBLIC HEARING - USE PERMIT APPEAL - STANDISH BIBLE CHURCH

The public hearing is opened at 10:36 a.m. to consider an appeal of Use Permit #2005-001 Standish Bible Church (Harkness), filed by the applicant of condition #8 (encroachment standard) of the Planning Commission's approval. The Use Permit allows for construction of a church with seating for 250 congregants and a minimum of 63 parking spaces. Located 1/4 mile +/- south of the intersection of County Road A-3 and Highway 395 in Standish, APN 119-270-64. Access to the church would be via County Road A-3, Standish-Buntingville Road.

Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag and Road Department representative Marty Diehl present the staff report relating to safety issues that led to the requirement for a deceleration lane for this project.

Supervisor Hanson notes this turnoff is less than one quarter mile from the intersection with Highway 395. Also notes that two other churches in the area were not required to install deceleration lanes.

Speaking in favor of the appeal:

Standish Bible Church representative Dave Hoffman explains why he needs help in understanding how this requirement can be accomplished if it remains a requirement.

Violet Stout comments on a CalTrans speed study conducted on Ash Street which resulted in a five mile per hour increase in the speed limit.

No one speaks in opposition to the appeal.

The hearing is closed at 10:50 a.m.

Supervisor Hanson appreciates doing things in light of safety, but notes the church has brought up some good points and drivers should be slowing down since it is only one quarter mile from a stop sign at the intersection with Highway 395.

It is moved by Supervisor Hanson, seconded by Supervisor Chapman and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to grant the appeal from the Standish Bible Church.

CONTINUED -- PUBLIC HEARING - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HOUSING

The continued public hearing is reopened at 10:54 a.m. to consider 2005/2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning and Technical Assistance (PTA) General and Economic Development Allocations, for a feasibility analysis for alley improvements in Westwood and a tourism marketing strategy.

Monica Cochran presents the staff report.

Supervisor Pyle notes the Westwood Water System Spring House really needs reconstruction and the alleys can wait. He asks if these funds can be used for that. Monica Cochran responds she has spoken with the Westwood CSD and they don't need a study, they need to fix the Spring House. These funds are for studies, not for construction.

Supervisor Hanson asks if the funds can be used to study providing fire protection in the south county, and Ms. Cochran states they can.

Supervisor Chapman states that it rankles him that the Westwood Visitor's Center is not open on weekends (specifically Sundays) and he wants to know if funds could be used to help the Westwood Chamber of Commerce keep it open. Ms. Cochran states this could be studied.

No one speaks in favor of or in opposition to the block grant and the hearing is closed at 11:09 a.m.

It is moved by Supervisor Chapman, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to adopt Resolution No. 05-029, making an application for a feasibility analysis for a tourism marketing strategy; authorizing execution of contracts, circulation of Request for

Proposals (RFP) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and related documents, if funded.

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried unanimously, on a roll call vote, to adopt Resolution No. 05-030, making an application for a feasibility analysis for alley improvements in Westwood; authorizing execution of contracts, circulation of Request for Proposals (RFP) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and related documents, if funded.

Supervisor Dahle wants staff to determine just what the status of Westwood alley ownership is.

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

Fire Management Officer Tom Cable presents a power point presentation on the Lassen National Forest Fuels Reduction Program.

Supervisor Dahle discusses stewardship contracts with Mr. Cable.

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

It is moved by Supervisor Chapman, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to accept: 1) letter from the Lassen County In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Board advising Ms. Francis Sue Owens will be unable to serve on the committee due to health reasons; and 2) letter from Cynthia Olsen resigning from the In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Board. Direct County Clerk to advertise vacancies (3 vacancies - Consumers, Past or Present).

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

CAO Bixby presents the Dyer Mountain Fiscal Impact Model.

Supervisor Keefer informs the board members that Dyer Mountain wants to do the same type of report for Plumas County at their own expense, and he understands the county could act as the fiscal agency.

Supervisor Chapman suggests Plumas County send a letter to Lassen County requesting they function as the fiscal agency.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

It is moved by Supervisor Pyle, seconded by Supervisor Hanson and carried to appoint John Ketelsen as County Administrative Officer (CAO) effective July 1, 2005; and approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the employment contract with a correction

to the percentage of Superior Court Judge Salary.

INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

CAO Bixby provides an update on the status of the ambulance service contract.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Hanson reports on the Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting; reports on his successful second knee replacement surgery performed last Friday; notes that Lassen Volcanic National Park Superintendent Marilyn Perris is moving on to a new position; makes the following designations for his discretionary funds: \$500 to Juniper Ridge School for student body activities; \$500 to Standish 4-H Club for club activities; \$500 to Ft. Sage Family Resource Center to support children's activities; \$500 to West Patton Village CSD for the Herlong Library; and \$1000 to West Patton Village CSD to be used in providing fire protection.
2. Supervisor Pyle provides a quick update on the Dyer Mt. EIR.
3. Supervisor Chapman reports on the Fair Advisory Board Meeting - there is a desire to recognize Jim Jeskey by designating July 23, 2005 as Jim Jeskey Day; announces the final Rotary Club work day at the fairgrounds will be held on June 25th and all board members are invited; reports on the Lahontan Water Quality Control Meeting.
4. Supervisor Keefer reports the person that caused damage to the Janesville Park is now in the Plumas County Jail on a DUI.

Recess 12:00 - 1:31 p.m. Supervisor Chapman & County Counsel not present.

FY 2005/2006 BUDGET

CAO Bixby provides a listing of budget action dates and states the budget will be on the internet this year. He provides highlights of the budget message for the FY 2005/2006 Budget. County Counsel John Ketelsen enters at 1:36 p.m.

Sheriff Steve Warren states his budget this year will be underspent by about \$505,000 (Supervisor Chapman enters at 1:43 p.m.). He expresses his concern over the uncertainty of receiving the Rural Crimes Money and makes suggestions in regard to moving those revenues from Fund 131 to Fund 130 and explains how that affects staffing if the funds are not received. Also asks that the underspent funds be used as a starting balance. He expects this year to underspend again, but not by the same amount.

Supervisor Dahle repeats his prior stance that if the negotiations for increased salaries/benefits result in a funding shortfall then lower staffing will be the result. He also points

out that VLF dollars may not be forthcoming this year.

CAO Bixby states he has already removed \$340,000 from public safety based on a 5% vacancy rate. Also states that carryover (underspending) is not revenue. Notes if he does not assume the receipt of Rural Crimes Funds it will mean the loss of at least 15 employees. States that public safety budgets are \$700,000 over last year.

County Clerk Nagel points out the decrease in the elections budget will not fund the department operations with the special election now scheduled for this November, and notes the CAO has already acknowledged the budget for elections will need to be adjusted because of this election.

Supervisor Keefer states the \$900,000 gap between revenues and expenditures needs to be discussed and asks "how are we going to address this issue?"

Supervisor Pyle asks what the plan is to correct the deficit spending.

Supervisor Dahle agrees with an earlier comment from Supervisor Chapman, that we need to establish what we want maintained in the reserve. When we run short of maintaining that amount, something has to change. He asks the Board to set a policy.

Supervisor Chapman suggests if there is a surplus in the cash balance at the end of the year, it be applied to unfunded liabilities, to preserve services and to establish a reserve.

Supervisor Hanson feels we need to look at increasing revenues - need to get private industry into this county.

Supervisor Keefer would feel comfortable with moving \$500,000 from Contingency if at mid-year the departments can show the \$904,000 deficit is half of what is predicted at this point. He would like Mr. Bixby to provide a list of recommended position cuts before he leaves, to be used if the mid-year review is larger than predicted. He again expresses his belief that Animal Control needs to be under the Sheriff's Department, but also wants to know what the other board members want. He asks the Sheriff to provide a budget for this function.

In response to a question about the hiring freeze, CAO Bixby states it does not work in a county like ours because it can shutdown a small department. He suggests not allowing a vacated position to be filled until the cost associated with the employee leaving (vacation payoff) is offset by the period of vacancy.

Supervisor Keefer feels that \$2 million is a prudent reserve. There is member consensus on this amount. Auditor Karen Fouch suggests using 10% of the budgeted revenue which currently would result in approximately \$2 million. (Supervisor Dahle departs at 2:53 p.m.)

Recess 2:56 - 3:01 p.m.

STUDY SESSION - COUNTY FEE SCHEDULE AND OTHER CHARGES

CAO Bixby introduces the study session to review fee schedules and other County charges for services by stating that fees are not taxes. If fees are not set at an appropriate level to fund services then a subsidy is being provided to the user of the service.

Agriculture Commissioner Ken Smith presents his proposals for various fees. Direction is given to go forward with the fee proposals, but with an adjustment to the specific chemical costs for weed spraying.

Supervisor Chapman states that he will be voting no on most of the fee increases and explains why.

County Clerk Theresa Nagel presents fee increase proposals (CAO Bixby departs at 3:25 p.m.) and is directed to move forward with the proposals.

Environmental Health Officer Doug Ames presents a proposal for new fees for permit and inspection services. (CAO Bixby returns at 3:38 p.m.). CAO Bixby suggests with new fees such as these, a lead time of six months be provided prior to implementation. Direction is given to bring this proposal back for further consideration.

Public Works Director Larry Millar presents fee proposals for encroachment permits and transportation permits. Supervisor Dahle asks if any thought has been given to raising the bond for encroachments, and states that he feels that should be done. Direction is given to move forward with the fee proposal.

Public Defender David Marcus presents proposed fee increases and is directed to bring them back for further consideration.

Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag presents ideas for revenue enhancement. Transient Occupancy Tax on recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds - believes this requires a Prop 218 Election. Business License Fee. Direction is given to bring back some options. (Supervisor Chapman departs at 4:25 p.m.)

m.)

Planner Rick Simon reviews suggested planning fee increases. Building Inspector Steve Fuller reviews suggested code enforcement fines, abandoned vehicle abatement authority fee, and building permit scanning fee. Both are directed to bring back for further consideration.

Recess 4:41 - 6:02 p.m.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Westwood Redevelopment Plan:

The Joint Public Hearing of the Community Development Commission and the Board of Supervisors is opened at 6:03 p.m. to receive a staff presentation and public testimony on the proposed Westwood Redevelopment Plan.

Assistant Community Development Director Bertotti introduces RSG Redevelopment Consultant Jim Simon and Redevelopment Attorney Nikki Murphy. Mr. Simon presents the staff report by highlighting aspects of the Redevelopment Report. Ms. Murphy requests the following be entered into the public record: proof of publication of public hearing notice; copy of affidavits of mailing of all notices to affected taxing agencies; copy of affidavit of mailing notice of public hearing to all project area property owners, residents, and business owners; report to the Board of Supervisors; owner participation rules; proposed Redevelopment Plan.

County Clerk Theresa Nagel indicates another petition in opposition section has been submitted with seventeen signatures; and a letter in support from Julie and Koll Buer was received.

Peggy Fulder speaks in favor of the Redevelopment Plan (Plan) and states she wants a somewhat formal community advisory committee formed.

Michael Waldron wants to see things develop in Westwood and is in favor of the Plan.

Louise Biggs is in favor of the Plan and speaks of more businesses closing than are opening; states there is blight in Westwood, and that fear is driving what many in opposition are saying.

Ron Lunder is in support of the Plan and talks about some vacant houses and junk in Westwood.

Rod Theobald is in support of the Plan - states the preliminary report was an injustice to Westwood and that led to confusion. States the sewer ponds and water supply spring house can benefit from redevelopment.

Judy Wallace is opposed to the Plan - thought that 95% of the project area was to be physically dilapidated. She states property values are escalating very fast, houses are being fixed by the private sector, and code enforcement is the main problem. State she is not driven by fear - maybe by distrust as she does not know what is going to happen down the road.

Becky Compton is opposed to the Plan - states development is happening now and she does not like rushing into something that will last 45 years. Realizes even though an advisory committee could be formed now with support of the Redevelopment Commission, it is the Commission that is in control. States that a rate increase has just been instituted by the Westwood CSD which is to be set aside for the spring house, sewer ponds and to maintain financial stability. States redevelopment is not needed by the Westwood CSD and the CSD will lose money. She did not find the report very accurate. States that businesses fail everywhere and points out a big supermarket went into Chester, drove small stores out of business and then prices went up.

Elta Silva is in support of the Plan and states the Westwood CSD rate increase still does not qualify them for grants.

Pam Pettengill is excited and in favor of the Plan, but is discouraged by the rumors. Feels an advisory committee needs to be set up. States affordable housing is needed in Westwood.

Suzanne McDonald is opposed to the Plan - feels the increased taxes that would go to the Redevelopment Agency would be better used for public services, and feels this is not a good use of money. States the community does not have a guaranteed choice of how money will be spent. Does not believe public money should go to private businesses. States there is no watch dog on the Redevelopment Agency.

Cindy Sweger asks "what's the hurry?" She would like more time for people to study the Plan. She is concerned if a committee is formed with a dozen people, will it really reflect the will of the community. States Westwood is showing improvement now and she does not want to "sell our souls to the devil to get things done in Westwood". She speaks of previous instances where the community worked together to get things done. States the opposition petitions with over 300 signatures shows how the community feels and notes the signatures were gathered quickly.

Debbie Christie, speaking for herself and four friends that could not attend the hearing, is opposed to the Plan. States there are too many people that are misinformed or uninformed at this time. Many are concerned and have questions. States the people of Westwood need to understand the Plan fully before it is implemented. States the town is not dying - people are moving to Westwood. She has concerns over what is depicted as blight in the report and asks that action be postponed.

Fred Binswanger reads an email and draft resolution, that he received from Joe Bertotti, into the record which relates to the Redevelopment Commissioners consulting with a Westwood Redevelopment Committee prior to acting to develop any project. He states that communication has improved over the past three weeks. He was originally against the Plan but is changing his mind. States a new spring house is high on his priority list along with a new senior citizen center and assisted living for seniors. Notes that schools in Westwood have a declining enrollment.

Adele Wasneechak is concerned about what will happen over the long term and has concerns over government control.

Mitchell Pochna feels there is a large number of people in the community that are opposed to the Plan. States he is a building contractor and reviews his experience in other areas. He states that he has never seen a place cleaning up faster than Westwood is currently doing, and if you want to speed things up then speed up the permit process. Feels the Plan is like using a sledge hammer to kill a fly. He does not see a big government plan as a positive thing.

Doreen Zimmerman reads a 2 1/2 page letter which she submits for the record. She is not against redevelopment, but strongly expresses her and her husband's concerns about the way the county has procured the redevelopment documents. Their property, known as the Westwood Hospital, was prominently displayed throughout the report but neither the report writers nor the county ever contacted them. She reviews the extensive work they have performed on this building since acquisition, the clean-up they have performed of the public dumping that has occurred, and the lack of response by the county to their requests for assistance in keeping vagrants and juvenile delinquents from damaging the property. They find the report misleading and note that upgrading within Westwood has been phenomenal, with no help from the county. After reading the redevelopment reports they see a pre-determined outcome which is needless and, at best, insulting and antagonistic to the people of Westwood. Other misleading/contrary details within the report concern business to population ratio, and number of vacant/deteriorated homes. Their past dealings with the county has been less than stellar -

when the property was first purchased the planning and building staff courted them with offers of an "over the counter" grant and later treated them as if they were indigent and looking for money "hat in hand". They are currently working with the new purchasers of the mill pond, but there has been no contact from the county or report writers on what is planned for this property. They ask that the Plan either be redone or revised to accurately report the true potential and current standing of Westwood, with no further cost to the county. Also asks that the CDC not hold final say when property condemnation becomes a factor. Closes by saying they are behind redevelopment of Westwood 100%.

Alex deMartimprey speaks in favor of the Plan. He states that lots of people began the process in ignorance, but he feels most have come to be in favor. States that Treasurer/Tax Collector Richard Egan stated at a meeting in Westwood that \$40,000 would be lost if there is a year's delay. Mr. deMartimprey states this will be compounded over the life of the project and would amount to \$18 million.

Becky Compton resents the condescending comments just made regarding the ignorance of those against the plan. She lists her preferences: A) wants the Plan to go away; or B) put the Plan in abeyance; or C) if the Plan is approved she "will" be on the advisory committee. She states the new Westwood CSD fees will bring in \$158,000 per year and the CSD will be eligible for loans.

Delva Huss states she was against the Plan but is bending the other way now, although still need more time.

Suzanne Bard wonders about the possibility of reframing the Plan, and states she is basically a private enterprise supporter.

Don Biggs is in favor of the Plan and states we can't afford to lose \$40,000 by a year's delay.

Erik Sweger is against the Plan and wants to delay, maybe have a vote in November. States the business community want one thing and the rest of the community want another.

Bill Pettengill speaks in favor of the Plan and talks about things the community needs.

Ms. Murphy recommends bringing back recommendations for guidelines for the formation of a Redevelopment Advisory Committee to assist with implementation of the Redevelopment Plan. She states it is not permissible for an advisory committee to have

veto power but input can be allowed.

Chairman Keefer closes the hearing at 7:59 p.m.

Supervisor Chapman expresses his appreciation for the community input. States that he has been antagonized by the process and felt it was not reasonable to expect the community to digest this involved process in a short period of time. But he has been encouraged by the community dialog he has observed tonight.

Ms. Murphy states at the July 12th meeting, the actions will be to approve the negative declaration, make findings relating to housing funds and introduce the redevelopment ordinance. She states the result of a delay will be more cost, loss of revenue and loss of time.

Supervisor Pyle states the figure of \$40,000 referred to earlier is only an educated guess of the amount that would be lost if this is delayed one year - it could be less or it could be more. He notes that it has been clearly stated that an advisory committee cannot have control, that control is with the Redevelopment Commission. He asks Fred Binswanger if he still supports the Plan with this knowledge and Mr. Binswanger responds yes, and states he is still negotiating with staff. Supervisor Pyle asks the rest of the group of supporters if they still are in support without control of the process, and the verbal response indicates a consensus that they do not.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

SUPERVISORS

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD