

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AUGUST 16, 2005

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors convenes in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 16, 2005, at 9:31 a.m. Present: Supervisors Robert Pyle, Jim Chapman, Lloyd Keefer, and Brian Dahle; County Counsel Craig Settlemyre, County Administrative Officer (CAO) John Ketelsen and County Clerk Theresa Nagel. Supervisor Hanson is absent. Following the flag salute, the invocation is offered by Supervisor Keefer.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Keefer announces that no closed session was held.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

CAO Ketelsen states that Dan Douglas will provide information on the Lassen County Exhibit to the State Fair under public comment. County Clerk Nagel indicates that Item F-2, Alcohol & Drug Advisory Board appointment needs to be removed from the agenda.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Violet Stout announces that her granddaughter participated in a charity boxing match and won a huge belt buckle for winning her match.
2. Dan Douglas distributes information and pictures of the Lassen County exhibit for the State Fair. The focus of this year's exhibit was agriculture and timber production and what it means to the county. The exhibit received a Silver Award and he does not know what the monetary award will be. CAO Ketelsen thanks Dan for all his work which goes beyond the call of duty. Supervisor Pyle asks if anything has been done with the County exhibit at the Capitol and Dan responds that he is working with the Correctional Center to come up with a proposal.

UNAGENDIZED BOARD REPORTS

1. Supervisor Dahle reports on the Day Road Fire Safe Council tour; reports on a meeting in Adin with a group that want to keep the Hayden Hill Power Line in place - information was provided to the group on preparing an EIR; notes that NACO supported drilling for natural resources in our own country to lessen our dependence on foreign

countries and he wants to know if the Board is interested in doing the same - consensus is yes.

2. Supervisor Pyle reports on a meeting he attended with Congressman Doolittle in which he updated the Congressman on issues relating to water exportation and talked about our dependence on foreign countries for oil; announces he will attend the Spalding CSD meeting tonight.

3. Supervisor Chapman discusses items he addressed with Congressman Doolittle; notes the Forest Service was involved and cooperative on the Eagle Lake Run; received a call from Dayne Barron relating to a suggestion by BLM's engineers to install a culvert in the closed tunnel to make it usable for the Bizz Johnson Marathon; announces he was taken on a tour of the Ronald McDonald Camp during a camp session by Irene Doyle; notes there is a need to remove gravel along road edges following chip-sealing on County Road A-27 prior to the annual bicycling event; will be bringing a resolution to a future meeting for designation of routes used for cyclists; reports on the PSA II September meeting being cancelled; reports the Community Action Agency will meet here next month.

4. Supervisor Keefer comments on the amount of development in the Day Bench area and the good job the Fire Council is doing; reports on other RAC Projects that he viewed during the tour; reports on the Economic Development Council (EDC) meeting - received a presentation on the City's River Trail Project and the Museum; notes that 900 are registered for all events related to the Bizz Johnson Marathon; discusses Bob Sorvaag's presentation at the (EDC) relating to the GIS Mapping Project and wants the Board to see the presentation; notes he met with Senator Cox on Friday evening to discuss local issues.

PROCLAMATION

It is moved by Supervisor Chapman, seconded by Supervisor Dahle and carried to adopt a Proclamation honoring Shirley Johnson-Wright (Solid Waste) on her retirement from Lassen County.

RECOGNITION COMMITTEE - PRESENTATION

Chairman Keefer makes the following presentation for years of service:

Ten years: a brass letter opener to Susan Bonham (Animal Control).

LASSEN COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT

It is moved by Supervisor Dahle, seconded by Supervisor Pyle and carried to accept a letter from Dan Alcorn resigning from the Lassen County Waterworks District; and appoint Sandie Edgerton and Richard Jan Patak to fill two vacancies on the Lassen County Waterworks District Board.

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 9, 2005.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - PERSONNEL DIVISION ITEM

Approve request for Step "D" appointment of Ms. Traci Witry to the position of Senior Deputy County Counsel in the office of the County Counsel.

AUDITOR & TREASURER DEPARTMENTS ITEM

Receive and file Treasurer's Fund Balance Report and Auditor's verification for the month of July, 2005.

TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR ITEM

Receive and file Treasurer's Investment Report for July, 2005.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. Lassen County Technical Advisory Committee meeting agenda for August 10, 2005.
- b. Lassen County Fair Advisory Board meeting agenda for August 9, 2005, and minutes of July 12, 2005.

MADELINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

A letter from Madeline Fire Department informing the board that they can no longer meet the minimum criteria for a volunteer fire department is received.

County Fire Warden Don Posten indicates the California Department of Forestry (CDF) has no lands they protect in the Madeline area and therefore the statement in the letter that CDF has interest in taking over the Madeline Fire Department is not correct. He states there could be response from the Alturas Office, but it would take at least an hour. He does believe there is a possibility of Madeline Fire contracting with the Likely Fire Department. He notes most of Madeline Fire's equipment is federal excess, therefore that equipment would have to be recovered and maybe Likely Fire could use it.

The Board directs that Emergency Services Director Chip Jackson and County Fire Warden Don Posten work with Madeline Fire and Likely Fire on this issue, and include input from the Alturas CHP Office and the BLM.

Mr. Posten feels that County Counsel needs to address issues relating to disbanding the district with the district board. County Counsel Craig Settlemire responds his office would be happy to help the district with guidance if the Board so directs.

CAO Ketelsen suggests his office could coordinate meetings with Madeline Fire representatives and County Counsel.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

Community Development Director Robert Sorvaag presents a request from Christine Corona for a waiver of Initial Study and Use Permit #2005-105 application fees totaling \$1,182, pursuant to County Code, Section 3.18.100.

Supervisor Dahle wants more information prior to making a decision and requests this be continued until Supervisor Hanson is present. Supervisor Keefer agrees and also asks what benefit there is to the county from a facility such as this. Supervisor Chapman would like the Animal Control Officer to prepare a report on this matter.

Chairman Keefer continues this item to a future meeting.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Community Liaison Heidi Perry provides an update on the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). She distributes information sheets on the 2003, 2004 and 2005 RAC Projects. She notes that September 1st will be the opening date for the next round of grants.

Supervisor Chapman hopes the BLM will put in for a RAC Grant to help with the Bizz Johnson Trail Tunnel stabilization (repair).

Supervisor Pyle asks what the BLM has accomplished with the SWAT Noxious Weed Control grants that have amounted to over \$140,000 for the three grant years. Ms. Perry responds that she has monitoring reports she can provide. Supervisor Pyle sees a lot of money being spent on White-Top but if the work is not done right it is a waste of money. Ms. Perry will have the BLM come to the next RAC meeting on September 8th to provide information on their accomplishments.

Supervisor Keefer comments on the delays in getting RAC Grants to applicants since the Forest Service transferred their business functions to Albuquerque. He notes most of the year is gone prior to receiving funds. Ms. Perry states if it is any consolation some of the funds have been received just last week.

Recess 10:48 - 11:01 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2005/2006 COUNTY BUDGET

The public hearing on Fiscal Year 2005/2006 Proposed County Budget is opened at 11:02 a.m.

CAO Ketelsen states the budget is presented as adjusted for the changes that were indicated during last week's budget discussion. Transfers were made to Probation and Cemetery to cover their current budgeted operating costs and leave their projected ending balance at zero as it was understood these departments were not to be reduced. The transfer to Capital Projects has been eliminated and the balance remains in the General Fund carryover. The \$50,000 Nuisance Abatement is in Special Departmental Expense in the Building Inspector Budget. \$200,000 has been transferred to Fund 119 ACO for the software purchases. There have been some other adjustments made in some funds expenditures to coordinate with actual available funds. The public hearing is anticipated to be continued until August 23, 2005, to make any changes to the budget that the Board previously indicated they may wish to implement. As a reminder, the budget hearings can continue for no longer than 10 days and a final budget must be adopted by October 2, 2005.

Supervisor Keefer states that it appears there will be a \$1.7 million carryover in 2006/07 with a \$2 million Reserve - he feels one decision needed is how much reserve we want to maintain.

Supervisor Pyle and Supervisor Dahle see the county actually going broke if you look at the income versus expenses.

Supervisor Dahle feels there is a need to look at Capital Projects which have not been done since he has been a board member. He notes the tremendous increase in costs of construction and how we continue to fall behind with no plan.

Supervisor Chapman expresses his desires on how to approach the preparation of a final budget.

CAO Ketelsen suggests a committee format with two members of the Board to work with staff on a strategic plan, the budget, and legislative issues. He does not want staff to tell the Board what they want, and does not want to be surprised by Board directions without the ability to professionally review proposals. Board consensus is in favor of this proposal.

Supervisor Dahle states we need to address infrastructure issues - get a plan to move forward with - need decent tools for the workforce to use.

Supervisor Keefer agrees with the CAO proposal and thinks the two Board members should be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Supervisor Chapman wants clarity regarding the apportionment of liability and Workman's Comp Insurance and IT charges.

Lassen Land and Trails Trust (LLTT) Executive Director Jan Heid addresses funding for the Visitor's Center at the Railroad Depot which costs approximately \$40,000 per year to operate. She is asking the County to consider becoming a financial partner and contribute \$10,000 toward the operations. She provides information on the services provided by the Visitor's Center. States this is a wise investment for an up and running Visitor's Center that is open 7 days a week - 9 AM to 5 PM. The City has contributed \$2,000 this year, USFS - \$5,000, BLM reimburses for hiring a manager and for placement of exhibits. Approximately \$30,000 comes from LLTT, whose focus is changing and they really want to form partnerships for operation of the Visitor's Center.

Sheriff Steve Warren discusses in detail his budget and the disposition of the Rural Crimes funds. Extensive debate takes place between Sheriff Warren and Supervisor Dahle. Supervisor Dahle addresses the funds that Sheriff Warren did not expend in the 2004/05 budget and states he feels the Sheriff's Budget was provided more funding than needed the past three years and the under-expenditure can also be viewed as over-budgeting.

CAO Ketelsen feels what takes place after the conclusion of the public hearing is just to make changes as directed at the public hearing, not to make substantive changes, therefore big changes need to occur prior to the end of the public hearing.

Further discussion is held regarding how to proceed on the budget process.

Chairman Keefer directs staff to look into the possibility of continuing the public hearing past next week and continues the hearing until 11:00 a.m. on August 23, 2005.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF

SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

THERESA NAGEL, CLERK OF THE BOARD