



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dwight Ceresola, Vice Chair 1st District

Kevin Goss, Chair 2nd District

Sharon Thrall, 3rd District

Greg Hagwood, 4th District

Jeff Engel, 5th District

MEETING MINUTES

ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF PLUMAS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA HELD IN QUINCY ON MARCH 1, 2022

STANDING ORDERS

Due to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency, dated March 16, 2020, the County of Plumas is making several changes related to Board of Supervisors meetings to protect the public's health and prevent the disease from spreading locally.

Plumas County Health Officer Recommendation Regarding Teleconferencing, issued on September 30, 2021, recommends local legislative bodies, such as commission, committees, boards, and council, hold public meetings with teleconferencing as authorized by Government Code section 54953 (e).

Pursuant to Government Code section 54953 (e) and to maintain the orderly conduct of the meeting, the County of Plumas members of the Board of Supervisors may attend the meeting via teleconference or phone conference and participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were physically present. Due to Government Code section 54953(e), the Boardroom will be open to the public but subject to social distancing requirements, which limit the number of people that may enter to 25% of room capacity. Those that wish to attend the Board meeting, will be required to wear a face covering, as required by the local Public Health Officer order. The public may participate as follows:

Live Stream of Meeting

Members of the public who wish to watch the meeting, are encouraged to view it [LIVE ONLINE](#)

ZOOM Participation

The Plumas County Board of Supervisors meeting is accessible for public comment via live streaming at: <https://zoom.us/j/94875867850?pwd=SGISeGpLVG9wQWtRSnNUM25mczlvZz09> or by phone at: Phone Number 1-669-900-9128; Meeting ID: 948 7586 7850. Passcode: 261352

Public Comment Opportunity/Written Comment

Members of the public may submit written comments on any matter within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether the matter is on the agenda for Board consideration or action. Comments will be entered into the administrative record of the meeting.

Members of the public are strongly encouraged to submit their comments on agenda and non-agenda items using e-mail address Public@countyofplumas.com

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Roll Call.

Present: Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Goss.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Robert Zernich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

Supervisor Hagwood requested that Item 4A be moved to closed session

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Bob Zernich invited all to attend the 16th year the Memorial Day Celebration of the Veterans Memorial on the corner.

Pastor George offered a short prayer.

Linda Margaretic read a document from Community Conversations group.

Audience member stood and commented regarding support signatures received for Community Conversations Group document

Jen Terhune commented regarding businesses and Covid Mandates and the economic Impacts

Rose Buzzetta commented regarding public comment being heard.

Clint Koble spoke regarding TOT item in the agenda, and comments regarding spending of ARPA funds.

HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Todd Johns announced Sgt. Ian James had resigned, and Sheriff Johns wanted to recognize and thank Sgt. James for his work, and commitment to our community.

Nancy Selvage made an announcement regarding SB114 being reinstated by the Governor.

Lindsay Fuchs announced that temporary Greenville Library site is now open.

ACTION AGENDA

1. DISASTER RECOVERY OPERATIONS

- Pamela Courtwright
Report and update Dixie Fire Recovery efforts; receive report and discussion

- Kess Porter with the Dixie Fire Collaborative also spoke on the following 4 topics: pop up business district, rebuilding, historic walls and buildings, and reliable internet in Greenville.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board of Supervisors will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Board members, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion. Additional budget appropriations and/or allocations from reserves will require a **four/fifths roll call vote**.

Motion: Approve the following Consent Agenda matters, as submitted, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Hagwood **Seconded by** Supervisor Engel.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

A. **CLERK OF THE BOARD**

Approve Board Minutes for February 2022

B. **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign agreement between Plumas County and the California Association of Environmental Health Administrators (CAEHA), to administer the debris removal from the Dixie and Beckwourth Fires; not to exceed \$165,000.00; approved as to form by County Counsel.

C. **PUBLIC HEALTH**

- 1) Authorize no contract payment of \$1,500.00 to Top Mop Janitorial Services; for services provided through December 31, 2021
- 2) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign amendment to grant agreement between Plumas County and Public Health Institute in the amount of \$251, 756.00; approved as to form by County Counsel.

D. **SHERIFF**

- 1) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign agreement between Plumas County Sheriff's Office and Little Norway Marine Service; for general boat repair on an as needed basis; not to exceed \$25,000.00; approved as to form by County Counsel
- 2) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign agreement between Plumas County Sheriff's office and Berry Enterprises, Inc., dba Sierra Electronics, to provide 24/7 response to all communication infrastructure needs as well as shop, and depot level repair of mobile and portable radios; not to exceed \$350,000.00; Approved as to form by County Counsel.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS GOVERNED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors sits as the Governing Board for various special districts in Plumas County including Dixie Valley Community Services District; Walker Ranch Community Services District; Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Quincy Lighting District; Crescent Mills Lighting District

Convene as the Flood Control & Water Conservation District Governing Board

3.  **FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT** – John Mannle

Consider appointing a Plumas County Supervisor as a representative and an Alternate to serve as a member of the Flood Control Water Forum; to determine the use of settlement funds; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Appoint Supervisor Engel as Plumas County representative and Supervisor Thrall as the Alternate to serve as a member of the Flood Control Water Forum; to determine the use of settlement funds, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Thrall, **Seconded by** Supervisor Ceresola.

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn as the Flood Control & Water Conservation District Governing Board and reconvene as the Board of Supervisors

4.  **DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS**

A.  **AUDITOR/ CONTROLLER** – Bianca Harrison

Adopt **RESOLUTION** to revise Plumas County Position Allocation for Auditor to Flexibly Allocate the Position of Assistant Auditor Controller for Department 20040; approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action.

Roll call vote

- Item 4A was moved to Closed Session for further discussion.

B.  **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH** - Rob Robinette

- 1) Approve \$7,924.39 budget transfer for support provided during the Dixie Fire and Beckwourth Fire emergency; from regular wages, acct. # 51000, into overtime wages, acct. # 51060; discussion and possible action. **Four/ fifths roll call vote**
- 2) Approve \$2,872.96 budget transfer for short term Environmental Health support Staffing provided during the Dixie Fire; from regular wages, acct. # 51000, into other wages, acct. # 51020; discussion and possible action. **Four/ fifths roll call vote**
- 3) Authorize supplemental budget of \$6,781.94, for receipt of unanticipated revenue from reimbursement of the 2020 North Complex Fire, acct. #46253; and approve \$6,781.94 budget transfer to replace aging computers for environmental Health Staff; from CO Disaster Response acct. #46253 into Computer Hardware acct. # 529851; discussion and possible action.

Four/ fifths roll call vote

Motion: Approve items 4B 1-3 to authorize the following \$7,924.39 budget transfer for support provided during the Dixie Fire and Beckwourth Fire emergency; from regular wages, acct. # 51000, into overtime wages, acct. # 51060; Approve \$2,872.96 budget transfer for short term Environmental Health support Staffing provided during the Dixie Fire; from regular wages, acct. # 51000, into other wages, acct. # 51020; Authorize supplemental budget of \$6,781.94, for receipt of unanticipated revenue from reimbursement of the 2020 North Complex Fire, acct. #46253; and approve \$6,781.94 budget transfer to replace aging computers for environmental Health Staff; from CO Disaster Response acct. #46253 into Computer Hardware acct. # 529851; and Authorize supplemental budget of \$6,781.94, for receipt of unanticipated revenue from reimbursement of the 2020 North Complex Fire, acct. #46253; and approve \$6,781.94 budget transfer to replace aging computers for environmental Health Staff; from CO Disaster Response acct. #46253 into Computer Hardware acct. # 529851, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Thrall, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion passed (**summary:** Yes = 4, No = 1, Abstain = 0).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Goss, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Thrall.

No: Supervisor Engel.

C.  **FACILITY SERVICES** – JD Moore Interim Director

Authorize the Interim Director of Facility Services to recruit and fill, vacant Extra Help position at the Taylorsville Campground; vacancy due to retirement; discussion and possible action

Motion: Authorize the Interim Director of Facility Services to recruit and fill, vacant Extra Help position at the Taylorsville Campground, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Motion passed unanimously.

D.  **HUMAN RESOURCES** – Nancy Selvage

Adopt **ORDINANCE**, first introduced on February 15, 2022, amending Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 2 of the Plumas County Code (Salaries: Elected Officials); approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action. **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **ORDINANCE No. 2022-1142** first introduced on February 15, 2022, amending Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 2 of the Plumas County Code (Salaries: Elected Officials), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Thrall, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

E.  **LIBRARY** – Lindsay Fuchs

Approve and authorize the County Librarian to sign the State Funded Grant “Stronger Together: Improving Library Access” Award Agreement, and Certificate of Compliance for the award amount of \$200,000.00, for purchase of “Bookmobile”; discussion and possible action

Motion: Approve and authorize the County Librarian to sign the State Funded Grant “Stronger Together: Improving Library Access” Award Agreement, and Certificate of Compliance for the award amount of \$200,000.00, for purchase of “Bookmobile”, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Goss, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Motion passed unanimously.

F.  **PROBATION** - Keevin Allred

Adopt **RESOLUTION** to establish additional Plumas County Probation Department policies and procedures through Lexipol; approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action.

Roll call vote

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22- 8667** to establish additional Plumas County Probation Department policies and procedures through Lexipol; **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

G.  **PUBLIC HEALTH** – Dr. Dana Loomis

1) Adopt **RESOLUTION** to amend the FY 2021-2022 County Personnel Allocation for the Public Health Agency, Budget Unit 70560; approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action. **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22- 8668** to amend the FY 2021-2022 County Personnel Allocation for the Public Health Agency, Budget Unit 70560, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

2)  Authorize the Director of Public Health to recruit and fill, funded and allocated; 1.0 FTE Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) I/ II or Registered Nurse (RN) I/ II Position; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Authorize the Director of Public Health to recruit and fill, funded and allocated; 1.0 FTE Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) I/ II or Registered Nurse (RN) I/ II Position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Motion passed unanimously.

3)  Authorize the Director of Public Health to recruit and fill, funded and allocated; 0.875 FTE Permanent Head Cook position; 0.675 FTE Permanent Driver Position; and one Extra-Help position; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Authorize the Director of Public Health to recruit and fill, funded and allocated; 0.875 FTE Permanent Head Cook position; 0.675 FTE Permanent Driver Position; and one Extra-Help position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood. Motion passed unanimously.

4)  Adopt **RESOLUTION** to Amend the FY 2021-2022 County Personnel Allocation to add 1.0 FTE to the Health Education Series position in Budget Unit 70560; and authorize Human Resources to Recruit and fill the position; discussion and possible action. **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22-8669** to Amend the FY 2021-2022 County Personnel Allocation to add 1.0 FTE to the Health Education Series position in Budget Unit 70560; and authorize Human Resources to Recruit and fill the position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

H.  **PUBLIC WORKS - ROAD** – John Mannle

Approve \$75,000.00 budget transfer for overtime wages due to unforeseen circumstances; from Professional Services acct. #521900, into Overtime Wages acct. #51060; discussion and possible action. **Four/ fifths roll call vote**

Motion: Approve \$75,000.00 budget transfer for overtime wages due to unforeseen circumstances; from Professional Services acct. #521900, into Overtime Wages acct. #51060, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

I.  **PUBLIC WORKS – SOLID WASTE** – John Mannle

1) Adopt **RESOLUTION** indicating Plumas County's intention to comply with California State Bill 1383 regulations regarding organic waste; discussion and possible action. **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22-8670** indicating Plumas County's intention to comply with California State Bill 1383 regulations regarding organic waste, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

2)  **10:00 - Conduct a Public Hearing:**

- a. Receive a report and recommendation from the Public Works regarding proposed rate increase of 2.5% at transfer stations and for residential and commercial customers self-hauling solid waste to Plumas County transfer stations located within Franchise Area #2; as operated by franchise contractor Intermountain Disposal, Inc.

1. Solid Waste Program Manager, Sean Graham gave a brief report regarding the Franchise fee discrepancy and past events.
2. Intermountain Disposal Owner, Richard Ross gave a brief background report regarding the matter before the Board
3. Supervisor Chair Goss, opened the floor to Public Comment and read a public comment email in opposition to the rate increase, received from Mark Mihevc.
4. Supervisor Chair Goss closed the public hearing and brought the matter back to the board for discussion and possible action.

b. Adopt **RESOLUTION** establishing revised fee schedule for residential and commercial customers self-hauling solid waste to Plumas County Transfer Stations in Franchise Area #2 (Operated by Intermountain Disposal Inc.); approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22-8671** establishing revised fee schedule for residential commercial customers self-hauling solid waste to Plumas County Transfer Stations in Franchise Area #2 (Operated by Intermountain Disposal Inc.), **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Hagwood, **Seconded by** Supervisor Ceresola.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor Ceresola, Supervisor Thrall, Supervisor Hagwood, Supervisor Engel, Supervisor Goss.

J.  **SHERIFF** – Todd Johns

Authorize the Sheriff's Office to recruit and fill grant funded and allocated 1.0 FTE Victim Witness Advocate, and establish a hiring pool for this position; vacancy due to resignation; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Authorize the Sheriff's Office to recruit and fill grant funded and allocated 1.0 FTE Victim Witness Advocate, and establish a hiring pool for this position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Goss, **Seconded by** Supervisor Hagwood.

Motion passed unanimously.

K.  **SOCIAL SERVICES** – Neal Caiazzo

Authorize the Director of Social Services to recruit and fill vacant 1.0 FTE Information Services Technician position; vacancy due to retirement; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Authorize the Director of Social Services to recruit and fill vacant 1.0 FTE Information Services Technician position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor Ceresola.

Motion passed unanimously.

5.  **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- A. Review the ARPA grant fund recommendations; discussion/ direction and possible action.
Deanne Blankenship - gave a brief review of the recommendations and following brief discussion

Motion: Approve the ARPA grant fund recommendations as presented, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Hagwood, **Seconded by** Supervisor Engel.

Motion passed unanimously.

- B.  Direction to Planning Department Staff to start process regarding VRBO/ TOT Ordinance; discussion and possible action.

- 1) Building Director gave a brief report regarding short term rental, enforcement, compliance and the steps needed moving forward regarding the Short Term Rental/ Transient Occupancy Tax (STR/ TOT) Ordinance - followed by a brief discussion

Motion: The Board of Supervisors directed the planning department and staff to start working on draft Ordinance and bring it before the Plumas County Planning Commission for direction, and/ or approval.

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Hagwood, **Seconded by** Supervisor Engel.

Motion passed unanimously.

C.  **APPOINTMENTS**

- 1) Appoint David M. Caldeira to the Quincy Design Review Committee; discussion and possible action.

- 2) **FEATHER RIVER RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Reappoint Bethany Johnson Howell to the Feather River Resource Conservation District to fill a vacancy due to expiration of term; discussion and possible action

Motion: to approve items 5C 1&2 to Appoint David M. Caldeira to the Quincy Design Review Committee; and Reappoint Bethany Johnson Howell to the Feather River Resource Conservation District to fill a vacancy due to expiration of term, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor Hagwood, **Seconded by** Supervisor Engel.

Motion passed unanimously.

D.  **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence regarding ongoing recycling matters in East Quincy, and correspondence regarding County owned properties and fire hazard mitigation.

Correspondence regarding ongoing recycling matters, Graeagle CSD related correspondence, and praise for the Plumas County Building department.

Correspondence regarding ongoing recycling matters, LAFCo, Fire Board consolidation.

Correspondence regarding ongoing recycling matters, and disposal route matters. Correspondence with Union Valley Community Service District regarding capping of sewer pipes around Greenville.

E. **INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Weekly report by Board members of meetings attended, key topics, project updates, standing committees and appointed Boards and Associations

Reported by Supervisor Hagwood regarding issues related to County Government and include routine meetings with constituents.

Reported by Supervisor Engel regarding issues related to County Government and include Social Services Transportation Advisory Meeting, Transportation Commission Meeting and routine meetings with constituents.

Reported by Supervisor Thrall regarding issues related to County Government and include the kick off meeting for The Main Street, HWY 36 Corridor Planning Grant with the consultants, engineers, and Caltrans, the Transportation Commission Meeting, and the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District meeting.

Reported by Supervisor Ceresola regarding issues related to County Government and include the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District meeting, meeting Plumas Forest Ranger, regarding how volunteer fire departments will get paid. Attended the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Reported by Supervisor Goss regarding issues related to County Government and include a meeting with Cal-OES regarding the transfer of ownership of 240 Wolf Creek Road, Greenville, meeting with Cal-EPA, Cal-OES, Cal-Recycle, department of Toxic Substances. Attended meeting with the Dixie Collaborative, and the Greenville Historic Buildings Committee.

6.  **CLOSED SESSION**

ANNOUNCE ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

- A. Public employee appointment or employment – County Administrator/ Risk Management
- B. Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing litigation pursuant to Subdivision (d) (1) of Government Code Section §54956.9 (Workers compensation Case No. TIBV-548140)
- C. Conference with Legal Counsel: Initiating litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- D. Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (3 cases)
- E. Conference with Labor Negotiator regarding employee negotiations: Sheriff's Administrative Unit; Sheriff's Department Employees Association; Operating Engineers Local #3; Confidential Employees Unit; Probation; Unrepresented Employees and Appointed Department Heads
- F. Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing litigation – BNSF Railway Company v, Alameda County, et al., United State District Court, Northern District of California, Case No. 19-cv-07230-HSG, pursuant to Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

 **REPORT OF ACTION IN CLOSED SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)**

No reportable action was taken in Closed Session.

Item 4A was removed from the agenda at this time.

 **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned meeting to Tuesday, March 8, 2022, Board of Supervisors Room 308, Courthouse, Quincy, California



Growing Healthy Communities

Date: March 01, 2022

RE: COVID-19 Update

California situation

Incidence rate (IR) 19.5 per 100,000 (about 8,000/day), death rate 0.4 per 100,000 (about 187/day), test positivity (TP) 2.9%. Incidence and TP continue to decrease. The death rate is increasing as a result of deaths of people infected in previous weeks. Vaccination: 83.1%, a small increase. Incidence rate ratio (RR) 5.4 for confirmed Covid, 10.5 for hospitalization & 16 for death comparing unvaccinated to vaccinated + boosted.

Local situation

Cases: 33 positive tests reported Feb 21-27th. Total of 3104 cases, IR 29.33 per 100,000 by local analysis as of 2/27. Test positivity is 7.5%. None hospitalized, no new deaths.

Vaccination: No change from previous. All county hospitals and pharmacies and the public health clinic are participating. Coverage continues to increase slowly, 64% fully or partially vaccinated and 40% of fully vaccinated are boosted. Possible slowing of demand after surge of interest related to Omicron wave.

School situation: PUSD reported 13 case the week ended 2/24.

Other clusters & outbreaks: Small clusters have been reported by two local employers.

Additional reports.

- California Governor Newsom and California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly announced on 2/28/2022 effective end of day, February 28th, general masking requirements for unvaccinated will move to a strong recommendation for all persons, regardless of vaccine status and effective end of day March 11th, universal masking requirements in K-12 and childcare settings will move to a strong recommendation.
- Public Health is working on a COVID-19 Forum or “townhall meeting” to be hosted this month. Currently finalizing date based on participants. PCPHA will ensure public is informed in order to have ample time to submit questions. This will be virtual in order to be accessible throughout Plumas County.
- PCPHA has shifted its focus in case investigation and contact tracing. PCPHA will no longer be attempting to contact all positives but rather focus on vulnerable populations, outbreaks (schools, businesses, etc.), and hospitalizations.
- CDC has developed new community indicators. That can be found here:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

2021 ARPA Funds for Plumas County

A Plan to Spend Them Wisely and Effectively

The award of \$3,647,502 to Plumas County from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is both an opportunity and a challenge. It is a financial opportunity that we may never see in our lifetime again.

Items of Concern:

- Capacity to disperse the funds, many of which will be allocated via grants that will require Resolutions by the BOS, Initial Hearings, Final Hearings, and the writing and administration of the grants themselves by someone or some company.
- Longevity. These will most likely be one-time funds that will require a “ramping up” by Plumas County followed by a winding down.
- Therefore, the funds must be targeted with a long-term effect.
- Will the following proposed areas for funding actually improve our quality of life, stabilize our populations, and grow economic development? That is of utmost importance.

There are many allowable areas that Plumas County could focus on to spend the available ARPA Funds, including:

- Affordable Housing.
- High-speed internet deployment.
- Childcare facilities and training.
- Economic development and recovery.
- Tourism and Recreation
- Small business assistance and funding.
- EV Charging Stations.
- New Degrees at FRC.
- Substance abuse.
- Tribal assistance.
- Transportation.
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

What are our biggest challenges that can be addressed by applying the ARPA Funds?

1. Affordable housing. Sometimes, it doesn't even have to be affordable, just available! The Alliance For Workforce Development (AFWD) constantly says that jobs go unfilled because people can't relocate here, even the young working and professional families that we desperately need to keep our

communities young and vibrant. We need to find solutions for this. If we fix this, we can fix everything else.

2. High-speed internet deployment. Until we get adequate broadband infrastructure in Plumas County, our growth and economic development/recovery will be held back. Getting WIFI isn't going to cut it; you can't build hospitals and other critical industries without fiber optics cable.

3. Child Care. This is often overlooked but desperately needed for half or more of our workforce. COVID-19 statistics tell us that more women than men were unemployed during the COVID Crisis because many Child Care Facilities had to close down. If there is anything incredibly important to families and to future growth and economic development, it is adequate Child Care. The solution might be to expand current facilities as the future may demand increased services. If we expand affordable housing, there will be increased pressure for more Child Care facilities.

4. Economic Development & Recovery. The Pandemic and the Dixie Fire have devastated our economy. We need to make serious investments to get our economies, communities, and our businesses back on their feet. Perhaps fund an Economic Development Director or Grant Administrator that could easily write 10 times more per year than their salary in grants for Plumas County to enhance capacity and infrastructure.

Therefore, I am proposing that the list of areas to spend the ARPA monies by priority and estimate are:

- Affordable Housing: Waiving of hookup fees and permits for affordable housing; development of small homes and backyard homes; housing vouchers for new employees to Plumas County; purchase and or transfer of land for affordable housing development - \$500,000.
- Child Care: Pay for child care certifications to add more child care specialists; provide grant funding to expand and equip current licensed child care facilities; pay for FRC to offer instruction and certificates for licensed child care specialists - \$400,000.
- Economic Development/Recovery:
 - Support for Chambers of Commerce and Visitors Centers - \$300,000.
 - Digital Literacy Classes - \$12,000
 - Marketing Workshops - \$20,000
 - Business Plan Development - \$10,000
 - Business expansion and retention - \$10,000
 - Support for Sierra SBDC expansion of services - \$20,000
 - Grants for small business negatively affected by COVID-19 in amounts of \$5,000 on a first-come, first-served basis using the formula by the CA COVID-19 Grant Program for those businesses that didn't apply or get selected - \$300,000.

- Development of relocation packages and videos to attract businesses and job seekers to Plumas County - \$50,000.
- Development of Computer and Hospitality Degrees at FRC, including Internship Programs - \$200,000.
- High-speed internet deployment
 - Invest in a closed-loop concept that would bring high-speed internet to Indian Valley sooner rather than later - \$500,000
- Tourism and Recreation
 - Additional funding for video development for major Plumas County attractions that can be used by Chambers, Visitors Centers, and Plumas County than what will be requested by the Chambers on March 8, 2022. Also should include tourism guides for distribution; attendance at major tourism trade shows; and advertising in major tourist magazines and publications - \$100,000.
 - SBTS for trail development, bike parks, trails to interpretive areas, and to implement its Pass Port Program - \$75,000
- Infrastructure:
 - EV Charging Stations for electric cars and e-bikes - \$40,000
 - Cost of joining the RCRC Consortium to sign a Broadband contract with Golden State Finance Authority - \$25,000.
 - Telemedicine and Tele-Pharmacy assistance and development - \$100,000.
 - Support for Computer Science and Hospitality Degrees at FRC along with Internship Programs to help our local businesses - \$50,000.
- Planning:
 - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to develop a strategic plan for Plumas County - \$80,000.
 - Feasibility Studies for proposed projects to enhance the quality of life in our communities - \$30,000.
- Workforce development: training and equipment for law enforcement personnel - \$250,000.

Total estimate spending for the above would be: \$3,072,000 and a balance of \$575,502 to be spent on other priorities of the County.

Note: This does not cover other important and allowable expenditures on:

- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.
- Tribal Assistance.
- Transportation – road and airports.
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

To make all of this happen will require two things by Plumas County:

1. A consultant or short-term assistant to publicize, organize, and distribute these funds. There are many areas in which to spend these once-in-a-

lifetime funds and there is a year to do it. It will require a very heavy lift by the County.

2. A consultant that can guide and direct the County towards effective solutions in the areas the County decides to spend these monies. Can we find experts in the major areas identified above or in the major areas soon to be defined by the County? Finding a consultant in a short amount of time that has the expertise and the capacity to assist Plumas County may be the biggest challenge of all.

Ideally, it would be best if a consultant could provide both of the requirements listed above. It will be up to the County to move fast, as other counties are already jockeying to find the same consultants.

This is a “hastily put-together proposal”, but perhaps it will stir some thought as to how the ARPA Funds could be put spent wisely and effectively. I would be willing to help facilitate a Strategic Planning session to cover this monumental task free of charge. As a non-County employee, I would not be offended if I wasn’t asked to participate. “Nothing happens if it wasn’t written” and I hope my words have encouraged you to start formulating a plan to spend your ARPA Funds to the best of your ability.

**Clint Koble, Citizen
(775) 843-4081**

DIXIE FIRE COLLABORATIVE
REPORT TO PLUMAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARCH 1, 2022

1. As we reported previously, we are establishing a pop-up business district to give Greenville time to plan and build our permanent downtown area. The temporary district will include food trucks and businesses such as a fitness center, thrift store, hardware store and art gallery. We appreciate the help county administrators are giving us in locating parcels, acquiring temporary structures and providing events to bring the community together. We are excited by the prospect of Greenville having a bustling business district within the next couple of months.
2. As we have worked on rebuilding Greenville, Indian Falls and Canyon Dam, the Collaborative has appreciated working with Gabriel Hydrick, your County Administrator. At a time when Plumas County is dealing with all of its regular business and simultaneously trying to rebuild after a devastating fire burned one town and two other communities to the ground, this does not seem like a good time to operate without a full-time county administrator. Please consider filling that position soon.
3. It is our understanding that an RFP was sent out in November looking for companies to support the county's endeavors of recovery and rebuild. It could include but not be limited to grant writing, debris removal, any and all things recovery and rebuild. Our hope is that whoever you may be looking at, it is important that you start to seriously think about hiring them. As time becomes a crucial component of meeting Federal and State deadlines to access funding, we need your help to get these hires in place.
4. A great deal of effort has gone into saving the remaining walls of five historic buildings in Greenville. Engineers from New York, Texas, and California volunteered their time to come here and analyze how the walls can be protected. A crew of veterans is coming to save the fallen bricks and another crew of military personnel will come to reinforce the walls. At our latest community meeting, forty-nine people signed a petition to express their support for saving those relics. I've given the petition to Supervisor

Goss. We want to thank the County for giving us the extra time we need to clean and protect those lots.

5. Finally, when we talk about rebuilding Greenville, like the rest of Plumas County, much faster and more reliable Internet will be necessary for attracting businesses and residents. The Dixie Fire Collaborative would like feedback from you, or whoever you have working on this, regarding where this project is currently and how we can help move it forward.

Kest Porter
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Greenville
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