



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 OCTOBER 18, 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.

The Plumas County Health Officer Recommendation Regarding Teleconferencing, issued on September 30, 2021, recommends local legislative bodies, such as commissions, committees, boards, and councils, 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 state or federal social distancing or masking requirements, if applicable. It is strongly recommended that individuals attending meetings wear masks. 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

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call.

Present: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pete Henchel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

None noted

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Matters under the jurisdiction of the Board, and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at the beginning of the regular agenda and any off-agenda matters before the Board for consideration. However, California law prohibits the Board from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an urgency item by the Board of Supervisors. Any member of the public wishing to address the Board during the "Public Comment" period will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Pastor George Tarleton spoke regarding his time serving as an officer of the law, and as Chaplin, he commented on the Sheriffs Department's current staffing and retention issues.

Pastor Tarleton followed up with a brief prayer for the County and our Emergency Service personnel.

Casey Lavelly, a dispatcher for the Sheriff's Dept. for the last 13 years, spoke regarding historically low county wages, the increase in medical premiums, and the inability to retain current county employees or recruit much needed candidates.

Jessica McGill , Quality Assurance and Compliance Manager for the Department of Behavioral Health, commented on the low wages, the increase in medical premiums and lack of affordable housing.

Susan Sterling, a retiree from the Plumas Unified School District, echoed the statements made by others and commented regarding her support of raising wages for essential County employees. She further spoke about the low pay and high work demands that the county employees endure.

Ava Hagwood, of the Department of Social Services spoke regarding low county wages, high work demands, the increase in medical premiums and the challenges this creates when attempting to retain current county employees or in recruiting for vacant positions.

Melanie Cragg, Social Services Eligibility Worker, spoke regarding the costs of housing and shortages in Plumas County. She went on to comment on the issues regarding the rising cost of living and how this relates to low wages.

Linda Margerettic reported on the Covid-19 Vaccine update, the current VARS data (Vaccine Adverse Reaction System)

DEPARTMENT HEAD ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Sheriff Todd Johns updated the Board regarding a recent resignation from the Corrections Facility.

ACTION AGENDA

1. UPDATES AND REPORTS

A. DISASTER RECOVERY OPERATIONS - Pamela Courtright

Report and update Dixie Fire Recovery efforts; receive report and discussion

B. DIXIE FIRE COLLABORATIVE

Report, update, and discussion on Dixie Fire Collaborative efforts

Kest Porter reported and updated the board on the Dixie Fire Collaborative activities and the monthly community meeting.

C. US FOREST SERVICE

Report and update.

No update at this time.

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 CONSENT AGENDA, as amended; Items 2.A.2& 2.A.3 that have been removed for discussion , **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

A. SHERIFF

- 1) Approve and authorize fixed asset vehicle purchase and equipping of one, (1) 2023 Dodge truck, using Title III funds: from Dept. 70331 not to exceed \$116,686.00 in FY 22/33.

- 2) Approve and authorize fixed asset vehicle purchase and equipping of up to six, (6) electric bikes using Title III funds: from Dept. 70331 not to exceed \$35,000.00 in FY 22/23.

This Item was removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Robert Gott, owner of Gott Powersports.

Following a discussion of this Item:

Motion: Approve Approve and authorize fixed asset vehicle purchase and equipping of up to six, (6) electric bikes using Title III funds: from Dept. 70331 not to exceed \$35,000.00 in FY 22/23., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

- 3) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign and ratify the agreement between the Plumas County Sheriff's Office and the City of Portola for law enforcement services inside of the City of Portola city

limits. Effective July 1st, 2022, to be compensated at One Hundred, Thirty Thousand Dollars and 00/100, (\$130,000.00). Approved as to form by County Counsel.

This Item was removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Thomas McGowan, district 3.

Following a discussion of this Item:

Motion: Approve and authorize the Chair to sign and ratify the agreement between the Plumas County Sheriff's Office and the City of Portola for law enforcement services inside of the City of Portola city limits. Effective July 1st, 2022, to be compensated at One Hundred, Thirty Thousand Dollars and 00/100, (\$130,000.00). Approved as to form by County Counsel., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

B. PUBLIC WORKS

- 1) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign and ratify an Agreement between Plumas County Public Works and Aerotech Mapping, for aerial surveying and mapping services for the Humbug Road Project; effective June 20, 2022; not to exceed \$7,800.00; approved as to form by County Counsel.

C. FACILITY SERVICES & AIRPORTS

- 1) Approve and authorize the Director of Facility Services & Airports to waive the Portola Memorial Hall rental fee for a Cultural Monitoring Workshop, to be held on November 19th and 20th, 2022.

D. PLUMAS COUNTY LIBRARY

- 1) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign and ratify an Agreement between Plumas County Library and Farber Specialty Vehicles for the bookmobile; effective August 15, 2022; not to exceed \$210,000.00; approved as to form by County Counsel.

E. COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

- 1) Authorize no contract payment of \$234.00 to MMSWest for service call to county department postage machine.

3. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

A. PUBLIC WORKS - John Mannie

- 1) Authorize the Director of Public Works to recruit and fill extra-help snow removal workers throughout its maintenance districts; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Approve and Authorize the Director of Public Works to recruit and fill extra-help snow removal workers throughout its maintenance districts.

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

Vote: Motion Passed by unanimous vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

2) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise for bids of no less than four and no more than six 2023 4WD, Class 5 Plow Trucks and one 2023 4WD Class 5 Mechanic's Service Truck, and to approve fixed asset purchase of said equipment; not to exceed \$870,000, RMRA have been budgeted for this purchase; discussion and possible action. **Four/ fifths roll call vote**

Motion: Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works to advertise for bids of no less than four and no more than six 2023 4WD, Class 5 Plow Trucks and one 2023 4WD Class 5 Mechanic's Service Truck, and to approve fixed asset purchase of said equipment; not to exceed \$870,000, RMRA have been budgeted for this purchase.

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

B. SHERIFF - Todd Johns

1) Approve and authorize fixed asset purchase and equipping of four (4), 2023 Dodge Durango SUVs from Dept. 70331; not to exceed \$260,000.00; discussion and possible action.

Four/ fifths roll call vote

Motion: Approve and authorize fixed asset purchase and equipping of four (4), 2023 Dodge Durango SUVs from Dept. 70331; not to exceed \$260,000.00.

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

C. AUDITOR - CONTROLLER - Martee Nieman (Graham)

1) Adopt **RESOLUTION** adopting the Basic Tax Rate for Plumas County and the rates for the Plumas Unified School District and the Plumas District Hospital Bonds for Fiscal year 2022/23; approved as to form by County Counsel; discussion and possible action. **Roll call vote**

Motion: Adopt **RESOLUTION No. 22- 8734** adopting the Basic Tax Rate for Plumas County and the rates for the Plumas Unified School District and the Plumas District Hospital Bonds for Fiscal year 2022/23; approved as to form by County Counsel.

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

4. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the utilization of the Lowry House located adjacent to the courthouse and the Library.

Supervisor Hagwood opened the discussion and reported on the property between the Courthouse and the Library known as the Lowry House, and that it was currently on the County's property inventory list, being used by the museum as additional storage. He gave a brief history of the property and spoke regarding how the restoration of this piece of the town's history could benefit the community.

Following Supervisor Hagwood's introduction to this matter, the Chairman opened the floor for public comment.

Angela, who is working with the collaborative group RERC, spoke regarding the downtown restoration, and the possible community use of the Lowry House as a business Hub (Information/ Visitors Center). Susan Sterling introduced Mr. Gott as a business owner, and spoke about the Post-Dixie Fire meeting and how to attract businesses and people to downtown to spend their money. She spoke about the

need for public restrooms, and talked about a proposed long-term plan to renovate and repurpose the Lowry House and to use it as a visitors' center. She would like to bring a full plan forward at a later date for consideration.

Mr. David Gott spoke regarding his experience with the outdoor enthusiasts and sporting recreation tourists that visit our county, and how they typically come to the County for recreation but leave due to lack of open restaurants, and lack of available lodging. He commented on the Historical Lowry House and an opportunity to apply for possible grant monies to assist in the rehabilitation of the property. He followed up by urging the Board to consider some of the ideas brought before them.

Following the discussion, Supervisor Hagwood requested that the Board members make a commitment to continue to pursue a Public/ private partnership with the interested entities (Rural Recreation Economy Group, Chambers, and Museum Board) in bringing those interested parties together to create some solutions that would not impact the County General Fund, but at the same time put us on a path of restoring and utilizing the Lowry Property.

Supervisor Engel extended his support of Supervisor Hagwood's request; Chairman Goss echoed his support, and directed this matter to move forward.

Linda Margeretic gave additional support for the restoration of the Lowry House, but further commented that the restoration would not fix the problem with the history of downtown businesses' inconsistent hours of operation.

Supervisor Hagwood further reassured that though this is not a fix, it would be a step in the right direction.

Additional discussion followed.

B. APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Appoint Travis Goings as Board member and Debra Lucero as Alternate Board Member to the Trindel Insurance Fund Board of Directors; discussion and possible action.

Motion: Appoint Travis Goings as Board member and Debra Lucero as Alternate Board Member to the Trindel Insurance Fund Board of Directors, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Supervisor - District 5 Engel, **Seconded by** Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood.

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

Yes: Supervisor - District 1 Ceresola, Supervisor - District 2 Goss, Supervisor - District 3 Thrall, Supervisor - District 4 Hagwood, Supervisor - District 5 Engel.

C. CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Thrall received routine correspondence

Supervisor Hagwood received quite a bit of correspondence regarding employee wages and increases for County staff ; correspondence regarding Senior Care in the Quincy Area ro

Supervisor Engel received routine correspondence.

Supervisor Ceresola received correspondence with LAFCo regarding Fire District consolidation; reports from some of the Volunteer Fire Departments; correspondence with local ranchers and Sierra Valley regarding drought concerns, and possible funding.

Supervisor Goss received correspondence regarding County employee wages; correspondence with folks who are resurching better insurance options.

D. 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 matters related to County Government and include attending the LAFCo meeting; the Transportation Commission Meeting; participated in the event at Nacoma for the Lost-Sierra Chambers of Commerce; met with the Rural Economic Recreation Economy Group.

Reported by Supervisor Thrall regarding matters related to County Government and include attending the LAFCo meeting; the Community Development Commission Meeting; and number of meetings with local constituents working with the Public/ PrivateTown Plaza Project; and some discussions on the Seneca Healthcare District.

Reported by Supervisor Engel regarding matters related to County Government and include attending the Community Development Commission meeting, the Infrastructure RFS meeting, and the Transportation Comission meeting.

Reported by Supervisor Goss regarding matters related to County Government and include participating in the Dixie Fire Collaborative monthly meeting, Vice Chaired the LAFCo meeting, Infrastructure RFS meeting.

5. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Personnel: Public employee performance evaluation – Director of Human Resources (Board Only)
- B. Conference with real property negotiator, regarding facilities: Sierra House, 529 Bell Lane, Quincy, APN 117-021-000-000
- C. 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
- D. Conference with Legal Counsel: Initiating litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- E. Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- F. Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing litigation County of Plumas, et al v. AmerisourceBergen Drug Corp., et al., United State District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:18-at-669, consolidated into In Re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, United State District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, Case No. 1:17-MD-2804, pursuant to Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- G. Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing litigation pursuant to Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code §54956.9 – Plumas County v. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, et al, Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Francisco, Original Case No. CGC-21-596070

REPORT OF ACTION IN CLOSED SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)

Chair Goss reported that Item 5.F, was not discussed, and no reportable action was taken in the Closed Session.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn meeting to Tuesday, November 1,2022, Board of Supervisors Room 308, Courthouse, Quincy, California

Adjourned meeting to Tuesday, November 1, 2022, Board of Supervisors Room 308, Courthouse, Quincy, California.