



Lassen County

Meeting Minutes

Board of Supervisors

LASSEN COUNTY SUPERVISORS:

*DISTRICT 1 - MIKE SCANLAN; DISTRICT 2 - GARY BRIDGES - CHAIRMAN; DISTRICT 3 - TOM NEELY;
DISTRICT 4 - AARON ALBAUGH - VICE CHAIRMAN; DISTRICT 5 - JASON INGRAM*

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

9:00 AM

Board Chambers
707 Nevada Street
Susanville, CA 96130

9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Supervisors Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh, and Ingram. Also present: County Administrative Officer (CAO) Maury Anderson, County Counsel Andrew Plett, and Deputy Clerk of the Board Michele Yderraga.

Present: 5 - Mike Scanlan, Gary Bridges, Tom Neely, Aaron Albaugh and Jason Ingram

Excuse: 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

County Counsel Plett announced the following closed session items:

1) Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (if needed).

This item was pulled from the agenda.

2) Employee performance evaluation: County Administrative Officer.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed session was held from 9:00 a.m. - 9:48 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh, and Ingram. Also present: CAO Anderson, County Counsel Plett, and Deputy Clerk of the Board Yderraga.

RECESS: 9:48 a.m. - 9:54 a.m.

9:54 A.M. OPENING CEREMONIES

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

After the flag salute, invocation was offered by Supervisor Scanlan.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

County Counsel Plett announced the following closed session items:

- 1) Conference with Legal Counsel: Significant exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (if needed).

This item was pulled from the agenda.

- 2) Employee performance evaluation: County Administrative Officer.

Direction was given to staff.

AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

CAO Anderson pulled Item# H4 - Administration Full-Time Equivalent Positions and Reclassification Request, from the agenda and stated the item would be reagendaized for the March 10, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albaugh, seconded by Supervisor Scanlan, that this Agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sheriff/Coroner John McGarva: Informed the board he was in the process of finalizing plans with the US Department of Fish and Wildlife to schedule a visit with Paul Souza to discuss the gray wolf.

Rod Theobald: Asked Supervisor Scanlan when road improvements would begin in Westwood. County Counsel Plett reminded the board question and answer is not allowed during public comment.

UNAGENDIZED REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Supervisor Ingram: 1) Attended a Lassen County Republicans Association (LCRA) meeting with James Gallagher; 2) will be at the Milford Food Pantry on February 26, 2026; 3) this Sunday will be the Jr. Livestock beef weigh-ins.

Supervisor Albaugh: 1) Thanked Sheriff/Coroner John McGarva for working with Paul Souza from the US Department of Fish and Wildlife for a visit on March 5, 2026; 2) attended a Big Valley Groundwater Advisory Committee (BVAC) meeting; 3) met with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) new director, Megan Markle; 4) attended the Big Valley Adin Endowment Foundation crab feed event; 5) Tina Bartlett from the CDFW sent a draft of the wolf liaison agreement. There were a lot of flaws in the draft; 6) requested to adjourn in memory of Cynthia Raschein.

Supervisor Neely: Requested to donate \$1,000 from Discretionary Funds to the Jr. Fishing Derby.

Supervisor Scanlan: 1) Attended a Honey Lake Valley Recreation Authority pool

meeting; 2) attended Rick Schuster's memorial services; 3) received a notification on his home Ring camera that there was a wolf spotting at the Diamond Mountain Golf Course.

Supervisor Bridges: 1) Attended an agenda meeting; 2) the food workshop was cancelled; 3) attended a Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) meeting; 4) attended Rick Schuster's memorial service; 5) attended a FIRST5 meeting; 6) attended a BVAC meeting; 7) will be attending a Nortec Executive Board meeting in Anderson; 8) requested to adjourn in memory of Buck Bateson, Tom Swickard, and Cynthia Raschein.

MATTERS SET FOR TIME CERTAIN

LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST

SUBJECT: Presentation from Rick Hopson, Forest Supervisor for the Lassen National Forest to provide an update.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive presentation.

Lassen National Forest Supervisor Rick Hopson gave an extensive update regarding community protection from wildfires, forest activity and management, productivity, fuels management, grazing, energy and natural resources, disaster recovery, outdoor recreation, cutting bureaucratic red tape, partnerships, results on the ground, campgrounds, employee vacancies, fire restoration work, and wolves. Discussion was held.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

SUBJECT: Public hearing in accordance with Government Code Section 65856 to consider a proposed ordinance amending Section 18.10.020 (Maps), repealing Section 18.10.030 (Maps on file) and repealing Appendix A (Lassen County Zoning Index Map System) of the Lassen County Code to replace the Zoning Index Maps with the Zoning Dataset from the County Geographical Information System (GIS).

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Receive report from staff and recommendation of approval from the Planning Commission; and 2) conduct a public hearing; and 3) introduce and adopt, by title only, the proposed ordinance.

Attachments: [C1](#)

Director of Planning and Building Services Gaylon Norwood informed the board this item was a public hearing and read the subject and action lines. Director Norwood stated this was an ordinance replacing the mapping system with an online portal that would be easily accessible to the public. Director Norwood introduced the new Geographic Information System (GIS) Manager Steve Harvey. GIS Manager Harvey gave a brief background of his experience and gave a demonstration of the upcoming GIS Access Portal. The board welcomed GIS Manager Harvey and thanked Planning and Building Services for their hard

work. Brief discussion was held.

The public hearing was open from 10:55 a.m. - 10:56 a.m.

SPEAKERS IN FAVOR: Robert Larabee.

SPEAKERS IN OPPOSITION: None.

County Counsel Plett explained the government code pertaining to zoning ordinances.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scanlan, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that this Ordinance No. 2026-01 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

RECESS: 10:48 a.m. - 11:03 a.m.

MATTERS SET FOR TIME CERTAIN - CONTINUED

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR FREDONYER BUTTE TRAIL SYSTEM

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Fredonyer Butte Trail System.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve a letter of support for a Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant application to construct the Fredonyer Butte Trail System.

Attachments: [D2](#)

Director of Public Works Pete Heimbigner informed the board this item was a project notice of decision memo instructing a partnership with Sierra Butte Stewardship for the Fredonyer Butte Trail System. They would act as the grant applicant and a Cooperative Agreement would be coming back to the board for approval. The item presented was a Letter of Support. Director Heimbigner acknowledged and thanked the Lassen National Forest Supervisor Rick Hopson for his diligent work with the project. CAO Anderson recognized Director Heimbigner and Trail Coordinator Matt Mclain for keeping the project active. Discussion was held. The Board of Supervisors thanked Director Heimbigner.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albaugh, seconded by Supervisor Scanlan, that this Action Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

STANDISH-LITCHFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT APPOINTMENT
APPOINTMENT

SUBJECT: Vacancy on the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Board created by the expiration of appointed terms.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Consider appointing Matt Hurley; term expiration 12/6/2026.

Attachments: [F1](#)

Deputy Clerk of the Board Michele Yderraga informed the board this item was a regular appointment to the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District and stated there had been vacancies for a couple of years. Supervisor Albaugh said the term would end in December 2026. Deputy Clerk of the Board Yderraga stated the vacancy was considered a short term appointment and the district's board members would go to the November election. Brief discussion was held.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scanlan, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that this Appointment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

INFORMATION/CONSENT CALENDAR

Supervisor Albaugh requested to pull Item# G3 - Calpers Employer Contributions for Medical Care For Employees and Annuitants, for further discussion.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Supervisor Ingram, seconded by Supervisor Scanlan, to approve the consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR INGRAM

SUBJECT: Request to designate from Discretionary Funds: \$500 to the Susanville Indian Rancheria POW WOW.

FISCAL IMPACT: Appropriation is included in the General Fund, Board of Supervisors Fund/Budget Unit No. 100-0011.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve expenditure.

This Action Item was approved on the consent agenda.

SUPERVISOR BRIDGES

SUBJECT: Request to designate from Discretionary Funds: \$500 to the Lassen Grizzly Claybreakers.

FISCAL IMPACT: Appropriation is included in the General Fund, Board of Supervisors Fund/Budget Unit No. 100-0011.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve expenditure.

This Action Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

PRISON TRIAL COSTS REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ITEMS
SUBJECT: Recap of High Desert State Prison Trials Cost Reimbursement
Billing for the months of July through January 2026.
FISCAL IMPACT: None.
ACTION REQUESTED: Receive and file.

Attachments: [Prison Trial Cost](#)

This Report was received and filed on the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

LASSEN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF
FEBRUARY 17, 2026
SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026.
FISCAL IMPACT: None.
ACTION REQUESTED: Approve.

Attachments: [G5](#)

These Minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive and file the following correspondence:
a) Notice of cancellation for the Lassen County Fish and Game Commission meeting scheduled for February 19, 2026.
b) Email correspondence to the Board of Supervisors pertaining to the Lassen County Animal Shelter
c) Plumas County Community Development Commission Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Agenda for February 17, 2026.

Attachments: [G6](#)

These Reports were received and filed on the Consent Agenda.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CALPERS EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MEDICAL CARE FOR
EMPLOYEES AND ANNUITANTS
SUBJECT: Resolution required by law articulating the employer contributions for medical care for employees and annuitants as negotiated by collective bargaining agreements for UPEC (Miscellaneous), Road Workers Association (LCRWA); Peace Officers Association (LCPOA); Management and Professionals Association (MPA); Appointed/Elected/Confidential;

Peace Officers Association Supervisors (POASU); Deputy Sheriffs Association (LCDSA); and Peace Officer Association Management (POAMA).

FISCAL IMPACT: Varied over multiple budget units.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Adopt resolution; and 2) authorize Chairman to execute; and/or 3) provide direction to staff.

Attachments: [G3](#)

Supervisor Albaugh asked how often did this report need to be approved. Personnel/Risk Analyst Regina Schaap stated any time there was an update to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the bargaining units pertaining to medical contributions, CalPers required an adopted resolution by the Board of Supervisors. Brief discussion was held.

A motion was made by Supervisor Albaugh, seconded by Supervisor Scanlan, that this Resolution No. 26-007 be adopted.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

PURCHASE REQUEST FOR AN ARMORED RESCUE VEHICLE

SUBJECT: Purchase request of a Lenco BearCat armored rescue vehicle, including operational considerations and financial impacts.

FISCAL IMPACT: The total cost of the BearCat is \$558,851.75. This price includes tax, interest (5.38%), and delivery fees. Payments of \$111,770.35 annually for 5 years will begin in April 2027 (FY 26/27). Payments will be made from the Sheriff's Patrol Fund/Budget Unit No. 130-0522. A sole source letter is attached.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve the purchase of the BearCat.

Attachments: [H1](#)

Sheriff's Captain (Capt.) Michael Carney informed the board this item was a request for approval to purchase a BearCat Armored Rescue Vehicle. Capt. Carney gave a detailed comparison of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle, currently being used by the Sheriff's Office, and the BearCat Armored Rescue vehicle. Capt. Carney stated the MRAP was owned by the government and would need to be returned when BearCat was delivered. The quote for the BearCat was a five (5) year lease to own purchase option with a 5.3% interest rate. The BearCat would not be delivered for 12-18 months. Sheriff/Coroner John McGarva said he and staff had a meeting to discuss options to purchase. The lease to own was the best option. Sheriff McGarva thanked Capt. Carney, Office of Emergency Services (OES) Chief Silas Rojas, and Deputy CAO Samantha McMullen for their work. Additional discussion was held.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scanlan, seconded by

Supervisor Albaugh, that this Action Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR INGRAM

SUBJECT: Community assistance programs for the animal shelter.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Discussion regarding the incorporation of a foster program and additional volunteers; and/or 2) provide direction to staff.

Supervisor Ingram stated he had requested this item be brought to board to discuss the community concern regarding additional volunteers at the animal shelter and a possible animal foster care program. Supervisor Ingram said he had spoken to other counties with this program and it would be a good program to have in place. Supervisor Bridges stated Lassen County already had a plan in place and Director of Public Works Pete Heimbigner had previously discussed at the last agenda meeting. Director Heimbigner said in 2006 the county went through this same exercise as today. There was documentation on file approved by county counsel to hire volunteers. The main issue was volunteers not wanting to give enough time to manage the program. Director Heimbigner stated he was not opposed to this topic being resurfaced and maybe now there would be more attraction. Additional discussion was held.

SPEAKERS: Kim Page, Ken Bunch, Mimi Brasher, Katie Cuypers, Jackie Kernshaw, Lorene Guthrie.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

LASSEN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RULES OF PROCEDURE
RESOLUTION NO. 26-004

SUBJECT: The Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Move to temporarily suspend Rosenberg's Rules of Procedure (Requires 4/5's vote); and 2) move to reconsider the Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedures; and 3) review, discuss, and adopt the Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure; and/or 4) provide direction to staff.

Attachments: [H3](#)

County Counsel Plett reminded the board in January 2026, the board had approved the current Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure with a vote of 1/4. There was interest from some of the other supervisors to bring this item back for reconsideration. County Counsel Plett discussed Rosenberg's Rules of Order, and stated even though this item was adopted, Rosenberg's Rules allowed to suspend the rules of order to reconsider the item, have a discussion, and re-adopt the resolution. County Counsel Plett explained each action item

would need it's own motion and approval. Supervisor Albaugh asked why this item was being brought back again. County Counsel Plett stated there was interest in one of the supervisor's to change their vote. Supervisor Scanlan stated he requested to have this item reagendaized to formally receive a unanimous vote so the board would look united on the rules of procedure.

A motion was made by Supervisor Ingram, seconded by Supervisor Albaugh to suspend the Rosenberg's Rules of Order. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 5 - Supervisors Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh, and Ingram.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scanlan, seconded by Supervisor Ingram to reconsider Resolution No. 26-004 the Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure, review, and discuss. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Supervisors Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh, and Ingram.

Supervisor Scanlan reiterated his reason for requesting this item to be re-presented and stated he previously had a conversation with Supervisor Neely regarding public perception. The Board of Supervisors are supposed to be united. Supervisor Scanlan said this would be an opportunity for Supervisor Neely to vote different if he chose and the reconsideration of this item would afford him that opportunity. Brief discussion was held regarding changes to the verbiage. Consensus of the board was to leave the rules of procedure as they were originally adopted. No amendments were made. County Counsel Plett explained to the board the definition of a 4/5 vote and when and why it was used. Supervisor Albaugh expressed his opinion as to why he disagreed with changing boards, committees, and commissions every two years. Supervisor Albaugh also addressed the Board of Supervisors Rules of Procedure being brought back for someone to change their vote, it was appreciated, however it was very disappointing because it wasn't unanimous and there wasn't any reasoning or logic for the "no" vote. Supervisor Albaugh said you need to leave emotions outside, and vote with college sense and practicality. Voting with emotions is never good. Supervisor Bridges stated his decisions are strictly based on what was best for Lassen County, today, tomorrow and long term. Supervisor Bridges said he leaves his emotions at the door. County Counsel Plett stated since the board did not provide direction, the resolution would retain the same resolution number.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scanlan, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that this Resolution No. 26-004 be adopted. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 5 - Scanlan, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh and Ingram

ADMINISTRATION FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS AND RECLASSIFICATION REQUEST

SUBJECT: Request to unfund one full-time equivalent position for Assistant to the CAO/Budget Analyst, fund one full-time equivalent position for Personnel Assistant I/II/III, and consider range changes for the Executive Assistant to the County Administrative Officer (CAO) and the Deputy CAO. FISCAL IMPACT: Approximately \$80,000. No further impact to the general fund, cost is budgeted for in the current fiscal year (FY) 2025/2026.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Unfund one full time employee (FTE) Assistant to the CAO/Budget Analyst; 2) approve range change for Executive Assistant to the CAO I/II job classification from range 22 to 26; 3) approve the range change for Deputy CAO job classification from range 34 to range 36; 4) fund one FTE Personnel Assistant I/II/III; and/or 5) provide direction to staff.

Attachments: [H4](#)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

SUBJECT: INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CAO Anderson reported: There would be a special Board of Supervisors meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 12:28 p.m. in memory of Cynthia Raschein, Buck Bateson, and Tom Swickard.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Michele Yderraga, Deputy Clerk of the Board