



# Lassen County

## Meeting Minutes

### Board of Supervisors

*LASSEN COUNTY SUPERVISORS:*

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

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Tuesday, March 26, 2024

9:00 AM

Board Chambers  
707 Nevada Street  
Susanville, CA 96130

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#### 9:30 A.M. OPENING CEREMONIES

Supervisors Gallagher, Bridges, Neely, Albaugh, and Ingram. Also present: County Administrative Officer (CAO) Richard Egan, County Counsel Amanda Uhrhammer, and Deputy Clerk of the Board Michele Yderraga.

**Present:** 5 - Chris Gallagher, Aaron Albaugh, Gary Bridges, Tom Neely and Jason Ingram

**Excuse:** 0

#### Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

After the flag salute invocation was offered by Supervisor Albaugh.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

Supervisor Albaugh announced closed session was not held.

#### AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

**A motion was made by Supervisor Gallagher, seconded by Supervisor Bridges, that this Agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Behavioral Health Program Manager Nichole Bond: Discussed the Veterans Stand Down event.

Veterans Service Officer Chris Mancebo: Discussed the Veterans Stand Down event.

#### UNAGENDIZED REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Supervisor Gallagher: 1) Attended a Hip Camp meeting; 2) attended a Caltrans meeting regarding safety on the US Highway 395 Project; 3) attended a pool meeting; 4) judged at the Rotary Music Contest; 5) attended a Fish and Game Commission meeting; 6) attended the Gun Works grand opening.

Supervisor Bridges: 1) Attended the Herlong quarterly meeting; 2) attended the

Gun Works grand opening; 3) attended Caleb Montgomery's launch on his new album.

Supervisor Neely: 1) Attended a Jolly Elders luncheon meeting; 2) attended a Fire Safe Council meeting. Informed the board they replanted 15 acres; 3) attended the federal prison quarterly community meeting; 4) announced there would be a job fair tomorrow; 5) announced the Career Opportunities event being held at the high school Supervisor Ingram was hosting was scheduled for April 8, 2024; 6) requested to donate \$1,000 from Discretionary Funds to the American Legion Post 162.

Supervisor Ingram: 1) Attended the Gun Works grand opening; 2) will be doing petition signings on Saturday from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thanked District Attorney Melyssah Rios for getting the petitions; 3) attended the Cowboy Festival and watched Caleb Montgomery play live; 4) addressed the Sunrise Rotary regarding the condition of District 5; 5) will be going to the high school to discuss the details of the upcoming Career Opportunities event; 6) spoke with Los Angeles County Supervisor Barger regarding fire insurance; 7) thanked Agricultural Commissioner Craig Hemphill for offering his barn to hang the fire insurance banners; 8) will be attending the Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) meeting; 9) attended a Sierra Alliance meeting; 10) wished everyone a Happy Easter; 11) will be sponsoring Milford and Standish Easter Egg Hunts; 12) there will be a Blue Star Moms Bingo Night on April 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm in the Veterans Memorial Hall; 13) requested to donate \$350 from Discretionary Funds to the fishing derby.

Supervisor Albaugh: 1) Gave kudos to the Fire Safe Council on the re-plantation of fifteen acres; 2) Attended a Big Valley Groundwater Advisory Committee (BVAC) meeting; 3) received a phone call from a person he met at the Secretary of Transportation in Sacramento regarding the complaint he made pertaining to electric buses.

County Counsel Uhrhammer was absent from 9:41 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

## INFORMATION/CONSENT CALENDAR

### Approval of the Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Supervisor Gallagher, seconded by Supervisor Bridges, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

LASSEN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES OF  
FEBRUARY 20, 2024.

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve.

Attachments: [DRAFT MINS](#)

**These Minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.**

#### MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive and file the following correspondence:

a) Lassen County Fish and Game Commission Regular Meeting Agenda for March 21, 2024.

Attachments: [MISC CORR](#)

**These Reports were received and filed on the Consent Agenda.**

#### BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

##### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

SUBJECT: Make committee appointments

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Make appointments of Alternate Member (A) to the following Boards:

##### 1. Trindel Insurance Fund

a. Government Code section 6500, Joint Powers Agency.

b. One elected official or employee appointed by Board of Supervisors. One alternate appointed by Board also.

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS: Egan (R), Shaw (A)

##### 2. Public Risk Innovation Solutions Management (PRISM)

a. Government Code section 6500, Joint Powers Agency.

b. One director from each member County and one alternate director.

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS: Egan (R), Shaw (A)

Deputy CAO Tony Shaw informed the board he was requesting to resign as the alternate for both boards and recommended Budget Analyst Samantha McMullen to be appointed in his place. Brief discussion was held regarding Alternate members, Primary members, and succession plans. Consensus of the board was to appoint Budget Analyst McMullen as the Alternate Member to the Trindel Insurance Fund and Public Risk Innovation Solutions Management boards.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Bridges, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that these Appointments be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

#### MATTERS SET FOR TIME CERTAIN

##### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM STRATEGIC PLAN

SUBJECT: Review the Lassen County Geographic Information System (GIS) Strategic Plan developed by the County's Consultant, Geographic Technologies Group.

FISCAL IMPACT: The plan implementation cost over all five phases (at full implementation) is \$730,000.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Receive report; and 2) provide direction to staff.

Attachments: [Lassen GIS Strategic Plan BOS 3.26.24 Packet](#)

Director of Planning and Building Services Maury Anderson reminded the board a presentation had previously been given and direction from the board was to develop a Geographic Information System (GIS) Strategic Plan. Geographic Technologies Group Consultant James Kelt introduced himself, the staff, and gave a detailed power point presentation of the plan. Mr. Kelt discussed project goals, tasks, GIS sustainability pillars, assessment finds, department interviews, proposed vision, governance findings, recommendations, data and data bases, procedures, integration, software, training, education, and benefits. Mr. Kelt also discussed general public access and funding. Extensive discussion was held. The board's direction to staff was to proceed with the plan.

10:25 a.m.: RECESS

AMERICAN RED CROSS

SUBJECT: Adoption of a resolution proclaiming American Red Cross Month 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown.

ACTION REQUESTED: Adopt resolution.

Attachments: [240326 Red Cross Resolution - Lassen County](#)

Red Cross Member Dwayne Taffe introduced himself and gave a brief overview of the Red Cross. Mr. Taffe discussed the Pillow Case Project presented to elementary schools and informed the board the project was to teach preparedness in the event of an evacuation. The Red Cross installs smoke detectors for community members in need at no cost. Mr. Taffe also discussed the Blood Processing Program and the Disaster Action Program.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Bridges, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that this Resolution No. 24-015 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DESIGNATION OF A COUNTY ROAD OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE

SUBJECT: Adoption of a resolution in support of designating "The Strand",

for lawful off-highway vehicle travel, at Spalding, California, as regulated by California Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Laws and Regulations, and requesting California Highway Control Commissioner to consider such designation.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown.

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

Attachments: [240326 Resolution OHV Spalding](#)

Deputy CAO Tony Shaw informed the board this item was providing off highway vehicle (OHV) use in Spalding for an event being held on May 4, 2024, and explained the process. Deputy CAO Shaw stated he had spoken with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Commissioner and in his opinion the designated area would not create a hazard for vehicle traffic. The segment of the road length was less than three miles and this was considered combined use. CAO Shaw stated there was a typo on the resolution in the date. The resolution stated May 9th and it needed to reflect May 4th. Deputy CAO Egan stated the request to the Commissioner was for the permanent designation and recommended to keep the request broad with restrictions for special events for certain times of the year. CHP Commander Jason Grimm introduced himself and CHP Sergeant Mike Major. Sgt. Major gave statistics on collisions and crash data in the Spalding area. From January 1, 2022, to current date there had been five passenger vehicle accidents and none of the accidents were OHV related. There had been no arrests made during the same time frame. Supervisor Albaugh asked if there were going to be law enforcement attending the event. Sheriff/Coroner John McGarva stated there would be four to six deputies and an officer at the event. Sheriff McGarva informed the board Lassen County Sheriff Deputies attended the event last year and there were not any incidents or enforcement actions taken. Discussion was held. Supervisor Gallagher made a motion to adopt the resolution with the amendment to the resolution to correct the date.

SPEAKERS: Ken Ward, Barbara Willard, William Turner, Cheryl Alvernaz, Lorna Ward, Frank Muse.

CAO Egan was absent from 11:29 a.m. - 11:31 a.m.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Gallagher, seconded by Supervisor Bridges, that this Resolution No. 24-016 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

AUDITOR /CONTROLLER/TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR

TYLER MUNIS UPDATE

SUBJECT: Auditor/Controller financial system Tyler Munis update.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive report for financial system (Munis) implementation.

Auditor/Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector Nancy Cardenas gave an update regarding the Tyler Munis program. Auditor/Controller Cardenas stated her office had started training this week with Health and Social Services, District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, and the Fair. Two training sessions would be done per week. The goal of the training was to get everyone entering all claims and deposits and would be working side by side with everyone for three months. Auditor/Controller Cardenas discussed the go live date, trainers, computer programs, and upcoming audit. Auditor Controller Cardenas acknowledged Client First and informed the board the job couldn't have been completed without the consultant and these firms save money in the end. Brief discussion was held.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### LETTER TO CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE REGARDING THE GRAY WOLF IN CALIFORNIA

SUBJECT: Approval of a letter to the California Legislature seeking an appropriation in the 2024-2025 fiscal year State Budget to compensate Californians that have had livestock killed or harmed by the State's protected gray wolf.

FISCAL IMPACT: Unknown.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve letter and authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair to execute.

Attachments: [240326 Letter Gray Wolf Predation](#)

CAO Egan recused himself and was absent from the board chambers from 12:08 p.m. - 12:12 p.m.

Supervisor Albaugh recused himself and was absent from the board chambers from 12:09 p.m. - 12:12 p.m.

Vice Chairman Gallagher assumed as Chair from 12:09 p.m. - 12:12 p.m.

Deputy CAO Tony Shaw stated the Board of Supervisors had asked numerous times for the state to provide some legislative relief regarding the gray wolf and stated the reason they have a compensation program was due to the fact this board adopted a resolution to provide depredation. Three million dollars had been placed in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) budget. Deputy CAO Shaw stated CDFW had been spending the funds on other things than compensation to the ranchers and small business owners. There was a risk funding would not be in appropriations in this budget. Supervisor Gallagher stated the funds were already depleted. Deputy CAO Shaw stated Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) recommended the board to remit a letter. Brief discussion was held.

Supervisor Albaugh reassumed the Chair at 12:12 p.m.

**This Action Item was approved.**

#### PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

##### BIG VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

SUBJECT: Submittal of the Water Year 2023 Annual Report for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin, per requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

FISCAL IMPACT: No known fiscal impact; reporting only.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Receive report; and 2) adopt a resolution directing staff to submit the Water Year 2023 Annual Report for the Big Valley Groundwater Basin to the Department of Water Resources, per requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

**Attachments:** [BVGSP Annual Report - BOS 3.26.24 Packet](#)

The board recessed as the Board of Supervisors and convened as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Director of Planning and Building Services Maury Anderson read the subject and informed the board this was the annual report. Director Anderson stated last year's season was stable and acknowledged the Director of Cooperative Extension David Lile and his staff for their hard work put into this report. Supervisor Gallagher stated it was frustrating to read this report since there had not been any changes in over ten years and still had to put this amount of work and money to provide the report, with no reduction in the water table. Director Lile discussed required elements and regulations of the report. Additional discussion was held pertaining to the stability of the water table, data, and state requirements. Supervisor Gallagher made the motion to adopt the resolution and to mimic the plan to follow Modoc County.

The board recessed as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency and reconvened as the Board of Supervisors.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Gallagher, seconded by Supervisor Bridges, that this Resolution No. 24-017 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

##### PERMIT REQUIREMENT EXEMPTION

SUBJECT: Consider a resolution approving exemption from the permit requirement for groundwater exportation for Estill Ranches, as the extraction quantities and the use are consistent with historical practices of the landowners.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve by resolution the exemption from the permit requirement for groundwater exportation for Estill Ranches.

**Attachments:** [Resolution GW exempt](#)  
[Board Letter, Estill - 3.26.24](#)

Planning and Building Services Planning Division Manager Matt May read the subject and stated he was asking the board to consider the resolution. The location was the Great Segway in Surprise Valley and they had been monitoring groundwater exportation for thirteen years without any changes. This was a historical practice and this was to request an exemption to obtain a use permit. Supervisor Albaugh stated the historical statement was not included in the recommendation. Brief discussion was held.

**A motion was made by Supervisor Bridges, seconded by Supervisor Ingram, that this Resolution No. 24-018 be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Gallagher, Albaugh, Bridges, Neely and Ingram

**PLANNING FEES**

SUBJECT: Receive report and provide direction to staff regarding proposed ordinance repealing and replacing Lassen County Code Section 3.18.020 Planning Fees.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) Receive report regarding proposed fees; and 2) provide direction to staff.

**Attachments:** [Planning Fee Board Letter Signed](#)

Director of Planning and Building Services Maury Anderson read subject and informed the board both set of fees represented a substantial jump. Director Anderson stated it made the most sense to do a one hundred percent cost recovery and was looking for direction on which set of fees the board favored. Brief discussion was held on both set of fees. The consensus of board was to proceed with the one hundred percent cost recovery fee schedule.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

CAO Egan reported: The Historic Courthouse was getting close to completion. There were five to six meeting and conference rooms, and thought it would be easier to identify the rooms if they were named. In the past names of lakes were used to identify conference rooms. CAO Egan suggested the possibility of using rivers or mountains and recommended agendaizing this item for a future board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 12:41 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

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Michele Yderraga, Deputy Clerk of the Board