



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALPINE COUNTY
Board Chambers County
Administration Building
Markleeville, CA 96120
Telephone (530) 694-2281

MINUTES August 6, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

Chair Terry Woodrow called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:00 AM with Supervisors Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Terry Woodrow, Irvin Jim, and David Griffith present.

2. OPEN SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ORAL COMMUNICATION - GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Executive Director of the Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) Kimra McAfee introduced AWG's new Forest Health Coordinator Neil Mortimer. McAfee reported that AWG Headwaters Coordinator Rachel Kieffer would soon be going on maternity leave but would return to AWG on a part-time basis in the fall.

Executive Director of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce Meghan Wolff reported on the Death Ride: 1,420 registered riders; 1,187 checked in; 740 finished; no major injuries. Wolff reported that feedback from the community was being solicited. Wolff highlighted upcoming events—the Chamber's next meeting was scheduled for August 22, 2024 in Bear Valley—and announced that 2025's Death Ride was scheduled for July 12, 2025.

Alpine County Fish and Game Commission (F&G) Chairman John Smith reported on past and future F&G events. Smith requested an agenda item for the next scheduled Board meeting of August 20, 2024 addressing County Counsel Charles McKee's recent memorandum to F&G; the Board agreed by consensus.

4. DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Budget and Procurement Director Matt McSorley reported that the public hearing for the County's proposed budget would be September 3, 2024 at 11am in the Board Chambers, and that the budget would be published on the County website by August 22, 2024.

Community Development Deputy Director Ethan Gray provided updates on the County's current and future public works projects. Gray noted that local residents would be provided with 72-hour notice if their properties would be impacted by the construction. Responding to Supervisor Dobson, Gray could not immediately recall the hours of construction for the projects on Hot Springs Road but promised to gather that information. Regarding the Bear Box program, Gray reported that the County had \$2,200 in funding available for residents who wanted boxes to be installed; residents should contact Community Development if interested.

Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer announced that an Audit and Finance Committee meeting would take place on August 26, 2024 at 10am; that a new Assistant Auditor/Controller had been hired, Allison Bowman, set to begin August 12, 2024; that the fiscal impact statement on Measure G had been submitted to the Clerk and County Counsel for review, which

amounted to about \$360,000 in additional discretionary revenue annually; that the 6/30/2023 financial statements had been submitted to the auditors; that work on the 6/30/2024 financial statements continued; and that Leitenbauer was working with CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson and Budget and Procurement Director Matt McSorley on the Fiscal 24/25 budget.

Chief of Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue Paul Washam reported that the Department had received the new squad truck at Station 91, and that Water Tender 91 had been dispatched to battle the Park Fire but was due to return shortly.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson reported that the County received an audit score from Trindel of 98.67% for Fiscal 23-24, the highest ever for Alpine County, entitling the County to a full subsidy of \$67,000 and an additional \$3,500 for the County's safety fund.

Williamson also reported the hiring of a new HHS Director Suzanne Garcia of the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, with a start date of late August 2024.

5.1 Administrative Announcements - Update on Alpine County Museum

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson reported that the museum remained open. In response to Supervisor Griffith's question, Williamson indicated that conversations with the Historical Society had not been fruitful and that a court hearing had been scheduled for September 4, 2024.

Supervisor Griffith asked when the maintenance and repair work for the jail walkway would be completed. Community Development Deputy Director Ethan Gray reported that quotes were being solicited regarding Trex composite decking materials for that work. Supervisor Griffith commented that this project had been an irritant in the dispute between the County and the Historical Society, and that the work should be prioritized and completed quickly. Williamson reported that associated costs could be included in the Fiscal 24/25 budget if quotes for materials were to be submitted within two weeks.

6. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

Supervisor District 1 Charles Dobson gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events. Supervisor Dobson advised that bears had been causing problems in Markleevillage and that the public should not feed them.

Supervisor District 2 Ron Hames gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events.

Supervisor District 3 Irvin Jim gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events.

Supervisor District 4 Terry Woodrow gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events.

Supervisor District 5 David Griffith gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Griffith requested to pull Item 7.4 for separate consideration.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Ron Hames approving the Consent Agenda as follows:

AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;

ABSENT: Irvin Jim;

MOTION PASSED.

- 7.1. Regular meeting minutes of July 16, 2024. - County Clerk
- 7.2. County Claims. - Director of Finance
- 7.3. **Contract No. CC2024-32** Contract Amendment #8 to Contract # CC 2018-24 with California Association of Environmental Health Administrators amending the not to exceed amount from \$148,526.00 to \$150,646.00 retroactive to 6/30/2024. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director, Public Health
- 7.4. This item was pulled for separate consideration.
- 7.5. Easement agreement **Contract No. CC2024-33** with Liberty Utility to reconnect power to the well at Turtle Rock Park. - Community Development Deputy Director
- 7.6. **Resolution No. R2024-47** fixing County tax rates for fiscal year 2024/25-Director of Finance
- 7.7. **Resolution No. R2024-48** setting annual assessment rates for Bear Valley Transfer Station, County Service Area #1, for fiscal year 2024-2025 - Director of Finance
- 7.8. **Resolution No. R2024-49** setting annual assessment rates for the right to dump solid waste from Bear Valley at the Calaveras Solid Waste Disposal Site for fiscal year 2024/2025 - Director of Finance
- 7.9. **Resolution No. R2024-50** setting annual assessment rates for fire protection and emergency services for County Service Area #1, Zone #1 for fiscal year 2024-2025. - Director of Finance
- 7.10. Waiver of \$200 Special Event Permit and \$250 Facility Rental Permit fees for Alpine County Friends of the Library sponsored Music in the Park and Wine in the Garden Events in 2024 - Community Development Deputy Director

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE ACTION:

- 7.4. **Approve a contract for Hawkins Peak Telecommunication Site Lease Agreement & California Highway Patrol (CHP) for the term 07/01/2024 - 06/30/2034 in the amount of \$664/month for equipment and authorize the Sheriff to sign. - Sheriff**

Supervisor Griffith commented that the 25-year contract should link year-over-year cost increases to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rather than the proposed 3%

annually; alternatively, the length of the contract could be reduced to limit the risk to the County. Undersheriff Chris Harootunian reported that the proposed annual rate of 3% was consistent with historical inflation data.

County Counsel Charles McKee proposed that the County could negotiate a clause which would retroactively adjust annual increases if inflation reached certain levels over a predetermined period, e.g., five years. Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer proposed that the County could negotiate a provision which would require both parties to renegotiate if the CPI reaches a certain level, e.g., 6%.

No action was taken. The item was continued.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

9. REGULAR AGENDA - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 9.1. Approve the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Grant Agreement No. 1707-RFFCP (RFFCP2022) WIP Capacity Subgrant - Alpine County and Alpine Watershed Group for a term expiring May 31, 2027, and approve the Board of Supervisors Chair Terry Woodrow to sign the finalized agreement as the Grant Applicant Authorized Representative and approve Economic Development Director JT Chevallier to sign as the Grant Applicant Day-to-Day Contact for the forest project capacity, development and monitoring grant in the amount of \$491,216 for the purposes of capacity building and project development of forest health and wildfire fuels treatment projects within Alpine County. - Economic Development Director**

Economic Development Director JT Chevallier reported that this item was a continuation from April 16, 2024, when the Board approved the submission of the grant application to Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Chevallier continued that the contract had been drafted and required Supervisor Woodrow's signature to execute. Chevallier thanked Executive Director of the Alpine Watershed Group Kimra McAfee and Wildfire Projects Coordinator Clint Celio for helping to secure this grant.

MOTION Ron Hames / SECOND David Griffith approving Contract No. CC2024-34 the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Grant Agreement No. 1707-RFFCP (RFFCP2022) WIP Capacity Subgrant - Alpine County and Alpine Watershed Group for a term expiring May 31, 2027, and approving the Board of Supervisors Chair Terry Woodrow to sign the finalized agreement as the Grant Applicant Authorized Representative and approving Economic Development Director JT Chevallier to sign as the Grant Applicant Day-to-Day Contact for the forest project capacity, development and monitoring grant in the amount of \$491,216 for the purposes of capacity building and project development of forest health and wildfire fuels treatment projects within Alpine County. AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith; MOTION PASSED.

10. REGULAR AGENDA - NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1. Approve the purchase of a Patrol Vehicle not to exceed the amount of \$65,000, authorize the CAO (as purchasing agent) to sign a purchase order**

and approve an increase in appropriations in the amount of \$65,000. Find that the proposed purchase is exempt from competitive bidding as futile and in the best interest of the county to waive the provisions of County Code Section 2.32.070. 4/5 vote required. - Sheriff

Responding to Supervisor Griffith, Undersheriff Chris Harootunian reported that the truck being replaced is a 2015 model with 139,612 miles driven. Harootunian explained that the Sheriff's vehicles would experience severe wear-and-tear during the normal course of duties; other jurisdictions would replace similar vehicles after 100,000 miles.

Community Development Deputy Director Ethan Gray commented that 140,000 miles was consistent for retiring Sheriff vehicles, and that maintenance fees would increase considerably beyond that vehicle usage.

Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer commented that maintenance costs would be extreme for older vehicles; newer vehicles would have better fuel efficiency.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson approving the purchase of a Patrol Vehicle not to exceed the amount of \$65,000, authorizing the CAO (as purchasing agent) to sign a purchase order and approving an increase in appropriations in the amount of \$65,000. Finding that the proposed purchase is exempt from competitive bidding as futile and in the best interest of the county to waive the provisions of County Code Section 2.32.070. 4/5 vote required. AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith; MOTION PASSED.

10.2. Consider submitting an argument regarding Measure G, Transient Occupancy Tax, for the November ballot. - Supervisor District 5

Supervisor Griffith reported that an argument had been drafted and distributed to the Board; edits were welcome.

Supervisor Woodrow asked why Placer County was included in the table as a neighboring county given it was not contiguous to Alpine County, and questioned whether the comparison table should be included. Supervisor Griffith responded that it was up to the Board to determine. Supervisor Hames suggested that the Board remove the comparisons from the letter.

Supervisor Griffith suggested the amended language, "Most neighboring counties have TOT between 10% and 14%". The Board agreed by consensus.

County Counsel Charles McKee commented that the names of all Board members would appear with the argument in the Voter Information Guide.

In response to Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer, Supervisor Griffith commented that a fiscal range, not a precise figure, was appropriate for the argument.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson approving the submission of an argument regarding Measure G, Transient Occupancy Tax, for the November ballot, as amended. AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith; MOTION PASSED.

11. ADJOURN TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES FOR WHICH THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SIT AS OFFICERS: BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, WATER AGENCY

The Board adjourned to the Local Transportation Commission meeting at 11:00 am.

12. CLOSED SESSION

12.1. Closed Session: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: Alpine County Superior Court Case No. C-24-0589 The Historical Society of Alpine County v Alpine County. - County Counsel

No reportable action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned to the next regular meeting of August 20, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Alpine County Government Center, 99 Water Street, Markleeville, California.

ATTEST:

Daniel Honchariw
Daniel Honchariw (Aug 20, 2024 15:55 PDT)

Teola L. Tremayne, County Clerk & ex officio Clerk of
the Board of Supervisors

By: Daniel Honchariw, Deputy County Clerk

A complete audio/video recording of this meeting is available on the County website

www.alpinecountyca.gov

Terry Woodrow
Terry Woodrow (Aug 20, 2024 18:53 PDT)

Terry Woodrow, Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Alpine, State of California