



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

MINUTES August 20, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

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

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE NECESSITY FOR THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA.

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson submitted an urgency item: Update from Public Health Officer Dr. Rick Johnson on the Lost Lakes incident; the reason the item was not posted on the agenda was because Williamson was not notified of the incident until the afternoon of Monday, August 19, 2024; Cal. Gov. Code §54954.2(b)(2) allowed the Board of Supervisors to discuss the incident and ask questions of Dr. Johnson.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Ron Hames approving urgency item: Update from Public Health Officer Dr. Rick Johnson on the Lost Lake incident. - CAO/Human Services Director

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

ABSENT: Irvin Jim;

MOTION PASSED.

See Item 4.1.

2. OPEN SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ORAL COMMUNICATION - GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Markleeville resident Amy Skewes-Cox recommended that the Board fund a public restroom in Markleeville. CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson responded that such was in the plans for the Heritage Park Restoration project.

Chairperson of the Alpine County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) Kate Harvey reported that the MHAB would be increasing efforts to expand its membership for the purposes of achieving a more diverse body that would better reflect the demographics of those served. Harvey continued that the recent passage of Proposition 1 allowed the Board to expand its size to accommodate those efforts and that flyers advertising MHAB vacancies were being distributed across the County.

West Sacramento resident Michael LeVerne reported fishing in Alpine County for the past 40 years and wanted to thank those responsible for fish planting for an excellent 2024 season; an

email saying the same was recently distributed to the Board.

Alpine County Wildfire Projects Coordinator Clint Celio reported that the Fall biomass pile was scheduled to open to the public on Wednesday, August 28, 2024; operating hours were scheduled for Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 7am-3pm through October 2024; additionally, soft opening was scheduled for August 21, 2024. In response to Supervisor Dobson's question, Celio responded that daily lunch breaks for staff would occur from noon to 12:30pm.

Bella Kurtz of the Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) reported on upcoming events, including the annual volunteer Creek Day event scheduled for September 21, 2024. If interested, visit AWG's website at www.alpinewatershedgroup.org/creek-day and/or contact Kurtz directly at AWG.Isabella@gmail.com or (530) 694-2327; fliers had been distributed to the Board. Kurtz requested that volunteers RSVP and complete the AWG waiver in advance.

Chairman of the Alpine County Fish & Game Commission John Smith announced that a second Kids' Fishing Day had been scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2024 at Caples Lake Resort.

4. DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alpine County Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer announced that the Audit and Finance Committee meeting on Monday, August 26, 2024 would include a review of the FY24-25 recommended budget and draft of the 2022-2023 audited financial statements; Leitenbauer introduced Allison Baumann, Alpine County's new Assistant Auditor/Controller.

Library/Museum/Archives Director Rita Lovell reported that the Wine in the Garden fundraiser was scheduled for Saturday, August 24, 2024 at 4:30pm; tickets were available in advance for \$25; \$30 at the door.

Alpine County Public Health Officer Dr. Rick Johnson reported that the Alpine County Health Department received a certificate of achievement for having made "great strides" regarding the Vaccines for Children/Influenza Excellence Initiative by increasing the County's vaccine orders by over 30% during the 2023/2024 influenza season.

Dr. Johnson continued that influenza vaccines would be available across the County this Fall at a variety of locations. Regarding COVID, Dr. Johnson reported that transmission was on the rise and that COVID was much deadlier than the flu; that a new COVID vaccine was likely to be approved shortly and would be available to pharmacies only.

Responding to Supervisor Hames' clarification question, Dr. Johnson reported that the County maintained thousands of available COVID tests.

4.1. Urgency Item – Update on Lost Lakes Incident

Alpine County Public Health Officer Dr. Rick Johnson reported that two thirteen year-olds had been hospitalized after camping recently at Lost Lakes; blue-green algae was feared to be the cause; upon further information, the illnesses were found to be most likely attributable to tick-borne relapsing fever, not an algae neurotoxin as initially feared. Dr. Johnson stated that this would be the preferred outcome as ticks were endemic to Alpine County

whereas neurotoxins from blue-green algae were not; Dr. Johnson was waiting to receive the final diagnosis from the State before issuing a public health advisory. Responding to Supervisor Hames, Dr. Johnson reported there were no plans to close the area as the conditions did not warrant it. Dr. Johnson confirmed to County Counsel Charles McKee that a public notice would be issued when appropriate.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson reported that the County would host a dental van in the HHS parking lot on August 22-23, 2024; Medi-Cal- and private-insured patients welcome; contact Public Health for appointment. Williamson reported that FY24-25 budget hearings were scheduled for September 3, 2024 at 11am. Williamson further reported a fentanyl-overdose death of a young woman in the Community; that addiction to fentanyl and others was exhausting HHS resources; and that Alpine County would likely have the highest per-capita fentanyl death rate among California counties in 2024. Williamson suggested the possibility of declaring an emergency for the situation, which would provide the County with mutual aid.

Supervisor Griffith advised Williamson to proceed with that plan; the Board agreed by consensus. In response to Supervisor Hames, County Counsel Charles McKee advised that the Board needn't take any immediate action. Williamson stated her intention to schedule a meeting with all relevant parties on how best to proceed.

5.1. Administrative Announcements - Update on Alpine County Museum

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson had no announcements regarding the situation with the Alpine County Historical Society.

Markleeville resident Angela Franklin submitted a letter seeking a resolution to allow for normal operations of the museum. The letter was signed by more than 160 community members. Franklin requested that the Board entertain an agenda item for the September 3, 2024 Board meeting to consider rescinding the County's termination letter of the 1990 agreement. Franklin offered copies of the signed letter for distribution.

Markleeville resident Beverly Crawford reported that many Native Americans, specifically, signed the letter. Crawford continued that certain signatories who had donated artifacts to the museum were worried about the items' condition and were unable to access any records of donations. Supervisor Griffith responded that the Historical Society was the custodian of those records, not the County.

Alpine County resident Brenda Hernandez requested that the Board provide the public with notice for the upcoming court hearing in this dispute so that the community would be able to attend. Williamson responded that the hearing had been scheduled for September 4, 2024 at 9am.

Alpine County Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) board member Carol Hannagan reported that the Chamber's next board meeting was scheduled for August 22, 2024 at 4:30pm in Bear Valley. Separately, Hannagan requested that all Board members visit the museum to understand its present condition; indicated that Markleeville visitors had complained, asked questions of the museum's apparent deterioration.

Supervisor Griffith thanked volunteers for their work in writing the letter and collecting signatures and hoped that the Historical Society would also receive copies. Supervisor Griffith continued that, if the situation cannot be resolved, the County would have to decide whether to close museum or continue operating it without the Historical Society's involvement.

Markleeville resident Clint Celio suggested the formation of an ad hoc committee for the purpose of increasing opportunity for input from the local community.

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 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; announced that HermitFest West was scheduled for September 7, 2024 in Bear Valley.

Supervisor District 5 David Griffith gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events; commented that Alpine County should receive recognition whenever the Board waived fees for a local organization or event, e.g., the recent Bear Valley Music Festival.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

These matters are expected to be routine and non-controversial and are usually approved by a single majority vote without discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately. Prior to approval of the consent agenda the chair will announce that comments or questions will be taken from members of the public, staff or the Board on consent agenda items when the comment does not necessitate the item being removed for separate action.

Supervisor Griffith requested to pull agenda items 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, and 7.7 for separate consideration.

MOTION Ron Hames / SECOND David Griffith approving Consent Agenda as follows: AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith; ABSENT: Irvin Jim; MOTION PASSED.

7.1. Regular meeting minutes of 8/6/2024. - County Clerk

7.2. County Claims. - Director of Finance

- 7.3. This item was pulled for separate consideration.
- 7.4. This item was pulled for separate consideration.
- 7.5. This item was pulled for separate consideration.
- 7.6. **Resolution No. R2024-51** to accept \$200,000 in Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) Funds for Road Rehabilitation. - Community Development Director
- 7.7. This item was pulled for separate consideration.
- 7.8. Special event permit fee waiver (\$175) and facility rental fee waiver (\$150) for a total amount of \$325 for the 2024 Hermit Fest Fundraising Event permit #2024056. - Economic Development Director

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE ACTION:

- 7.3. **Lease with the Washoe Woodfords Community Council for the Hung-a-lel-ti Fire House for the retroactive term July 1, 2023-June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$5,000 per month, \$60,000 yearly, not to exceed \$250,000 for the term using MHSAA funding. - CAO/HHS Director**

Supervisor Griffith stated that costs were a concern for this item; program was expected to serve 15 families at a cost of \$98,000 for 2 years; suggested that the Hung-a-lel-ti community could donate the firehouse to the County, rather than leasing it at \$5,000/month; that the tribal community didn't have any "skin in the game". Supervisor Griffith pointed to a lack of accountability regarding improvements/results for the programs named in agenda items 7.4 and 7.5 as well.

Regarding Item 7.3, CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson reported that the firehouse lease would include an office space and would also grant the County access to other Hung-a-lel-ti sites upon request.

Regarding Items 7.4 and 7.5, Williamson reported that the costs would cover tribal consultants from southern California and the local Washoe community, as well as consultants from the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, which would be tasked with a robust evaluation of the program. Williamson continued that Items 7.3 and 7.4 were contracts with a sovereign nation, drafted by Washoe leaders and reviewed/approved by both Washoe Counsel and Alpine County Counsel; further, that the contracts for Items 7.4 and 7.5 needed to be approved by September 15, 2024 because the State indicated it would not reimburse the County for expenses if invoices were to arrive after that date.

County Counsel Charles McKee commented that Supervisor Griffith's concerns were valid; that the CAO and HHS leaders could meet to discuss appropriate methods for measuring performance before returning Item 7.3 to the Board for approval. Supervisor Griffith responded that the proposed contracts had other issues beyond simply measuring performance. Williamson agreed to continue Item 7.3 to the

next Board meeting but that both 7.4 and 7.5 were time-sensitive.

Supervisor Hames commented that the tribal community was an asset to Alpine County; the relationship had never been better; and that reneging on proposed lease terms would be harmful to tribal and County relations.

MOTION Ron Hames / SECOND Terry Woodrow approving Items 7.3, 7.4, and 7.5 as submitted.

No action was taken.

Williamson added that the lease in 7.3 would be paid for with MHSA funds; that \$1.3 million would soon be returned to the state from FY21-22; and that if the Board did not approve the lease, an additional \$60,000 would be sent back to the State.

In response to Supervisor Dobson's question, Williamson responded that it was unclear why the lease had increased to \$5,000 per month. Williamson speculated that many tribal facilities needed maintenance and repair work performed.

Responding to Hung-a-lel-ti community member Katherine Rakow, Williamson responded that the lease was drafted by tribal counsel and that the community council was copied on all related email correspondence, including details like utility costs. Rakow commented that the Community Council hadn't held a meeting during July or August; didn't understand how or when the Chair could've approved the lease.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION Charles Dobson / SECOND David Griffith continuing lease with the Washoe Woodfords Community Council for the Hung-a-lel-ti Fire House for the retroactive term July 1, 2023-June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$5,000 per month, \$60,000 yearly, not to exceed \$250,000 for the term using MHSA funding. - CAO/HHS Director; approving Contract No. CC2024-35 with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California for the amount of \$703,941.50 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health; approving Contract No. CC2024-36 with Tribal Law and Policy Institute for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program for the term June 30, 2023 – June 30, 2028. The total compensation shall not exceed the amount in the budget developed for each fiscal year without County's prior written approval. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health.
AYES: Charles Dobson; Terry Woodrow; Ron Hames; David Griffith;
ABSENT: Irvin Jim;
MOTION PASSED.**

- 7.4. Approve contract with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California for the amount of \$703,941.50 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health**

This item was pulled for separate action by Supervisor Griffith, in conjunction with Items 7.3 and 7.5. The Board approved Items 7.4 and 7.5 with a single motion.

MOTION Charles Dobson / SECOND David Griffith approving Contract No. CC2024-35 with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California for the amount of \$703,941.50 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health
AYES: Charles Dobson; Terry Woodrow; Ron Hames; David Griffith;
ABSENT: Irvin Jim;
MOTION PASSED.

- 7.5. Approve contract with Tribal Law and Policy Institute for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program for the term June 30, 2023 – June 30, 2028. The total compensation shall not exceed the amount in the budget developed for each fiscal year without County's prior written approval. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health.**

This item was pulled for separate action by Supervisor Griffith, in conjunction with Items 7.3 and 7.4. The Board approved Items 7.4 and 7.5 with a single motion.

MOTION Charles Dobson / SECOND David Griffith approving Contract No. CC2024-36 with Tribal Law and Policy Institute for the provision of home visitation services in conjunction with the My 2 Aunties program for the term June 30, 2023 – June 30, 2028. The total compensation shall not exceed the amount in the budget developed for each fiscal year without County's prior written approval. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director - Public Health.
AYES: Charles Dobson; Terry Woodrow; Ron Hames; David Griffith;
ABSENT: Irvin Jim;
MOTION PASSED.

- 7.7. Approve County of Alpine Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Bylaws amended on April 10, 2024. - Acting Chief Probation Officer**

Supervisor Griffith commented that Page 3 of the bylaws wasn't legible. Chair Woodrow provided a legible copy to Supervisor Griffith for review; upon review, Supervisor Griffith reported no issues.

County Counsel Charles McKee recommended certain edits for the amended bylaws. The Board agreed by consensus.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson approving, as amended, County of Alpine Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council Bylaws amended on April 10, 2024. - Acting Chief Probation Officer.
AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;
ABSENT: Irvin Jim;
MOTION PASSED.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

9. REGULAR AGENDA - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

10. REGULAR AGENDA - NEW BUSINESS

10.1. Discussion regarding Fish and Game Commission Operations County Counsel memorandum dated 7/3/2024. - County Clerk

Alpine County Fish & Game Commission (F&G) Chairman John Smith reported on operational issues affecting F&G and the need to amend its bylaws.

CAO/Human Services Director Nichole Williamson commented that El Dorado/Alpine County Agricultural Commissioner Leanne Mila had offered to assist F&G in remedying its operational issues, and that Economic Development Director JT Chevallier would assist in those efforts. Williamson continued that F&G had occupied an extraordinary amount of County staff's time (i.e., County Counsel, Finance Director, CAO, etc.) and that it made more sense for F&G to operate with the assistance of an Agricultural Commissioner. County Counsel Charles McKee commented that such an arrangement could be worked out.

Mila attended via Zoom and offered to work with F&G to resolve its operational issues and streamline/update its processes.

County Counsel Charles McKee stated that the County would address F&G issues by reviewing/amending its bylaws.

Supervisor Griffith commented that Alpine County was small and that it was best to keep management of F&G small and simple. McKee agreed and added that it was best for F&G to always have a department official to contact when needed; the agricultural commissioner seemed a good fit.

No action was taken.

10.2. Continued update and presentation by USDA Forest Service regarding issues affecting Alpine County. (Ref. 04/18/2023 and continuing the second meeting of each month.) - County Clerk

US Forestry Service District Ranger Matt Zumstein reported (via Zoom) on local operations and activities; recreation was operating normally. Zumstein reported that an interdisciplinary team was screening for the Disc Golf course proposal; that the Board's letter regarding delays with special-use permitting was received but that the entire agency was in a hiring pause due to financial conditions; the County's request could not be expedited under normal circumstances because of the proposed location of the Disc Golf course and its adjacency to public lands.

Zumstein asserted that mitigating vegetation and fuels was the agency's priority but suggested that letters of support from Grover Springs State Park and the Washoe tribe would be beneficial.

Supervisor Hames reported that an airstream had been parked in Hope Valley for

weeks, seemingly in violation of camp dispersal time limits. Zumstein responded that USDA employees had been actively monitoring and time-stamping vehicles they encountered; after 14 days, a referral to law enforcement would be made; whether law enforcement had the capacity to act after receiving notice was a separate issue.

Supervisor Griffith commented that Alpine County had an ordinance on the books regarding overstays; believed it was 16 days. Regarding the Disc Golf course, Supervisor Griffith commented that anything Zumstein was able to do in order to expedite the course development was necessary; that volunteers had money, which was now threatened by the possibility of the permit not being issued. Supervisor Griffith suggested that Zumstein identify a retired Forest Ranger to assist in the project.

No action was taken.

10.3. Request adoption of a resolution proclaiming August 2024 as Child Support Awareness Month in Alpine County. - Supervisor District 4

Central Sierra Child Support Agency (CSCSA) Deputy Director Kim Britt reported on activities and services benefiting children throughout Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties; approximately 4,400 families, including 10,000 children served overall. \$10.2 million was collected last year to serve these populations. Britt commented that all families were eligible for assistance from CSCSA, not just those on public assistance; that CSCSA's funding came from the state and federal government; no county funds involved. Visit [CSCSA.org](https://www.cscsa.org) or call 1-866-901-3212 if interested in services.

Britt stated her purpose for appearing was to request that the Board proclaim August 2024 as Child Support Awareness Month. Britt read aloud the proposed resolution.

Responding to Supervisor Griffith, Britt reported that CSCSA served 36 clients in Alpine County utilizing about \$50,000 in funding; an informational flyer would be sent to the County Clerk to distribute to the Board.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Ron Hames adopting Resolution No. R2024-52 proclaiming August 2024 as Child Support Awareness Month in Alpine County. - Supervisor District 4.

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

ABSENT: Irvin Jim;

MOTION PASSED.

10.4. Request approval of amendment #4 to the contract (CC2022-14) with C.G. Celio and Sons to increase Section V (MAXIMUM COST TO THE COUNTY), to \$556,470.00, align Section VII (CONTRACT PERFORMANCE TIME) to the expiration of funding sources and align Section XV (TERM OF AGREEMENT) to the expiration of funding sources. - Economic Development Director

Economic Development Director JT Chevallier reported on a housekeeping item; that, due to the success of the forest restoration and fire mitigation grant-procurement efforts in the County, an amendment to the contract was needed to align the funding mechanisms to the respective terms, as well as to contract performance time and the maximum cost to the County. All funds associated with

this contract were grant-funded and all funds had been encumbered.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson approving Contract No. CC2024-37 amendment #4 to the contract (CC2022-14) with C.G. Celio and Sons to increase Section V (MAXIMUM COST TO THE COUNTY), to \$556,470.00, align Section VII (CONTRACT PERFORMANCE TIME) to the expiration of funding sources and align Section XV (TERM OF AGREEMENT) to the expiration of funding sources. - Economic Development Director.
AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;
ABSENT: Irvin Jim;
MOTION PASSED.

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

None.

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.

- 12.2. 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-23-1232 Lee Horstman v Alpine County. - County Counsel**

No reportable action was taken.

- 12.3. Closed Session: THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES (Government Code section 54957) Consultation with: CAO, County Counsel, Acting Chief Probation Officer. - County Counsel**

No reportable action was taken.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Board will adjourn to the next regular meeting of September 3, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Alpine County Government Center, 99 Water Street, Markleeville, California.

ATTEST:



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 (Sep 4, 2024 08:50 PDT)

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