

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

ALPINE COUNTY

Board Chambers County

Administration Building

Markleeville, CA 96120

Telephone (530) 694-2281

MINUTES**October 15, 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, Irvin Jim, and David Griffith present.

2. OPEN SESSION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**3. ORAL COMMUNICATION - GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Headwaters Coordinator for Alpine Watershed Group (AWG) Rachel Maurer reported that Creek Day 2024 was attended by 44 participants; AWG's October newsletter would publish official outcomes. Maurer announced that the Forest Health Community Working Group would hold a tree-planting event on Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 10am-Noon and distributed corresponding event flyers; RSVP online at alpinewatershedgroup.org.

Executive Director of Arts and Culture Alpine County January Riddle reported on the second annual Art in the Park event; 14 booths were present, including 4 native vendors. Riddle announced that November 2024's Library Art Show would be the final one of the year.

Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) Executive Director Meghan Wolff reported on Chamber activities and announced upcoming events. Wolff reported that registration for the 2025 Death Ride was at 256 registrants and that the Chamber had contracted with a new vendor, Inside Ink, to help with registration and marketing for the Death Ride.

4. DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public Health Officer Dr. Rick Johnson reported on the County's recent flu vaccination drive-thru clinic; flu shots were still available at the Health Department; COVID-19 and RSV vaccinations were only available at pharmacies. Regarding H5N1 ("the bird flu"), the number of herds affected in California increased to 96, with six confirmed human cases. Johnson advised that a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) was possible beginning Friday, October 18, 2024 and continuing into the weekend in Bear Valley; the County Health Department was communicating with PG&E to help manage the situation.

Director of Finance Klaus Leitenbauer reported completing the property tax audit for Fiscal Years 2017-2023; the final report would be ready in 30-60 days but Leitenbauer had already been informed that the State would make no findings. Leitenbauer reported that Assistant Treasurer/Tax Collector Susan Lapin was upgrading systems, including a new online tax- payment portal that would be launched shortly. Leitenbauer reported that the 6-month employee evaluations had been completed for Chief Deputy Auditor/Controller Kelly McKay and Deputy Auditor Samantha Pomeroy. Regarding PARS, Leitenbauer reported an OPEB balance of roughly \$1.8 million with

an average rate of return of 4.88% over the three years since its inception; the average rate of return for PERS fund was higher but Leitenbauer did not provide a precise number.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1. Update on Alpine County Museum

County Counsel Charles McKee reported on litigation with the Historical Society; the County continued to meet with plaintiffs under the direction and supervision of the Superior Court seeking a resolution; the Museum remained open with regular operating hours. CAO Nichole Williamson clarified that the museum would likely be closed on certain days due to staff shortages. Supervisor Griffith commented that the Museum had not seen many visitors lately. Williamson responded that the Museum logged 42 visitors during September 2024.

5.2. Discussion of wolf sightings in Hope Valley

CAO Nichole Williamson reported that the County had been informed of a possible sighting of four wolves in Hope Valley.

Economic Development Director/Public Information Officer JT Chevallier reported that El Dorado County Agricultural Commissioner LeeAnne Mila notified Alpine County the preceding week about the possible presence of wolves in the area; the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) had installed surveillance and audio devices locally for the purpose of detecting wolves; sightings were not yet confirmed. Chevallier advised that it was illegal to hunt wolves in California and that local entities had been cautioned about the situation.

Supervisor Griffith commented that, in general, wolves posed no threat to humans; they posed a threat to ranchers and farmers. Chevallier responded that such people had been notified of the risk to livestock.

In response to Supervisor Hames, Chevallier promised to contact CDFW to help ensure that the public was made aware that manufactured wolf sounds were being utilized for the purpose of confirming the presence of wolves. Supervisor Hames commented that it was also appropriate to contact the Forest Service.

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; thanked Mary Young, President of Markleeville Water Company, for work and dedication to the Markleeville Water Company's ongoing project; remarked about the lack of businesses in Downtown Markleeville.

Supervisor District 2 Ron Hames gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events; requested a future agenda item regarding the County's possible embrace of online entities which provide for the use and rental of private property for transient camping experiences and outdoor stays, including HipCamp.com, noting that the County would receive revenues from such stays. CAO Nichole Williamson and Community Development Director Sam Booth agreed to place

such an item on the agenda for the November 5, 2024 meeting. County Counsel Charles McKee advised that the item should include a diversity of similar options, not just a single entity like HipCamp.com.

Supervisor District 3 Irvin Jim gave an update regarding county business, meetings attended related to appointed commissions and committees and upcoming events; reported having represented the Washoe Tribe at Native American Day at the State Capitol; announced that the Washoe's General Session was scheduled to take place at the Hard Rock Casino in Wheatland beginning Thursday, October 17, 2024; apologized to the County and its constituents for missing several past meetings.

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; announced that a Select Committee of the California State Legislature found that Alpine County was the happiest in California based on survey results.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Supervisor Griffith requested to pull Items 7.8 and 7.9 for separate action.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Irvin Jim approving the Consent Agenda as follows:

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

MOTION PASSED.

- 7.1.** Regular meeting minutes of October 1, 2024. - County Clerk
- 7.2.** Special meeting minutes of October 1, 2024. - County Clerk
- 7.3.** County Claims. - Director of Finance
- 7.4.** **Contract No. CC2024-54** reassignment of contract CC2023-48 agreement between the County of Alpine and Kathryn Hill for the provision of clinical supervision and consultation services to High Sierra Marriage and Family Therapy, PC. - Director, Human Services
- 7.5.** **Contract No. CC2024-55** a license agreement with Pacific Gas and Electric to allow the use of an area of Parking Lot C in Bear Valley to establish a community resource center during Public Safety Power Shutoff events. - Community Development Deputy Director
- 7.6.** **Resolution No. R2024-62** to add the Director of Finance, and Community Development Director, as Authorized Agents to engage with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services on behalf of Alpine County regarding grants for which the County has applied. - Director of Finance
- 7.7.** **Resolution No. R2024-63** ratifying the Sheriff's declaration of a local emergency

related to the current fentanyl overdose crisis and extending declaration until 11/05/2024, waiving the 14-day review period in County Code section 2.56.340. - Sheriff

- 7.8. This item was pulled for separate action.
- 7.9. This item was pulled for separate action.
- 7.10. Waiver of the requirement to publish a request for proposals for water testing services on the Alpine County water system, as required in Alpine County Code, Chapter 2.32.110. - Community Development Director
- 7.11. Waiver of Conflicts of Interest allowing County Counsel to advise & represent the County of Alpine and First Five Alpine County Commission. - County Counsel
- 7.12. Appointment of Scott Thompson to the Mental Health Board representing the Consumer or Public Interest position for the unexpired term and ending May 31, 2026. - County Clerk
- 7.13. Letter of Support for Mokelumne Amador Calaveras (MAC) Forest Resilience Project. - Supervisor District 4
- 7.14. Cancellation of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting on November 19, 2024. - CAO

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE ACTION:

- 7.8. **Adopt a Governing Body Resolution (GBR) authorizing the Sheriff to sign for the Eastern Alpine Fire Department 2024 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$10,000. - Sheriff**

Responding to Supervisor Griffith, Fire Chief Paul Washam remarked that the proper name of the organization was "Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue" but that they used "Eastern Alpine Fire Department" for consistency with past applications.

Supervisor Griffith alluded to the clause in the proposed agreement that provided for a 0% indirect rate, then asked whether the County should negotiate an increased rate to offset administrative costs. CAO Nichole Williamson reported discussions with Budget and Procurement Director Matt McSorley about applying for a federally-approved indirect cost rate; remarked that grant amounts were small in the two present cases.

Supervisor Griffith noted the same concern regarding indirect cost rates applied to Item 7.9.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson adopting Resolution No. R2024-64 authorizing the Sheriff to sign for the Eastern Alpine Fire Department 2024 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$10,000.

**AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;
MOTION PASSED.**

- 7.9. Adopt a Governing Body Resolution (GBR) authorizing the Sheriff to sign for the Bear Valley Fire Department 2024 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$10,000. - Sheriff**

This item was pulled for separate action by Supervisor Griffith, in conjunction with Item 7.8. The Board approved Items 7.8 and 7.9 with a single motion.

**MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Charles Dobson adopting Resolution No. R2024-65 authorizing the Sheriff to sign for the Bear Valley Fire Department 2024 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$10,000.
AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;
MOTION PASSED.**

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

9. REGULAR AGENDA - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

10. REGULAR AGENDA - NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1. Request Adoption of Resolution Declaring October 2024 Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Alpine County. - District Attorney**

Victim Witness Coordinator Sara Daniel and Sam Abbott, Case Manager for Live Violence Free, read aloud the proposed resolution proclaiming October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Alpine County.

MOTION Irvin Jim / SECOND Ron Hames adopting Resolution No. R2024-66 declaring October 2024 Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Alpine County.

**AYES: Charles Dobson, Ron Hames, Irvin Jim, Terry Woodrow, David Griffith;
MOTION PASSED.**

- 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).**

USDA Forest Service District Ranger Matt Zumstein reported that a review of the Musser-Jarvis area would occur on Friday, October 18, 2024, with the Alpine Watershed Group; that the next RAC meeting had been rescheduled to December 5, 2024; that the Forest Service had reopened the application period for projects; that the removal of decks in Pleasant Valley continued but that the contractor was working slowly; that all campgrounds remained closed with daily sites still open; and that winter operations would be resuming. Zumstein informed the Board that the permitting process for the proposed Disc Golf Course was ongoing and that a letter

of support from the Washoe Tribe would soon be sought; NEPA review would eventually be required.

Responding to Supervisor Hames, Zumstein confirmed that the County was still employing Stage One fire restrictions and that any fires in the area were illegal.

Supervisor Charles Dobson reported seeing a truck transporting logs out of Pleasant Valley over the preceding weekend.

10.3. Adopt a resolution ratifying the Alpine County Public Health Officer's declaration of a local health emergency related to the current fentanyl overdose crisis and extend declaration until 11/05/2024, waiving the 14-day review period in County Code section 2.56.340. - Deputy Health and Human Services Director, Public Health

Deputy Health and Human Services Director of Public Health Tim Streeper summarized the proposed resolution to ratify the Public Health Officer's recent declaration of a local health emergency regarding fentanyl use in Alpine County.

Supervisor Griffith reported on a recent conversation with Washoe Tribal Chairman Smokey regarding the need for action regarding the fentanyl crisis. Supervisor Griffith was made aware that the Washoe Tribe issued a similar emergency declaration two years ago but that little action resulted from it.

Responding to Supervisor Griffith, Human Services Director Suzanne Garcia reported that the County was working with its partners and decision-makers on courses of action to follow the emergency declarations; that the short-term goal was to stop the deaths, and the long-term goal was prevention. Supervisor Griffith asked for monthly updates, which CAO Nichole Williamson commented would start at the first Board meeting in December 2024.

MOTION David Griffith / SECOND Irvin Jim adopting Resolution No. R2024-67 ratifying the Alpine County Public Health Officer's declaration of a local health emergency related to the current fentanyl overdose crisis and extending declaration until 11/05/2024, waiving the 14-day review period in County Code section 2.56.340.

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 SITS AS OFFICERS: BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, WATER AGENCY

None.

12. CLOSED SESSION

12.1. CLOSED SESSION: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/ Release. (GC§ 54957)- Assistant CAO to Personnel and Risk Management

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-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 November 5, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Alpine County Government Center, 99 Water Street, Markleeville, California.

Terry Woodrow

Terry Woodrow (Nov 5, 2024 15:01 PST)

ATTEST:

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

Daniel Honchariw

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

BOS Approved minutes 10-15-2024

Final Audit Report

2024-11-05

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