

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Board of Supervisors Minutes, March 18, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 18th day of March 2025; there being present Supervisors Jess Harris, Ed Valenzuela, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren and Ray A. Haupt, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel Natalie E. Reed and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Laura Bynum by Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ogren. Pursuant to AB23, the Clerk announced that the Board members receive no additional compensation for sitting as members of the Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The flag salute happened during the previous special meeting.

Invocation - Siskiyou County Sheriff Chaplain Keith Bradley provided an invocation.

Off-Agenda Item – County Counsel - Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1-17-MD-2804.

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed provided an overview of an off-agenda, urgency item that came to the County's attention after the posting of the March 18, 2025 agenda and needing Board direction and/or authorization prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting on April 1, 2025.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to add an item not on the posted agenda regarding: Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1-17-MD-2804, to the closed session agenda.

Presentations from the Public

Mt. Shasta resident David Allen Ream appeared before the Board and shared concerns regarding the behavior of and language used by, a Mt. Shasta City Council member during a Council meeting, with regard to doing business with the County and its representatives and potential withholding of certain funds and/or payments to the County.

Consent Agenda – Approved.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk received correspondence, forwarded to the Board, requesting that item 4D be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

At Supervisor Valenzuela, item 4D, County Administrator's request to ratify a letter to Assemblymember Chris Ward stating opposition to AB 518, was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Harris and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, that the following consent agenda is approved, and the Chair and/or clerk authorized to execute/record any necessary documents:

Community Development

Approve, and authorize the Chair to sign, the 1st Addendum to the contract between the Siskiyou County Community Development Department and Vestra Resources, Inc.

Community Development

Approve, and authorize the Chair to sign, the 1st Addendum to the Funding Agreement for Environmental Review Cost between the Siskiyou County Community Development Department and Southern Oregon Ready Mix, LLC.

County Administration

Approve (adopt) Resolution 25-31 and authorize the County Administrator to take the necessary steps to complete the sale of the property (identified as APN 038-210-010-property located along County Highway A-12 east of Grenada).

Continued...

Consent Agenda – (continued)

County Administration

Approve letter to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board in support of Grenada Sanitary District's concerns over high cost of wastewater permit fees and authorize the Chair to sign.

Probation

Adopt Resolution 25-32 honoring Deputy Chief Probation Officer Richard James Roach on the occasion of his retirement.

Transfer of Funds - Agriculture Commissioner/Sealer - \$125,000. Resolution 25-33 adopted.

Transfer of Funds - Solid Waste Disposal - \$1,734,200. Resolution 25-34 adopted.

County Administration - Ratify letter to Assemblymember Chris Ward stating opposition to Assembly Bill 518: Low-Impact Camping Areas.

This item was pulled from the consent agenda at Supervisor Valenzuela's request.

Supervisor Valenzuela shared concerns that the Assembly Bill may change over time and requested that the item be dropped from the agenda.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, County Administrator Angela Davis advised that the request was to ratify the letter that was already sent to Assemblymember Ward with the Chair's signature.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Valenzuela voting NO, to ratify the letter to the Honorable Chris Ward opposing Assembly Bill 518: Low-Impact Camping Areas.

Facilities - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution declaring an emergency and pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050(b) delegating authority to the County Administrative Officer or her designee to enter into emergency Public Works contracts for the repair of the parking lot and front steps located at 311 Fourth Street, Yreka, the County Government Center building. Resolution 25-35 adopted.

Facilities Management Director Amanda Kimball appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the request to adopt a Resolution declaring an emergency for necessary repairs at the Siskiyou County Government Center.

Following discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Kimball regarding the front steps, back parking lot and driveways on both sides of the parking lot that were slated for repairs, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to approve (adopt) the emergency Resolution 25-35 and authorize the Board Chair to sign the resolution and authorize the County Administrator or her designee to enter into an emergency public works contract for the repairs to the Government Center parking lot and front steps, located at 311 4th st, Yreka, California.

Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division - Discussion, direction and action as deemed appropriate regarding the Mental Health Student Services Act, Round 4, Category 2, Universal Screening Grant proposal and agreement, ratified and approved by the Board on February 18, 2025. Discussion only.

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Associate Superintendent of Schools Mike Matheson appeared before the Board.

Supervisor Kobseff shared concerns that County schools receive 68% of property taxes and that the County was being asked to provide additional funding for this Universal Screening program.

In response, Ms. Collard advised that the grant funding would be 'bridge' funding to assist school districts within the County to strengthen those schools' ability to support and provide early student mental health services (i.e. to identify and aid students early on). Ms. Collard further advised that the school system did not have access to mental health services funding on their own.

Mr. Matheson advised that the school system was partnering with Behavioral Health to provide prevention and early intervention (Tier 1) services to their students.

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Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division – (continued)

Discussion followed between Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Collard and Mr. Matheson regarding Behavioral Health staffing in schools, specific use of the grant funds, the surveys completed by teachers regarding students, the schools' template letters aimed at parents for notification and/or survey opt-out options and a request that allowable information from the surveys be provided to the First 5 Families Commission.

No action was taken with regard to this item.

Sheriff - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to extend the State of Emergency related to the proliferation of illegal cannabis cultivation pursuant to Resolution 25-11 adopted on January 21, 2025 for an additional 60 days. Local emergency extended.

Undersheriff James Randall appeared before the Board, advising that the Sheriff requested continuation of the emergency proclamation.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt and seconded by Supervisor Harris to extend the local emergency related to the proliferation of illegal cannabis cultivation pursuant to Resolution 25-11.

In response to Supervisor Valenzuela's concerns regarding the ongoing emergency proclamation, Mr. Randall advised that the Department continues to analyze current and future actions for effectiveness with regard to illegal cannabis cultivation.

The Chair called for the question and, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, the motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to ratify out of State travel for Sheriff Jeremiah LaRue and Public Information Specialist Sage Milestone in the amount of \$1,789.19 for Washington DC travel, January 13-15, 2025 and allow final signers to execute associated documents to complete the expense processing. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Harris and seconded by Supervisor Haupt to ratify the travel of County employees LaRue and Milestone and allow the final signers to execute the supporting documents to complete processing of expenses disclosed.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Undersheriff James Randall appeared before the Board, advising that the Sheriff was requesting ratification of recent out-of-state travel.

County Administrator Angela Davis advised that the out-of-state request had not been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (CAO) prior to travel as required by County policy. Ms. Davis further advised that the missing CAO review/approval then required the Board of Supervisors' consideration and possible approval of the request.

Following discussion between members of the Board and Mr. Randall regarding the short timeframe associated with an invitation for the Sheriff to visit the White House, an opportunity to meet with various legislators regarding illegal cannabis, pesticides, etc. and Public Information Specialist (PIO) Sage Milestone's participation for her ability to schedule those meetings, the Chair called for the question.

Following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Kobseff requested a report out (allowable information to report publicly) regarding the Sheriff's travel to Washington DC and associated events/meetings.

Sheriff - Discussion, direction and possible action re request to issue payment to the State of California, in the amount of \$100,000 in order to resume ownership of needed boating patrol equipment. Continued to April 1, 2025.

Undersheriff James Randall and Administrative Services Manager Courtney Greenley appeared before the Board.

Ms. Greenley provided an update regarding the previously considered and continued item, advising that the Sheriff's Office worked with Supervisor Kobseff and had been in contact with the State's boating inspector with regard to possible reassignment of a 2012 Riverhawk vessel/boat in the County's possession.

Continued...

Sheriff – (continued)

Ms. Greenley further advised that the inspector was provided requested information and stated that the Riverhawk was eligible for reassignment immediately. Ms. Greenley shared concerns that the Sheriff's Office had not heard back or received correspondence from the State with regard to the vessel, and that the Sheriff was in support of continuing this request (related to possible action by the State to withdraw 2021 grant funds in the amount of \$100,000).

Supervisor Kobseff advised of being in contact with Senator Megan Dahle's Press Secretary Bruce Ross regarding the issue and spoke in support of the vessel possibly being reassigned to Del Norte County. Supervisor Kobseff further advised of the need to continue this item as negotiations regarding the vessel continue.

In response to Supervisor Valenzuela, Ms. Greenley provided an overview of the Board's previous discussion of this item, advising that, following a recent site visit by the State, it was discovered that one vessel (2012 Riverhawk) was inadvertently left off of the Sheriff's Office boating grant inventory. Ms. Greenley shared concerns that the State then withdrew the grant funding and that the Sheriff anticipated utilizing \$100,000 in discretionary funding to cover the State's demand for return of those grant funds.

Following discussion between members of the Board, Ms. Greenley and Deputy County Clerk Wendy Wingham regarding the larger Riverhawk vessel that could benefit Del Norte County, the Sheriff's Office's desire to keep a newer, smaller vessel (2023 Rogue Fastwater) in lieu of paying back the grant funds, the need to allow time for additional negotiations with the State and April Board meeting dates, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried, following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES to continue this item and the associated budget transfer, to the April 1, 2025 meeting.

Sheriff - Transfer of Funds - \$100,000. Requires 4/5 Vote. (Continued to April 1, 2025)

This item was continued by motion during the discussion of the previous agenda item.

Board of Supervisors' Requests - Supervisor Jess Harris/County Counsel - Discussion and possible direction re Siskiyou County potentially becoming a charter county. Discussion and direction given.

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed provided a brief overview of a charter county, which Siskiyou is, versus a general law county, advising that charter counties (15 currently in California) exercise limited home rule over the county's governing board, officers and employees and county charters differ from city charters. Ms. Reed summarized the charter county requirements and the process for adopting a charter via an adopted ordinance calling for the election of a 15-member charter commission or draft a proposed charter to be presented to voters at either a special or general election.

Supervisor Harris summarized his request that Counsel research the charter county process, advising that an elaborate charter was not his intent, although a means to potentially protect the County with regard to filing vacant Board member seat(s). Supervisor Harris advised that currently, as a general law county, a vacant seat or seats on the Board would be filled by the State Governor and that a change in voter identification requirements was not possible through the charter process (as is possible with charter cities).

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Reed and County Administrator Angela Davis regarding the ability of a county charter to address one or multiple allowable aspects of county governance, the estimated \$175,000-\$185,000 cost to put a single measure on a ballot, the costs of staff time/effort to develop an ordinance that was not currently available and the need for additional information regarding charter county specifics via a presentation from a charter county or the California State Association of Counties (CSAC).

Supervisor Kobseff requested research into a presentation or 'white paper' to provide additional information or a briefing regarding other counties that have become charter counties.

Board of Supervisors' Requests - Supervisor Jess Harris/Community Development - Discussion, direction and possible action re possible development of an Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program in the County. Discussion and direction given.

Deputy Director of Planning Hailey Lang appeared before the Board, providing an overview of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program. Continued...

Board of Supervisors' Requests - Supervisor Jess Harris/Community Development – (continued)

Ms. Lang advised that the CHP's AVA Program was designed to provide guidance to counties that may develop and administer an AVA Authority as a means to remove abandoned vehicles that create a public nuisance or cause health and safety issues in public rights of way. Ms. Lang summarized the process to develop an AVA Authority, advising of the need for approval of a ballot measure presented to voters and participation by a majority of incorporated cities within the County. Additionally, Ms. Lang advised that additional Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) registration fees in the amount of \$1.00-\$3.00 per registered vehicle would be collected to provide funding for the multijurisdictional AVA Authority.

In response to Supervisor Kobseff, Ms. Lang advised that a list of the revenue derived from the various AVA Programs in other counties was included in the agenda packet and that the Community Development Department's Code Enforcement Division currently works to remove abandoned vehicles from private

Supervisor Kobseff advised of the need to gather information from local cities as to their interest and/or willingness to participate in an AVA Authority.

Supervisor Harris provided a brief overview of possible benefits associated with an AVA Program in the County, including removal of vehicles creating health and safety concerns (i.e. campers/RVs/motorhomes) from public rights of way. Supervisor Harris advised that the Sheriff, local law enforcement, City of Yreka and Calfire representatives were supportive of the idea.

In response to Supervisor Haupt, Ms. Lang and Assistant County Counsel William Carroll advised that a Service Authority would need to be created including representation by the County and local jurisdictions. In addition, Ms. Lang advised that an AVA Program would apply to public rights of way, not private property.

Supervisor Haupt shared concerns regarding the potential differing definitions associated with abandoned vehicles.

Community Development Director Rick Dean appeared before the Board and summarized the Department's process utilized for removing abandoned or junked vehicles from private properties.

Supervisor Harris advised that local CHP representative was in the audience for possible questions.

Ms. Lang advised that the threshold for considering a vehicle abandoned could be identified with an AVA Program service plan or ordinance.

CHP Yreka Commander Captain Steve Krul appeared before the Board, providing an overview/definition of abandoned vehicles within public rights of way and advising that the County could potentially garner revenue approximately \$90,000 per year should the nine incorporated cities participate in an AVA Authority. Captain Krul shared concerns regarding the potentially higher costs associated with removing and disposing of abandoned RV type vehicles as those vehicles have little scrap value and higher costs associated with hazardous materials removal.

Discussion followed between members of the Board and Captain Krul regarding the ability of AVA Authorities to allocate funding to remove cars and trucks only (no RVs), several California counties that have not had interest in an AVA Program, potential difficulties associated with tow companies that may not wish to dispose of abandoned RV type vehicles, the anticipated administration fee the State AVA Program would take from the registration fees and the need for additional information regarding other, similar counties' success with the Program and possible costs to dispose of RV type vehicles.

Calfire Unit Chief and County Fire Warden Greg Roath appeared before the Board, advising that Calfire would support County efforts to minimize hazardous abandoned vehicles that could adversely impact fire fighting staff and their efforts.

In response to Supervisor Valenzuela, Chief Roath advised that Calfire would remove abandoned vehicles and absorb the cost should removal be necessary in an emergency.

Supervisor Kobseff voiced concerns regarding the AVA Program that the State no longer administers.

It was the consensus of the Board that the nine incorporated cities in the County be contacted regarding their possible interest in actively participating in an AVA Program and associated JPA or Service Authority.

Appointments - County Clerk - Appointment of seven members to scheduled and unscheduled vacancies on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for terms ending December 31, 2025, December 31, 2026 and December 31, 2027. Sasha Hight appointed; remaining vacancies continued to later date.

Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham provided an overview of the request, advising that the Behavioral Health Services Board recommended appointment of Sasha Hight to a vacancy on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for a term ending December 31, 2027. In addition, Ms. Winningham requested that the remaining vacancies be continued to a later date.

It was moved by Supervisor Ogren, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to appoint Sasha Hight to a scheduled vacancy on the Siskiyou County Behavioral Health Services Board for a term ending December 31, 2027.

The remaining vacancies were continued to a later date.

Minute Approval - March 4, 2025. Approved.

It was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Haupt and carried following a roll call vote with Supervisors Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES and Supervisor Valenzuela ABSTAINING to approve the March 4, 2025 minutes as presented.

Public Hearings - Health and Human Services - Behavioral Health Division - Public hearing to consider adoption of the FY 2024-2025 Mental Health Services Act Annual Update. FY 2024-25 Mental Health Services Act Annual Update approved.

This was the time set for a public hearing to consider adoption of the FY 2024-2025 Mental Health Services Act Annual Update.

The Chair opened the public hearing

Health and Human Services Agency Director Sarah Collard and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator Eric Jauregui appeared before the Board.

Ms. Collard provided an overview of the request, summarizing the various public hearing and public comment opportunities that were provided for the FY 2024-2025 Mental Health Services Act Annual Update. Ms. Collard provided an overview of two changes to the Annual Update, including closure of the Tulelake Family Resource Center (FRC), the efforts being made to identify another provider and termination of a contract for services with Youth Empowerment Siskiyou.

In response to the Chair, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office had not received any correspondence related to this item.

There being no public comments, the public hearing was declared closed.

Following discussion between members of the Board and Ms. Collard regarding the lack of public comments received regarding the Annual Update, information gathered from a needs assessment, the potential for future collaboration with Public Health and possible increased public input during the MHSA Plan/Annual Update process, it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff, seconded by Supervisor Valenzuela and carried following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to adopt the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY2024-2025.

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division - Public hearing for the first reading of an Ordinance amending the Planned Development and Master Plan document on APN 023-190-510; Township 41 North, Range 9 West, Sections 29 and 32, MDB&M, for the JH Ranch Zone Change (Z-23-06) and Use Permit (UP-24-16) project located outside of the City of Etna CA on French Creek Road. First reading approved; public hearing for the second reading continued to April 15, 2025.

This was the time set for a public hearing for the first reading of an Ordinance amending the Planned Development and Master Plan document on APN 023-190-510; Township 41 North, Range 9 West, Sections 29 and 32, MDB&M, for the JH Ranch Zone Change (Z-23-06) and Use Permit (UP-24-16) project located outside of the City of Etna CA on French Creek Road.

Continued...

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division – (continued)

The Chair opened the public hearing.

Deputy Director of Planning Hailey Lang appeared before the Board and distributed and presented a 20-slide powerpoint presentation regarding the JH Ranch Zone Change and Use Permit project, including an overview of the project location and project description to bring the JH Ranch property into compliance with existing uses, structures, programs and a baseline occupancy of 505 persons from May to September. Ms. Lang advised that the project did not include expansion, new structures, new programs or new uses. Ms. Lang summarized prior Planning approvals (Use Permits, zone changes, etc.) for the property beginning in 1970 to current, and advised that the project is consistent with the County's General Plan, the Scott Valley Area Plan and zoning code. Ms. Lang continued the powerpoint, including an overview of the Planned Development Master Plan that memorialized the various actions taking place at the property. Ms. Lang summarized the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process, intended to inform/guide local governments regarding potential environmental effects of certain actions, and not a decision maker. Ms. Lang provided an overview of the baseline existing conditions happening on the project site, defined substantial evidence and the questions asked to determine baseline conditions. Ms. Lang advised that the project falls under the Class 1 (existing facilities) CEQA exemption as the project is to bring the property into compliance.

Continuing the powerpoint, Ms. Lang advised that, as a Use Permit was not attached to the 1993 Planned Development, the County has been unable to provide enforcement (i.e. occupancy, etc.). Ms. Lang advised that the proposed Use Permit would be enforceable in order to verify that JH Ranch is compliant. Ms. Lang summarized various agency comments that the Planning Department received in addition to opposition public comments received. Ms. Lang provided an overview of Conditions of Approval, including establishment of the 505-person occupancy maximum for summer months, a fire emergency evacuation plan (similar to the Kidder Creek project) and the timeframe and effective date associated with the Planned Development approval. Ms. Lang further advised that the Department would be able to revoke an approved Use Permit should the project proponent not comply with conditions of approval.

Ms. Lang distributed a seven-page document detailing Findings associated with the Resolution to approve the JH Ranch Use Permit (UP-24-16) and determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

In response to Chair Ogren, Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham advised that the Clerk's Office received correspondence regarding this item from Michael Stapleton, Betsy Stapleton, Raquel Schenone, Mike Thomas and Jeanie Thomas.

In response to the Chair and Ms. Winningham, Mr. Carroll advised that the Resolution to approve the JH Ranch Use Permit would not be considered at the current meeting, but continued to the same meeting as the second reading of the proposed zone change ordinance.

Project Proponent JH Ranch Chief of Staff Rob Hinckle appeared before the Board, speaking in support of County staff's efforts to assist JH in developing the Planned Development and Use Permit to establish a baseline of 505-person occupancy during the summer months at JH Ranch. Mr. Hinckle advised that a smaller maintenance team would be onsite during the months of October through April and that a maximum of 100 persons would be allowed on the property during the off-season for any one event.

Mr. Hinckle presented and read into the record, a one-page letter from Dotty's co-owner Brandy Hudson providing support for the positive impacts of JH Ranch on the local economy.

In response to Ms. Winningham, County Counsel Natalie E. Reed advised that the letter should be counted as correspondence and public comment.

Proponent Kurt Weaver appeared before the Board, speaking in support of the JH Ranch project, their services to the community and positive impact on the local economy.

Opponent Kevin Kearsley appeared before the Board, speaking in opposition to Planning's use of the Class 1 CEQA exemption in evaluating the JH Ranch project and in support of a CEQA process to evaluation the camp's water and sewage systems.

Continued...

Public Hearings - Community Development - Planning Division – (continued)

Opponent Betsy Stapleton appeared before the Board, speaking in opposition to the baseline occupancy determination, and advised of the need to enforcement the proposed Use Permit in the future. Ms. Stapleton further shared concerns regarding the need to further enforce the proposed fire evacuation plan.

Opponent Rebecca Schenone appeared before the Board, voicing concerns regarding the need to analyze the camp's water and sewer systems for potential negative impact to the local waterways and potential negative impacts should a fire emergency happen in the area.

Opponent Mike Thomas appeared before the Board, voicing concerns regarding the noise impacts associated with being a neighbor living right next door to the camp and the potential negative impacts on the occasion of a fire emergency.

Audience member Freda Walker appeared before the Board, presenting and summarizing a one-page letter of opposition and concerns regarding the JH Ranch project, with regard to occupancy numbers, water issues and negative impacts associated with a fire evacuation/emergency.

Audience member Kevin Kearsley appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the CEQA review process.

Audience member Jeanie Thomas appeared before the Board, voicing concerns regarding the noise impacts associated with being a neighbor living right next door to the camp and the potential negative impacts related to a fire emergency.

Audience member Matt Thomas appeared before the Board, sharing concerns regarding the need to reevaluate/lower the occupancy determination, research possible water quality impacts from the camp and consider reevaluating the fire evacuation plan.

Ms. Lang responded to comments, advising that CEQA (state law) considers permitted and unauthorized uses in determining historical baseline and that there was a condition of approval that requires the use of a log book to indicate the number of persons on site at the camp which could be viewed by Planning staff at any time. Ms. Lang further advised that the Office of Emergency Services (OES) was working with JH Ranch representatives to develop the fire emergency evacuation plan which would be memorialized within the Master Plan and that the camp has permits with the State for wastewater treatment.

OES Director Bryan Schenone appeared before the Board, summarizing the anticipated process to develop and approve the fire emergency evacuation plan.

In rebuttal, Proponent Rob Hinckle advised of efforts being made to reconfigure the camp's sound system to lower the noise heard by neighbors.

Discussion followed between members of the Board, Ms. Lang and Mr. Schenone regarding the 505-person maximum occupancy that includes staff, the anticipated code enforcement efforts used to determine the camp's compliance to the Use Permit, fines allowed in the code enforcement process, fire evacuation routes and the fire warning zone process, the State's purview over the wastewater system and the anticipated timing for approval of the fire emergency evacuation MOU prior to adoption of the zone change ordinance and Use Permit.

It was moved by Supervisor Haupt, seconded by Supervisor Kobseff and carried following a roll call vote with Supervisors Valenzuela, Haupt, Harris, Kobseff and Ogren voting YES, to Introduce, waive, and approve the first reading of the ordinance, amending the Planned Development of APN 023-190-510, schedule a second reading of the ordinance on April 15, 2025 and continue the Resolution approving the JH Ranch Use Permit (24-16) and the project's categorical exemption to April 15, 2025.

Public Hearings - Community Development – Planning Division - Discussion, direction and possible action re Resolution to approve the JH Ranch Use Permit (UP-24-16) and determine the project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Continued to April 15, 2025.

This item was continued to April 15, 2025 by motion during the discussion of the previous agenda item.

Closed Session - Personnel pursuant to Government Code §54957, consider public employee performance evaluation for the position of County Counsel, conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), two cases, conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4), one case, commenced at 11:59 a.m., concluded at 12:56 p.m.

Report On Closed Session

County Counsel Natalie E. Reed announced that closed session concluded at 12:56 p.m., with reportable action taken.

With regard to item 11C, Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), name of case: Scott Branigan v. Siskiyou County, Siskiyou County Superior Court, Case No. 25CV01767, Ms. Reed advised that it was moved by Supervisor Kobseff and seconded by Supervisor Ogren and carried with a unanimous vote of YES to authorize defense of suit and representation by Liebert Cassidy Whitmore.

Board and Staff Reports

County Administrator Angela Davis advised that budget season had started as County departments had been sent the necessary FY 25/26 budget documents.

Supervisor Valenzuela reported on a trip he took to Washington DC including discussions regarding the Forest Service and possible passage of the updated Secure Rural Schools Act. Supervisor Valenzuela advised that he would follow up with the City of Mt. Shasta regarding public comment from earlier in the meeting and plowing of Everitt Memorial Highway.

Supervisor Haupt reported on phone calls with American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) representatives regarding update to the North West Forest Plan and calls with Deputy Under Secretary of the Interior Karen Budd-Falen concerning grazing and North West Forest Plan issues.

Supervisor Harris advised of his attendance at livestock pass training with the UC Extension, a meeting with Plant Sciences in Macdoel, a Siskiyou County Gun Owners meeting, a Shasta Producers meeting, a UC Extension Evapotranspiration (ET) meeting, a Dorris Lions Club meeting, a Siskiyou Conservative Republicans lunch and Farm Bureau meeting.

Supervisor Ogren advised of her attendance at a Continuum of Care (COC) Advisory Board meeting, a Siskiyou Fire Safe Council meeting, a PSA 2 Executive Board meeting and a Behavioral Health Services Board meeting.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Nancy Ogren, Chair

By: _____
Deputy