



STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SIERRA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING

**Lee Adams, Chair, District 1**

P.O. Box 1 - Downieville, CA 95936 - 530-289-3506 - [supervisor1@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:supervisor1@sierracounty.ca.gov)

**Peter W. Huebner, Vice-Chair, District 2**

P.O. Box 349 - Sierra City, CA 96125 - 530-565-6055 - [phuebner@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:phuebner@sierracounty.ca.gov)

**Paul Roen, District 3**

P.O. Box 43 - Calpine, CA 96124 - 209-479-2770 - [supervisor3@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:supervisor3@sierracounty.ca.gov)

**Terry LeBlanc, District 4**

P.O. Box 387 - Loyalton, CA 96118 - 707-489-0314 - [tbleblanc@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:tbleblanc@sierracounty.ca.gov)

**Sharon Dryden, District 5**

P.O. Box 246 - Loyalton, CA 96118 - 530-913-9218 - [sdryden@sierracounty.ca.gov](mailto:sdryden@sierracounty.ca.gov)

The Sierra County Board of Supervisors met in regular session commencing at 9:00 a.m. on April 20, 2021. This meeting was recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors' website at [www.sierracounty.ca.gov](http://www.sierracounty.ca.gov).

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Supervisor LeBlanc

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Lee Adams, Supervisor, Chair, District #1  
Peter W. Huebner, Supervisor, Vice Chair, District #2  
Paul Roen, Supervisor, District #3  
Terry LeBlanc, Supervisor, District #4  
Sharon Dryden, Supervisor, District #5

**Staff:** Heather Foster, County Clerk-Recorder  
David Prentice, County Counsel  
Van Maddox, Auditor/Treasurer Tax Collector  
Tim Beals, Director of Planning/Public Works/Transportation/OES  
Lea Salas, Director of Behavioral Health  
Vickie Clark, Director of Health and Social Services  
Margaret Long, Personnel Director

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## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

At the request of the Clerk, Items 11.G. and 11.J. were removed from the Consent Agenda.

- 11.G. Advance authorization to purchase ride on Husqvarna Mower for Sierraville School in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. (PUBLIC WORKS)
- 11.J. Minutes from the special meeting held on March 25, 2021. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Board moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

**APPROVED as amended.** Motion: Dryden/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **11. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 11.A. Resolution adopting the pay tables for the County of Sierra and Special Revenue Funds. (AUDITOR)

**ADOPTED,** Resolution 2021-052

- 11.B. Assignment of Agreement 2019-141 between Kings View Corporation and Sierra County to Kings View Professional Services (KVPS). (BEHAVIORAL HEALTH)

**APPROVED,** Agreement 2021-033

- 11.C. Rescind the Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement 2021-023) between the County of Sierra and Nor-Cal Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC). (BEHAVIORAL HEALTH)
- 11.D. Resolution approving the submittal of an application for the Local Enforcement Agency Grant and authorizing Director or Designee to execute the necessary application for the securing of grant funds. (PUBLIC HEALTH)

**ADOPTED,** Resolution 2021-053

- 11.E. Resolution approving the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Amendment A01 to Agreement No. 19-10190, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutritional Program, and Authorizing the Director of Public Health, or designee, to sign the standard agreement and all invoices to secure funds. (PUBLIC HEALTH)

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**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-054 and **APPROVED**, Agreement 2021-034

- 11.F. Resolution approving an Amendment to Agreement 2021-007 between the County of Sierra and Downieville Fire Protection District for the provision of COVID-19 testing efforts through fiscal year 2021-22 and authorizing Vickie Clark, Director, to sign the amendment. (PUBLIC HEALTH)

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-055 and **APPROVED**, Agreement 2021-035

- 11.H. Approval of Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the USDA, Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest, Agreement No. 21-CS-11051700-028, relative to the Greene Acres Forest Health Planning Project. (PUBLIC WORKS)

**APPROVED**, Agreement 2021-036

- 11.I. Resolution adopting the Sierra County Electronic Signature Policy. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-056

## **APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA**

The Board moved to approve the Regular Agenda.

**APPROVED.** Motion: Huebner/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

At 9:05 a.m. Chair Adams opened and closed the public comment opportunity.

Comments were received by Bill Stewart requesting an opportunity to discuss fuels reductions and defensible space in the community of Verdi, CA with the Board at the next meeting.

Chair Adams suggested Mr. Stewart submit a request to the Clerk for the next Board meeting.

At 9:08 a.m. Chair Adams closed the public comment opportunity with no further persons addressing the Board.

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Supervisor Roen reported on a recent meeting with the North Yuba Partnership and working towards conducting interviews for the NEPA and CEQA contracts for the projects.

Chair Adams reported on the upcoming CSAC meeting to be held this Thursday via Zoom and the Sierra County Historical Society meeting last Friday regarding the Jim Crow Road name issue.

**4. DEPARTMENT MANAGERS' REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Director of Health and Social Services reported on some contention with a few of the big medical groups who are upset with the letter of intent the Board previously approved pertaining to the change in the Regional Managed Care MediCal agreement.

**5. FOREST SERVICE UPDATE**

Sierraville District Ranger Quentin Youngblood reported on the soft opening of the Upper Little Truckee Campground; working on proposals for fuels reduction with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy; and discussions regarding opening their offices soon once all COVID-19 measures are in place.

Supervisor Dryden commented on the discussion at the Local Transportation Commission meeting regarding the FLAP grant applications for Smithneck Road, Henness Pass Road, and Gold Lake Road and questioned whether there has been any discussion regarding the support of the Forest Service on these applications.

Ranger Youngblood clarified that the Forest Service is 100% in support of these applications and will work with the Director of Planning and Bryan Davey to move these projects along.

Yuba River District Ranger Lon Henderson reported on various matters going on in the District, including the Greene Acres project, Aspen Meadows Restoration project, the opening of campgrounds, and tree mitigation measures at the Chapman Campground.

The Director of Planning provided an update on the FLAP program and needing to hold meetings with the Plumas and Tahoe National Forests regarding these projects.

**6. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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- 6.A. CONTINUED COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY UPDATE: Report from Sierra County Public Health, County Office of Emergency Services, County Department Managers, Forest Service Representatives, and other local agencies on recent developments relating developments to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and possible action/direction to staff. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Director of Health reported on the impacts to the Department from the loss of the Program Manager and Epidemiologist; the number of COVID-19 cases stabilizing and ICU and hospital numbers going down; Sierra County remaining in the Yellow Tier; the statewide Blueprint vaccination metrics; testing and positivity rates within the County; and still doing the Optum Serve site on Thursdays.

The County Health Officer provided background on putting the pause on the Johnson and Johnson vaccine due to the blood clotting issue.

The Director of Health indicated they will be adding another question to the vaccine form along with providing additional information to consumers as a result of the issue with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

The Director continued to report on vaccine availability and the opening of vaccine eligibility to all citizens 16 years and above.

The Director further expressed concerns regarding having received their first request to sign the ABC (Alcohol and Beverage Control) daily license for a special event in Forest City as ABC is now requiring Public Health to sign off on these applications.

The Director of Public Works explained that ABC currently requires sign off by the County Sheriff and the property owner on the applications and he does not see any liability or issues by adding Public Health to the sign off.

Brief discussion ensued pertaining to the minimal amount of ABC applications received by the County each year.

The County Health Officer commented on 53% of the State's population having been vaccinated and that she believes the County can open in June.

Supervisor Roen commented he would like to get back to some sense of normalcy as most of the staff are vaccinated and he believes the County can move forward with reopening the Courthouse.

Following brief discussion and by consensus, the Board directed the Department Managers to bring forward a draft policy on reopening County offices at the next Board meeting.

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Supervisor Roen requested clarification of essential workers and how the County mitigates going forward when there is an exposure.

Personnel Analyst Judi Behlke indicated that she will be bringing forward a revised travel policy at the next Board meeting.

The Director of OES reported on receiving notice of a second round of availability of certain PPE items from the Sierra Business Council's grant program, and the County receiving \$200,000 in funding from the Coronavirus Relief Appropriations Act for transportation projects.

The Auditor reported on NACo's guidelines for the American Rescue Plan Act funding and the requirement to submit the name and title of the County's authorized representative.

By consensus, the Board authorized the Auditor to be the authorized representative for the County with respect to the American Rescue Plan Act funding.

6.B. Discussion/direction regarding potential opportunities to promote tourism for Sierra County. (SUPERVISOR LE BLANC)

Supervisor LeBlanc provided background on a potential opportunity to promote tourism for the County through Todd Brusco head of Rock Star which is an umbrella for seven radio stations in Reno.

Discussion ensued with the Board.

Following discussion, Chair Adams suggested Supervisor LeBlanc make Mr. Brusco aware of the two Chambers, the Downieville Improvement Group, and the Sierra County Visitors Bureau as they might be interested in acquiring radio spots.

6.C. Appointment to the Sierra County (Calpine) Waterworks District #1. (CLERK OF THE BOARD)

The Board moved to appoint JoAnn Chesney to the Sierra County (Calpine) Waterworks District #1.

**APPROVED.** Motion: Roen/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **10. CLERK-RECORDER/ELECTIONS - HEATHER FOSTER**

10.A. Discussion/direction to staff regarding procedures to be used to implement redistricting requirements following the 2020 census.

The Clerk briefly commented on the number of changes in the redistricting process.

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The Personnel Director presented a PowerPoint to the Board outlining the redistricting process.

Following discussion and by consensus, the Board directed conducting the 2020 redistricting in-house.

Board discussion ensued regarding the current Supervisorial District boundaries.

The Assessor commented on the use of the County's GIS contractor (Cal CAD Solutions) for the 2010 census mapping and suggested obtaining a quote for the upcoming redistricting if the Board is going to do this in-house.

Following brief discussion and by consensus, the Board directed the Assessor to move forward with obtaining a quote from the County's GIS contractor.

## **7. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - LEA SALAS**

7.A. Resolution approving the utilization of the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Programs (HMIOT) unspent funds towards the No Place Like Home Project (NPLH) and authorizing the Auditor to encumber \$80,509.67.

The Director of Behavioral Health provided background on the HMIOT unspent funds and the request to use these funds towards the No Place Like Home Project.

Supervisor Dryden thanked the Director for trying to find a way to accommodate the needs of this population in the County.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the utilization of the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Programs (HMIOT) unspent funds towards the No Place Like Home Project (NPLH) and authorizing the Auditor to encumber \$80,509.67.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-057. Motion: Dryden/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

7.B. Resolution authorizing Sierra County Behavioral Health to opt-out of Assembly Bill (AB) 1976 Mental Health Services: Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), also known as Laura's Law.

The Director of Behavioral Health provided detailed background on Laura's Law and the decision to opt-out as the County does not have the resources to meet the mandate.

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Supervisor Adams commented that the Board does not take this decision lightly and they are not shirking the County's responsibility, rather just doing it another way.

The Board moved to adopt the resolution authorizing Sierra County Behavioral Health to opt-out of Assembly Bill (AB) 1976 Mental Health Services: Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), also known as Laura's Law.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-058. Motion: Roen/LeBlanc/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **8. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES - VICKIE CLARK**

- 8.A. Resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Addendum between the California Government Operations Agency and the County of Sierra and authorizing the Public Health Director, or designee, to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and Addendum.

The Director of Health reviewed the current vaccination numbers within the County and the edited transition document she recently received, which included changes to the potential capacity to administer up to 500 vaccines and the removal of the statement that the Eastern Plumas Health Clinic is running a hospital in Loyalton.

The Director continued to explain that they are actively engaged with Optum Serve and doing the setup for the volume vaccination site at the Sierraville School. With respect to the issue with the MyTurn application, it is no longer under the pressure of the proposed agreement, rather this requirement has been put on all counties through the California Department of Public Health.

Supervisor Roen commented on his request to the Director of Health last Thursday for a summary of her frustrations, which was forwarded up the chain to the Governor and hopefully helps make some of these changes moving forward.

The Director further commented that Sierra County is the only county that has not signed the contract except for Alpine County as they are 200% vaccinated.

Following discussion, the Board moved to adopt the resolution approving the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Addendum between the California Government Operations Agency and the County of Sierra and authorizing the Public Health Director, or designee, to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and Addendum.

**ADOPTED**, Resolution 2021-059 and **APPROVED**, Agreement 2021-037. Motion: Roen/Huebner/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **9. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - TIM BEALS**



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9.A. Discussion and direction to staff regarding the Proposed Phase 1 Decision Revising Electric Rule 20 and Enhancing Program Oversight.

The Director of Public Works commented on the California Public Utility Commission moving forward with an action to take over and cease the Rule 20 Program and CSAC's memorandum sent to all counties regarding the decision making with respect to this program. The Director further expressed concerns with what this decision will do to this funding source as if it is taken away, the County will have to find another source of funding or not complete the active project in Sierra City.

The Director suggested sending an email to the CPUC alerting them that the County has an active project and request that they not make any decisions jeopardizing this project.

In response to Supervisor Dryden's inquiry, the Director explained there is approximately \$400,000 in the account and it usually generates around \$15,000-\$20,000 per year. This is a very expensive project and the \$400,000 would not cover the lines under the Sierra Pines Resort.

By consensus, the Board directed the Director to send an email to the CPUC.

9.B. Discussion and direction to staff with regard to the Immediate Action Wildfire and Forest Resilience Grant Program.

The Director of Public Works commented on the Immediate Action Wildfire and Forest Resilience Grant Program which puts the Sierra Nevada Conservancy in the driver seat for a significant amount of funding for "shovel ready projects". The Director further expressed the need for additional resources if the County is going to compete for these funds.

Supervisor Roen expressed support of engaging the County Forester and Sierra County Fire Safe Council to move forward with securing funding to get treatment done on the westside of the County.

Supervisor Roen also encouraged Chair Adams to engage with RCRC as there are discussions right now with Cal Fire regarding block grants for counties to get treatment done.

The Director referred to the current agreement in place with Danielle Bradfield for forestry services in the amount of \$10,000 and would request authorization to move forward under the existing agreement.

By consensus, the Board authorized the Director to move forward with the approved funding and agreement for forestry services.

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The Director further indicated his intent to have a discussion regarding a budget and priorities at the May 4, 2021 Board meeting.

9.C. Discussion and action with regard to lifting moratorium on issuance of permits for special events.

Following brief discussion, the Board moved to remove moratorium on the issuance of permits for special events and directed the Director of Public Works to obtain concurrence with the Health Department on any applications filed.

The Director of Health Vickie commented that they developed an MOU on their side for special events and have been working with the Department of Public Works on this.

**APPROVED.** Motion: Dryden/Roen/Unanimous Roll Call Vote: 5/0

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

12.A. Notice of preparation to harvest timber by Christopher and Allison Beardsley for Cal Fire. Project is located approximately 4 miles north-east of Downieville, California.

No action taken.

## **ADJOURN**

At 11:51 a.m., with no further business, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting.

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LEE ADAMS, CHAIR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

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HEATHER FOSTER  
CLERK OF THE BOARD