

SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tuesday, May 27, 2025

REGULAR MEETING

9:00 a.m.: Chair Crye called the Regular Session of the Board of Supervisors to order on the above date with the following present:

- District No. 1 - Supervisor Crye
- District No. 2 - Supervisor Long
- District No. 3 - Supervisor Harmon
- District No. 4 - Supervisor Plummer
- District No. 5 - Supervisor Kelstrom

County Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board - David J. Rickert
 County Counsel - Joseph Larmour
 Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board - Stefany Blankenship

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Pastor Rioboe Mabugay, Anderson Seventh-Day Adventist Church/Shasta Lake Bible Fellowship.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Supervisor Kelstrom.

REGULAR CALENDAR

BOARD MATTERS

MAY 2025 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
PATRICIA "PATTI" DIVINE, SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-043

There was no public comment.

By motion made, seconded (Plummer/Crye), and unanimously carried, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2025-043 which recognizes Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency Senior Social Worker Patricia "Patti" Divine as Shasta County's Employee of the Month for May 2025.

(See Resolution Book No. 75)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

County Executive Officer (CEO) David J. Rickert presented an update on County issues and specific legislation of importance to Shasta County, including an update on the federal Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025.

SUPERVISORS' REPORTS

Supervisor Long reported on issues of countywide interest.

Supervisor Kelstrom reported on issues of countywide interest.

By consensus, the Board directed staff to place on an upcoming agenda a letter in support of preserving the dams at North Battle Creek Reservoir and McCumber Reservoir.

Supervisor Harmon reported on issues of countywide interest.

Supervisor Plummer reported on issues of countywide interest.

Supervisor Crye reported on issues of countywide interest.

PRESENTATION: MEDICAL SCHOOL AND RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Chriss Street, healthcare consultant, gave a presentation regarding the potential establishment of a medical school and residency program to encourage the growth of healthcare options and providers in Shasta County. Dr. Paul Dhanuka, Redding City Council Member, also spoke about and in support of the proposal.

David Hallagan, Dolores Lucero, Leslie, and Eris spoke during public comment.

9:55 a.m.: Per Government Code section 54957.9, due to willful disruption that prevented the meeting from being conducted in an orderly fashion, Chair Crye ordered the room cleared except for members of the media, and the Board of Supervisors recessed.

10:02 a.m.: The Board of Supervisors reconvened. Members of the public returned to the room.

In response to questions by Supervisor Plummer, Mr. Street discussed the potential for a medical school to increase local healthcare providers, as well as how the cost for establishing the school could be repaid through tuition and increased revenue in the county. He also spoke about the possibility of partnering with an established local educational institution and how residencies for medical students could work.

In response to questions by Supervisors Long and Harmon, Mr. Street spoke about federal grant opportunities to assist with building the proposed school and timelines for students to graduate, complete their residencies, and begin contributing to the community.

A motion was made by Supervisor Plummer to amend the consulting contract with Chriss Street to expand the Scope of Work to include requests for letters of current and future support for the effort to establish a medical school in the County from local physician groups and the three local health systems, the creation of a clinical rotations feasibility model, and the development of plans for a clinical rotation testing pilot.

After conversation with Supervisor Kelstrom, Supervisor Plummer amended the motion to include researching potential grants for the establishment of a medical school. Supervisor Kelstrom seconded the amended motion.

After input from County Counsel Joseph Larmour, Supervisor Plummer further amended the motion to direct staff to place on a future Board agenda an amended consulting contract to include the specified Scope of Work amendments.

After additional comment from Dr. Dhanuka regarding the support for the project from local groups as well as a potential rival effort in Chico, Supervisor Kelstrom withdrew his second.

A substitute motion was made by Supervisor Kelstrom to continue with the consulting contract as written. Supervisor Crye clarified that such a motion was not necessary and Supervisor Kelstrom withdrew his motion.

Supervisor Long seconded Supervisor Plummer's motion.

In response to questions by Supervisor Harmon, CEO Rickert discussed the direction given to the consultant in the current contract and spoke about the research done by Mr. Street and Supervisor Plummer. He also described the potential for state and federal funding for a medical school as proposed by Mr. Street and stated that additional experts would be consulted before proposals were brought back to the Board.

A motion was made and seconded (Plummer/Long) to amend the consulting contract with Chriss Street to expand the Scope of Work to include requests for letters of current and future support for the effort to establish a medical school in the County from local physician groups and the three local health systems, the creation of a clinical rotations feasibility model, and the development of plans for a clinical rotation testing pilot. The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Long and Plummer
NOES: Supervisors Kelstrom, Crye, and Harmon

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN TIME

Lori Bridgeford, Susan Weiss, Jaclyn Tredway, Rich Gallardo, Kim Moore, Delbert Davis, Larry S., David Hallagan, Dolores Lucero, Jeff Gorder, Leslie, Judy Salter, Moe, Steve Kohn, Benjamin Nowain, C. Gardinier, Laura, Michele, KC, Ghost, and Dan spoke during public comment - open time.

CONSENT CALENDAR

By motion made, seconded (Kelstrom/Plummer), and unanimously carried, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions, which were listed on the Consent Calendar:

Took the following actions: Approved an agreement with Youth Violence Prevention Council of Shasta County, dba Youth Options Shasta, in the amount of \$250,000 annually for the period of June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2027, with an option for the Board to approve an additional two-year term, for a total of \$1,000,000, for youth substance use education and prevention services; approved an agreement with Shasta County Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council, dba Raising Shasta, in the amount of \$1,750,000 for the period of June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2027, with an option for the Board to approve an additional two-year term for an additional \$1,250,000 for a total of \$3,000,000 for youth substance use education and prevention services; waived provisions which require advance payments be required to earn interest and apply interest to reduce the contract price as set in Administrative Policy 6-101, *Shasta County Contracts Manual*; and approved a budget amendment which increases appropriations by \$100,000 in the Opioid Settlement Budget (BU 430) offset by use of fund balance. (County Administrative Office)

Resolution No. 2025-044, which: Repeals Resolution No. 2023-017; and designates signing authority for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services under the Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance for Disasters and/or the California Disaster Assistance Act for a period of three years to the Shasta County: Sheriff; Fire Chief; County Executive Officer, or their designee; and Public Works Director. (County Administrative Office)
(See Resolution Book No. 75)

Approved a renewal lease agreement with Parlay Investments, Inc., for 13,500 square feet of office space at 1313 Yuba Street, City of Redding for a one-year term with three one-year options beginning at a rate of \$12,322.80 per month. (County Administrative Office)

Approved a budget amendment which increases appropriations by \$825,000 in the Miscellaneous General Budget (BU 173) offset by a decrease in appropriations by \$825,000 in the Reserves for Contingencies Budget (BU 900). (County Administrative Office)

Approved an agreement with Megabyte Property Tax Systems, Inc., with no maximum compensation, for software support, an Online Business Property Statement Filing module, webservices and maintenance and a Tax Collector's Transient Occupancy Tax module for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. (Assessor-Recorder)

Took the following actions: Approved a renewal agreement with Fifth Asset, Inc., dba DebtBook, for Lease and Subscription Based IT Arrangements management software-as-a-service application for Governmental Accounting Standards Board financial reporting requirements for a maximum compensation of \$34,200.00 for a period of May 20, 2025, through May 19, 2028; and designated authority to the Auditor-Controller, or their designee, to sign amendments and future renewals that do not exceed a 15% price increase and otherwise comply with Administrative Policy 6-101, *Shasta County Contracts Manual*. (Auditor-Controller)

Approved a letter of support for Assembly Bill 303: Battery Energy Safety & Accountability Act and a letter of opposition to Senate Bill 681: Housing. (Board of Supervisors)

Approved a renewal agreement with J. Reid McKellar, Ph.D., in an amount not to exceed \$115,000, for individual psychological evaluations, adoption psychological evaluations, parent/child bonding assessments, sibling assessments and court services, for three years beginning the last date it is signed by both parties. (Health and Human Services Agency-Behavioral Health and Social Services)

Approved a retroactive amendment to the agreement with Regents of the University of California, dba University of California, Davis, for psychological evaluations, adoption psychological evaluations, psychotherapy, parent and child bonding assessments and sibling assessments, which increases the hourly rates by \$50 each and extends the term by one year, beginning March 12, 2025, and ending March 11, 2026, while maintaining the original maximum compensation of \$120,000 for the entire contract term of March 12, 2024, through March 11, 2026. (Health and Human Services Agency-Behavioral Health and Social Services)

Adopted a proclamation which designates June 2025, as "*Elder Abuse Awareness Month*" in Shasta County. (Health and Human Services Agency-Behavioral Health and Social Services)

Approved an amendment to the agreement with David A. Lawrence, Inc., dba Lawrence & Associates, for on-call engineering services which increases maximum compensation by \$100,000 for a new maximum compensation of \$150,000, retaining the term. (Public Works)

Waived competitive procurement requirements in Administrative Policy 6-101, *Shasta County Contracts Manual*, and Shasta County Code Section 3.04.020 on the basis of an urgency to prevent loss or damage to property and approve the purchase of one permanent emergency generator for the "CSA No. 3-Castella Intake Replacement Project," Contract No. 610956, from Bay City Electric Works in an amount not to exceed \$72,646. (Public Works)

Approved a budget amendment which increases appropriations by \$190,000, offset by use of retained earnings, in the CSA 6 Jones Vly Wtr (Elk Trl) Budget (BU 0377). (Public Works)

Approved a budget amendment which increases appropriations and revenue by \$120,000 in the CSA 13 Alpine Mdws Swr/Wtr Budget (BU 0384) for the "CSA 13 Extraordinary Maintenance Project." (Public Works)

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-045, which: Finds an emergency exists that will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids to repair the sewer line pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 1102, 20134, and 22050; designates authority to the Public Works Director to take all actions necessary to remedy the emergency pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050(b)(1); waives the requirements for competitive bidding or giving notice for bids for contracts to perform modification work to the sewer line pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050; finds the project to repair the sewer line to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15302(c) for replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity and Section 5269(b) for emergency repairs to publicly or privately owned service facilities necessary to maintain service essential to

the public health, safety, or welfare; and approved budget amendments which decrease appropriations and revenue by \$130,000 in the Land Buildings and Improvement Budget (BU 166) and transfer appropriations in the amount of \$58,500 in the MHSA Adult Services Budget (BU 404) and \$71,500 in the Social Services Admin Budget (BU 501). (Public Works)

(See Resolution Book No. 75)

Adopted Policy Resolution No. 2025-02, which amends Administrative Policy 8-103, *Fleet Management Program*, to update provisions to be in line with County policies and procedures and add provisions related to telematics. (Public Works)

(See Policy Resolution Book)

Took the following actions regarding the “2025 Redding Regional Septage Impoundment 1B Cleanout Project,” Contract No. 207613, (Contract): Rejected the bid from Synagro-WWT, Inc., as non-responsive; awarded the Contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Iron Mountain General Engineering, Inc., on a unit cost basis in the amount of \$583,000; and approved and authorized the Public Works Director, or their designee, to sign a Notice of Completion and record it within 15 days of actual completion of the work. (Public Works)

Approved a renewal agreement with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for housing and training of Shasta County inmates in State Fire Camps in the amount not to exceed \$100,970 for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028. (Sheriff-Jail)

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-046, which authorizes expenditures for the Jail Based Competency Treatment program (Program) related items for positive reinforcement and to incentivize inmates to participate in the Program not to exceed \$10,000.00 per Fiscal Year. (Sheriff-Jail)

(See Resolution Book No. 75)

REGULAR CALENDAR, CONTINUED

COUNTY CLERK/ELECTIONS

SHASTA COUNTY ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Clint Curtis, County Clerk/Registrar of Voters, discussed the proposed ordinance to repeal Shasta County Code Chapter 2.07, *Elections Commission*, and stated his support for amending the meeting schedule of the Shasta County Elections Commission (SCEC) rather than ending it.

Lori Bridgeford, Rich Gallardo, Dolores Lucero, Patty Plumb, Bev, Laura, Antonia, Michele, Jim Burnett, KC, Dan, Ronnean, Margaret Hansen, and C. Gardinier spoke during public comment.

A motion was made by Supervisor Long to adopt the proposed ordinance. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The Board declined to approve "*An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Shasta Repealing Shasta County Code Chapter 2.07, Elections Commission.*"

PRESENTATION: ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG SERVICES HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Bailey Cogger, Deputy Branch Director of Health and Human Services Agency-Behavioral Health and Social Services, gave a presentation regarding alcohol and other drug services, as well as their funding, legislation, and service numbers.

There was no public comment.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Crye announced that the Board of Supervisors would recess to a Closed Session to take the following actions:

Confer with legal counsel to discuss existing litigation entitled *Rood v. Lockwood, et al.* (United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case #2:19:CV-01806-KJM-AC), *Littlefield, et al. v. County of Shasta, et al.* (United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case #2:25-CV-01292-DMC), and *Gorder v. David J. Rickert, County of Shasta and its Board of Supervisors* (Shasta County Superior Court, Case #25CV-0207689), pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d), paragraph (1); and

Confer with legal counsel to discuss one case of anticipated litigation, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d), paragraph (4).

There was no public comment.

12:24 p.m.: The Board of Supervisors recessed to Closed Session.

1:02 p.m.: The Board of Supervisors returned from Closed Session and reconvened in Open Session with all Supervisors, County Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board David J. Rickert, and County Counsel Joseph Larmour present.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

County Counsel Joseph Larmour reported that the Board of Supervisors met in Closed Session to discuss existing litigation and anticipated litigation.

Regarding existing litigation entitled *Littlefield, et al. v. County of Shasta, et al.* (United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case #2:25-CV-01292-DMC), the Board of Supervisors, by a 5-0 vote, gave direction to hire outside counsel to defend the case.

Regarding existing litigation entitled *Gorder v. David J. Rickert, County of Shasta and its Board of Supervisors* (Shasta County Superior Court, Case #25CV-0207689), the Board of Supervisors, by a 5-0 vote, gave direction to hire outside counsel to defend the case.

There was no other reportable action.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OPINION RESEARCH REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Erin Bertain, Deputy County Executive Officer, described the proposed Request for Proposals (RFP) for hiring a consultant to complete the Strategic Plan (Plan) public engagement activities to ensure that the Plan reflects the priorities of the public, as based on the recommendations of the ad hoc committee for developing the Plan. Ms. Bertain stated that the Board had previously agreed that the public engagement and information gathering should be completed by a neutral third party to ensure there was no undue influence by the members of the Board or County staff. She explained that the proposed RFP had not specified the maximum compensation for the consultant in order for the Board to consider and give direction on the amount, and recommended approval with a specified maximum compensation.

There was no public comment.

The Board discussed the proposed RFP and possible costs. Ms. Bertain recommended a maximum compensation of no more than \$50,000 and advised not to open an RFP with no specified amount.

In response to questions by Supervisor Crye, CEO Rickert stated that his focus with the Plan was on long-term capital projects and efficient utilization of resources, and that the addition of the community engagement component was at the Board's discretion. Supervisor Plummer stated that the objective of the consultant was to present a set of priorities for goals for the County that was derived from the community, department heads, and staff, which would be used as the foundation for development of the Plan.

A motion was made by Supervisor Crye to cap the maximum compensation at \$10,000 and direct Nolda Short, Auditor-Controller; Erin Bertain, Deputy County Executive Officer; County Executive Officer David J. Rickert; and Supervisors Plummer and Long to work with the consultant and bring something back to the Board by early August.

In response to questions by Supervisor Long, Mr. Larmour stated that the Board would be able to bring the RFP back in the future to modify its terms.

A substitute motion was made and seconded (Plummer/Long) to approve the RFP as proposed with a \$50,000 maximum compensation. The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Supervisors Long and Plummer
NOES: Supervisors Kelstrom, Crye, and Harmon

By motion made, seconded (Crye/Kelstrom), and carried 3-2 by roll call vote with Supervisors Plummer and Long voting no, the Board of Supervisors approved the Request for Proposals for Community Engagement and Opinion Research for the Development of a Strategic Plan with maximum compensation of \$10,000 and directed staff to bring the item back to the Board in early August 2025.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

ALTERNATELY STAFFED LEGAL SECRETARY I/II CLASSIFICATIONS

Stephanie Bridgett, District Attorney, presented the staff report, described the proposed changes to the Legal Secretary classification, and recommended approval. Ms. Bridgett clarified that the proposed classification changes would impact other County departments, including the Public Defender, County Counsel, and Probation, and that all affected departments had agreed with the proposed changes. She discussed the importance of legal secretaries, the workload of the position, and the need to offer advancement opportunities to increase County retention of experienced employees.

There was no public comment.

In response to questions by Supervisor Long, Ms. Bridgett discussed the cost of the proposed classification changes and clarified how the additional level and classification steps would affect promotions.

The Board discussed the proposed classification changes and the possibility of bringing the proposed changes back as part of the budget hearings in June.

A motion was made by Supervisor Long to approve the proposed classification changes. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The Board declined to direct staff to create alternately staffed Legal Secretary I/II classifications.

PRESENTATIONS, CONTINUED

**INMATE HEALTHCARE AND SERVICES IN SHASTA COUNTY JAIL
WELLPATH**

Jessica Mazlum, Vice President, Business Development and Partner Services; and Veilvete Hood, Regional Vice President, Local Government, discussed the inmate healthcare and services offered by WellPath in the Shasta County Jail. Ms. Mazlum explained that the company had declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy in 2024 due to a combination of challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation, and increased medical wages, but had successfully completed their financial restructuring as of May 8, 2025, and emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

In response to questions by Supervisor Plummer, Ms. Mazlum discussed the circumstances that led to the company's 2024 bankruptcy and their resulting structural changes. Ms. Mazlum and Ms. Hood described ongoing cost reduction strategies and how ongoing inflation and wage increases had affected their contracted rates.

There was no public comment.

**OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS IN SHASTA COUNTY
SHASTA SUBSTANCE USE COALITION**

Jill B. Phillips, Founder and Lead Consultant of the Shasta Substance Use Coalition, gave a presentation regarding opioid overdose deaths in Shasta County and the Shasta Substance Use Coalition's ongoing efforts to reduce harmful substance use, overdoses, and overdose-related deaths, and their plans to increase treatment and available data in the future.

There was no public comment.

SCHEDULED HEARINGS

PUBLIC WORKS

**VACATION OF EASEMENT ON PORTION OF TAMARACK AVENUE, BURNEY AREA
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-047**

This was the time set to conduct a public hearing to consider vacating an easement on a portion of Tamarack Avenue in the Burney area. The Notice of Public Hearing and the Notice of Publication are on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Brandon Magby, Real Property and Right of Way Agent, presented the staff report, described the proposed abandonment, and recommended approval.

In response to questions by Supervisor Long, Brandon confirmed there is no monetary worth to the County, as the public road is no longer there and the County is preserving its right to access for public utilities.

Deputy County Executive Officer Stewart Buettell confirmed that any correspondence received related to the hearing had been entered into the record.

The public hearing was opened; no one spoke for or against the matter, and the public hearing was closed.

By motion made, seconded (Harmon/Crye), and unanimously carried, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions: Conducted a public hearing; and adopted Resolution No. 2025-047, which finds a public easement, being a portion of Tamarack Avenue, located in the Burney area (Easement) and specifically identified in the Legal Description attached to the Resolution submitted herewith, is not necessary for current or future public use and orders the

vacation of the Easement for road and utility purposes, reserving the rights for any existing utilities, located in the unincorporated area of Shasta County.

(See Resolution Book No. 75)

VACATION OF ACCESS RIGHTS ONTO BEAR MOUNTAIN ROAD
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-048

This was the time set to conduct a public hearing to consider vacating previously relinquished access rights onto Bear Mountain Road (County Road No. 5H04). The Notice of Public Hearing and the Notice of Publication are on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Brandon Magby, Real Property and Right of Way Agent, presented the staff report, described the proposed abandonment of the relinquished access rights, and recommended approval.

Deputy County Executive Officer Stewart Buettell confirmed that any correspondence received related to the hearing had been entered into the record.

The public hearing was opened.

Mario Callegari, the property owner, spoke in favor of the abandonment.

No one else spoke for or against the matter, and the public hearing was closed.

By motion made, seconded (Plummer/Kelstrom), and unanimously carried, the Board of Supervisors took the following actions: Conducted a public hearing; and adopted Resolution No. 2025-048, which finds the previously relinquished access rights (Access Rights) onto Bear Mountain Road (County Road No. 5H04) and specifically identified in the Legal Description attached to the Resolution submitted herewith, are not necessary for current or future public use and orders the vacation of the Access Rights.

(See Resolution Book No. 75)

2:11 p.m.: The Shasta County Board of Supervisors recessed and reconvened as the Shasta County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority Governing Board.

2:12 p.m.: The Shasta County IHSS Public Authority Governing Board adjourned and reconvened as the Shasta County Water Agency.

2:13 p.m.: The Shasta County Water Agency adjourned and reconvened as the Shasta County Board of Supervisors.

2:13 p.m.: The Board of Supervisors adjourned.

Chair

ATTEST:

DAVID J. RICKERT
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy