

**LASSEN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS and SUSANVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Lassen County Fairgrounds \* Jensen Hall \* 195 Russell Avenue Susanville, CA**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**February 18, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Stafford.

Roll Call: Joe Franco, Brian Moore, Mendy Schuster, Brian Wilson and Mayor Kevin Stafford.

Staff Present: Mike Wilson, City Administrator; Jessica Ryan, Attorney; Kevin Jones, Police Chief; James Moore, Fire Chief and Gwenna MacDonald, City Clerk.

**1 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion by Mayor pro tem Franco, second by Councilmember Schuster, to approve the agenda as submitted; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Franco, Moore, Schuster, Wilson and Stafford.

**2 PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**3 CLOSED SESSION:** No business.

**4 SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

**4A Discussion regarding homeless in Lassen County** Chairperson Teeter and Supervisor Hemphill discussed the purpose of the meeting, and that the County would be presenting information regarding efforts that are being taken to address the issue of homelessness in Lassen County. The public in attendance would be given an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of the presentations.

Barbara Longo, Lassen County Health and Social Services, provided a brief overview of the Department and services provided, and invited those present to download the power point presentation from the County's website. She turned the floor over to Jenna Aguilara.

Ms. Aguilara provided a detailed power point regarding the Community Social Services Department. She reviewed the Point in Time survey requirements and objectives, causes for homelessness, and the difference between sheltered and unsheltered, and the effort made to assist citizens who face a broad variety of challenges in their life circumstances. She reviewed the programs and funding sources available and concluded the presentation by providing a variety of success stories.

Sheriff Dean Growden and Lieutenant John McGarva provided information relating to the challenges facing law enforcement and recent legislative decisions that are contributing to the problem, as well as the struggle to encourage those citizens who need to help to take advantage of the programs that are available.

District Attorney Melyssah Rios spoke regarding criminal justice and law enforcement and the challenges in prosecuting crimes in Lassen County. She encouraged those present to approach their community with the "if you see something, say something" mindset.

County Counsel Bob Burns provided a brief summary of the impact of the Martin vs. City of Boise decision.

CAO Richard Egan stated that the County has a variety of resources and programs available to assist the homeless population, and he thanked staff for the information presented. He thanked those present for attending the meeting and invited public comment.

The following citizens offered public comments:

Sheri Ferrell, Steve Fuller, Jim Dunn, Michael Shively, Andrea Traphagen, Chris Vandevender, Mimi Rinna, Jeff Laws, Reuben Mahnke, Wade Workman, Margot Smith, Star Claire, Russell Banks, Jim Chapman, Joe Strohm, Natalie Cook, Chuck Swetland, Theresa Phillips, Melissa Owen, Noble Feather, Rhonda Foley, Marshall Leve, Cindy Roberts, Ed Heffman, Nick McBride, Carol Byers, Mary Piowati, Eileen Richard, Thomas Herrera, Thomas Wasson, Steve McDow, Cameron Adair, Quincy McCourt, Virginia Midgely, John Hulsey and Michael Kirack.

Mr. Wilson thanked the public for attending the meeting and invited everyone to attend the City Council meeting scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to further discuss solutions, river clean up efforts and plans for moving forward.

Chief Kevin Jones discussed issues related to theft, littering, the camping ordinance and the united efforts of the City and County in addressing homelessness.

Chief James Moore discussed issues relevant to the restrictions for cleaning along the waterway.

Anthony Hanner, City Building Official, talked about recent efforts to assist Crossroads with getting into compliance per the terms of the Use Permit.

The Councilmembers and Supervisors thanked those present for participating in the meeting.

**5 ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Councilmember Schuster, second by Councilmember Wilson, to adjourn the meeting; motion carried. Ayes: Schuster, Wilson, Franco, Moore and Stafford.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Kevin Stafford, Mayor

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Gwenna MacDonald, City Clerk

*Approved on: May 6, 2020*