

NED COE
1st District

SHANE STARR
2nd District

KATHIE RHOADS
3rd District

ELIZABETH CAVASSO
4th District

GERI BYRNE
5th District



TIFFANY A. MARTINEZ
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

204 S. COURT STREET
ALTURAS, CALIFORNIA 96101

PHONE: (530) 233-6201

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING REGULAR MEETING

September 10, 2024

10:00 AM **Call to Order**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ned Coe	Supervisor District I	Present	10:00 AM
Shane Starr	Supervisor District II	Present	10:00 AM
Kathie Rhoads	Supervisor District III	Present	10:00 AM
Elizabeth Cavasso	Supervisor District IV	Present	10:00 AM
Geri Byrne	Supervisor District V	Absent	10:00 AM
Margaret Long	County Counsel	Remote	10:00 AM
Chester Robertson	County Administration Officer	Present	10:00 AM
Tiffany Martinez	Clerk of the Board/ACAO	Present	10:00 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Prayer

Public Comment

Chair Pro Tem and Election Integrity Officer of the Republican Central Committee, Linda Newman, provided the following suggestions to improve the election procedures in Modoc County and reduce the ability for electronic votes to be hacked: 1) Support picture ID, proof of citizenship, and proof of current residency when registering to vote; 2) Support returning to a one day vote in person on paper ballots; 3) Support process to request an absentee ballot for those who cannot get to a ballot location due to a disability, job, school, or other legitimate reason; 4) Support a return to paper ballots; 5) Support the requirement of a picture ID to vote; 6) Support hand count of ballots at the precinct level.

Noelle Jones provided comments in response to County Clerk Wellemeyer's department report on the election process for Modoc County. Ms. Jones stated in her comments to the Board at the last meeting she did not say there were any inaccuracies in Modoc County. Ms. Jones stated she does believe there are issues related to electronic fraud but these are due to the state-wide system. Ms. Jones provided comments received at the Modoc District Fair on the lack of trust by the public in the election process. Ms. Jones provided comments on the potential for fraud with the electronic voting process and suggested the Board hold a public hearing on the issue.

Jay Jones provided comments regarding the voting process in Modoc County and shared a personal experience regarding his son continuing to receive a mail-in ballot even though his son moved to Florida and has requested his ballot no longer be sent to his parents. Mr. Jones stated they have provided the ballot for their son to County Clerk Wellemeyer to correct the voter roll but his name continues to be on the voter roll.

Approval or Additions/Deletions to Agenda

County Administrative Officer, Chester Robertson, requested to amend the agenda verbiage on 7.b. as follows: Requesting approval of a comment letter to the U.S. Forest Service regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) "Amendment to Land Management Plans to Address Old Growth Forest Across National Forest System."

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

Correspondence

Supervisor Cavasso entered the following correspondence into the record: 1) A survey from the Modoc County Library Advisory Board regarding valued services for the public.

The Clerk of the Board entered the following correspondence into the record: 1) Letter from the Modoc County Sheriff, Tex Dowdy, regarding his opposition to the California Department of Justice's proposal to raise the Standard Ammunition Eligibility Check (SAEC) and the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) fees; 2) An email from Swinerton Superintendent, Travis McDonald, inviting the Board of Supervisors and other agencies to participate on September 11, 2024, at 8:46 a.m. in an acknowledgment of the 23rd anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, and honoring the brave civilians, firefighters, police, and first responders who served and protected on that day.

- a. **Correspondence received - A survey from the Modoc County Library Advisory Board regarding valued services for the public.**

RESULT:	ANNOUNCED
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- b. **Correspondence received - Letter from the Modoc County Sheriff, Tex Dowdy, regarding his opposition to the California Department of Justice's proposal to raise the Standard Ammunition Eligibility Check (SAEC) and the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) fees.**

RESULT:	ANNOUNCED
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- c. **Correspondence received - An email from Swinerton Superintendent, Travis McDonald, inviting the Board of Supervisors and other agencies to participate on September 11, 2024 at 8:46 a.m. in an acknowledgement of the 23rd anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001 and honoring the brave civilians, firefighters, police, and first responders who served and protected on that day.**

RESULT: ANNOUNCED

Department Head Reports

Treasurer/Tax Collector, Cheryl Knock, provided a report on the health of the County of Modoc treasury from June 30, 1999 - June 30, 2024.

Agriculture Commissioner, Heather Kelly, reported the Deputy Agriculture Commissioner position has been filled by Jolene Moxon. Agriculture Commissioner Kelly reported they received a summary of the grasshopper survey conducted by the California Animal Health and Food Safety Services Division (AHIS) on the national forest.

Handout provided - Report on the health of the County of Modoc treasury from June 30, 1999 - June 30, 2024

RESULT: ANNOUNCED

1. Consent Agenda Items:

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
SECONDER: Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES: Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT: Byrne

- 1.a. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board to sign an annual contract between the County of Modoc and California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for the Detection Trapping Agreement 24-0132-022-SF, not to exceed \$2,000.00, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. (Agriculture)**

Contract# 2024-160

- 1.b. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board to sign an on going agreement between the County of Modoc and Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the 2024 Medi-Cal Privacy and Security Agreement (PSA), effective September 1, 2024 to September 1, 2028. (Social Services)**

Contract# 2024-161

- 1.c. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION:** Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board to sign an annual agreement between the County of Modoc and El Dorado County for temporary placement of youth pursuant to Title 15 CCR and within provisions of the Welfare and Institutions Code, effective October 12, 2024 and ongoing, subject to annual amendments regarding per day bed rates. (Probation)

Contract# 2024-162

2. Treasurer/Tax Collector Items:

- 2.a. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION:** Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board and the Treasurer/Tax Collector to sign an agreement between the County of Modoc and Bid4Assets, Inc. for website advertising and online auction services for tax defaulted properties, effective September 10, 2024 through September 10, 2027. (Treasurer/Tax Collector)

Treasurer/Tax Collector, Cheryl Knock, provided a background on the proposed agreement.

Contract# 2024-163

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

3. County Clerk Items:

- 3.a. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION:** Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board to sign a grant agreement between the County of Modoc and the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) for the public purpose of planning and operationalizing reliable and secure election administration in Modoc County in 2024, not to exceed \$20,000.00, effective upon receipt through December 31, 2024. (Elections)

County Clerk, Stephanie Wellemeyer, provided a background on the proposed grant agreement.

Contract# 2024-164

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

4. Social Services Items:

- 4.a. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Request permission to add one (1) Social Service Aide, Range 225: Step A-J; \$3,356.00 - \$5,205.00 monthly to the allocation table and advertise to fill the position. (Social Services)**

Director of Social Services, Tom Sandage, provided a background on the proposed allocation table change.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

- 4.b. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Request permission to add one (1) Office Assistant I/II/III, Range 191: Step A-J; \$2,831.00 - \$4,392.00 monthly, Range 201: Step A-J; \$2,977.00 - \$4,620.00 monthly, Range 211: Step A-J; \$3,129.00 - \$4,856.00 monthly to the allocation table and advertise to fill the position. (Social Services)**

Director of Social Services, Tom Sandage, provided a background on the proposed allocation table change.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

- 4.c. **CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval and authorization for the Chair of the Board to sign an agreement via DocuSign between the County of Modoc and The Regents of the University of California for technical assistance in completing the California-Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR), not to exceed \$49,000.00, effective May 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. (Social Services)**

Director of Social Services, Tom Sandage, provided a background on the proposed agreement.

A discussion was held and several questions were asked regarding the previous reviews and the funding source for the contract.

Contract# 2024-165

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

5. Public Works Items:

- 5.a. CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval for the Chair of the Board and County Administrative Officer to sign deed restrictions regarding Proposition 68 improvements located on county properties in Adin, Alturas, Cedarville, Davis Creek, Lookout, and the County Courthouse. (Public Works)**

Director of Public Works, Chester Robertson, provided a background on the proposed deed restriction.

Contract# 2024-166

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

6. Clerk of the Board Items:

- 6.a. CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval to waive the second reading and approve of Ordinance# 343-A to amend Chapter 3.05 Assessment Appeals of the Modoc County Code. (Clerk of the Board)**

Clerk of the Board, Tiffany Martinez, provided a background on the proposed ordinance amendment.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
SECONDER:	Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

- 6.b. CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval to waive the second reading and approve of Ordinance# 365 to amend Chapter 2.04 Board of Supervisors to add section 2.04.030 Training of Supervisor Elect to the Modoc County Code. (Clerk of the Board)**

Clerk of the Board, Tiffany Martinez, provided a background on the proposed ordinance.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

7. Board of Supervisors Items:

7.a. CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval of a comment letter regarding the California Department of Insurance (CDI) proposed rulemaking on Catastrophe Modeling and Ratemaking. (Board of Supervisors)

Supervisor Starr provided a background on the proposed letter.

Supervisor Cavasso reported on several comments on areas of consideration: 1) Insurers do not account for the billions of dollars spent by federal, state, local, and private entities to reduce the risk of fire hazard and reduce fuel level in the models; 2) Research shows that lower-income families are most likely to lose their homes in a wildfire and less likely to have enough to cover the loss; 3) Lower-income families and rural communities have less political power or influence in the rule making realm.

Supervisor Cavasso stated that the rule making and modeling needs to ensure that it does not unfairly favor a group or a section of society versus those who are lower income.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kathie Rhoads, Supervisor District III
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

7.b. CONSIDERATION/ACTION: Requesting approval of a comment letter regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been made available to various counties offering “Cooperating Agency” (CA) status as the U.S. Forest Service (Service) develops the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) needed to implement a National Old Growth Amendment. (Board of Supervisors)

Natural Resources Analyst, Sean Curtis, provided an overview of the proposed letter.

A discussion was held and several questions were asked regarding policies within the agency.

Ordered on a motion by Supervisor Coe, seconded by Supervisor Cavasso to approve of a comment letter to the U.S. Forest Service regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) "Amendment to Land Management Plans to Address Old Growth Forest Across National Forest System."

Motion carried unanimously.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

8. Comments/Reports:

a. Public Comments

None.

b. Administrative Services Report

County Administrative Officer, Chester Robertson, provided a report on the following: 1) Update on code enforcement activities; 2) Update on 24-25 Budget Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

c. Department Head Reports

None.

d. Board of Supervisors Reports

Supervisor Rhoads reported on the following: 1) 24-25 Budget Ad Hoc Committee meeting; 2) Modoc County Transportation Commission (MCTC) special meeting; 3) Call from a consentient in Jess Valley regarding a damaged cattle guard and depredation by a bear of a 1,200-pound steer and two colts.

Supervisor Cavasso reported on the following: 1) Wildland Fire Leadership Council Western Region 2) Sierra Nevada Conservancy Field Tour and Board meeting; 3) Blood Drive; 4) Shared a personal experience of her service as a federal employee to assist in the aftermath of 911 on the incident management team at the Pentagon.

Supervisor Coe reported on the following: 1) California Rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Coalition Funding meeting; 2) California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board meeting; 3) Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) legislative call; 4) Tri-Counties meeting; 5) Surprise Valley Electric Annual meeting.

Supervisor Starr reported on the following: 1) Department of Insurance meeting with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and County Supervisors.

The Chair of the Board read the closed session items into the record.

11:08 a.m. Motion to go into Closed Session.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
SECONDER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

9. Closed Session:

- 9.a. CLOSED SESSION: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Pursuant to CA Government Code 54957): Title: Agriculture Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights & Measures/Air Pollution Control Officer. (Board of Supervisors)**

RESULT: EVALUATION HELD

- 9.b. **CLOSED SESSION: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Pursuant to CA Government Code 54957): Title: County Administrative Officer. (Board of Supervisors)**

RESULT: EVALUATION HELD

- 9.c. **CLOSED SESSION: Real Property Negotiations (Pursuant to CA Government Code 54956.8): Assessor's Parcel Number# 003-227-001 and 003-227-010. (Administrative Services)**

RESULT: DIRECTION GIVEN

1:41 p.m. The Board reconvened and reported out of closed session with Supervisor Coe, Rhoads, Starr, and Cavasso present.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn the September 10, 2024 meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ned Coe, Supervisor District I
SECONDER:	Elizabeth Cavasso, Supervisor District IV
AYES:	Coe, Starr, Rhoads, Cavasso
ABSENT:	Byrne

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41 PM

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned to meet in regular session Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Tiffany A. Martinez
Clerk of the Board

Shane Starr
Chair, Modoc County Board of Supervisors