

**LASSEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Regular Meeting**

**October 8, 2025**

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Board President Dan Owens at 4:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bruce Davie, Rob Erickson, Dean Growdon, Patricia Hagata, Abigail Hale, Dan Owens, Will Zinn, and Superintendent/Secretary Patricia Gunderson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Courtney Hanna, Courtney Russell, and Bryan Young

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None

**FLAG SALUTE:** Dean Growdon led those present in the flag salute.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** **MSCU (Hagata/Hale) to approve the agenda as presented.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **MSCU (Zinn/Davie) to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025, regular meeting as presented.**

**HEARING OF PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED/SENT:** Superintendent Gunderson reviewed the correspondence received and sent.

**BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS:** Mr. Erickson reported that Superintendent Ragsdale has resigned from Big Valley and will be returning to Arkansas. The District will be entering another leadership transition. Courtney Russell commented that the new Chief Business Officer is performing very well.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** Superintendent Gunderson reported that the Big Valley Board will hold a special meeting tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. Tom Jones will attend to help guide the District through next steps and identify areas where county support may be needed.

FCMAT was on site at Lassen High School last week conducting a review. The District is currently in a state of "Lack of Going Concern." The District has complied with all documentation requests, and we are awaiting the final report. A budget committee is expected to be in place within the next week to identify areas for potential reductions to improve fiscal stability. Unaudited actuals are currently very low, and the District is working diligently to address this.

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A thank-you card from previous County Board Member, Wanda “Sam” Bushong was circulated among members.

Superintendent Gunderson reported that the upcoming “5th Grade Day in the Desert” event, hosted in collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), will be canceled due to the ongoing federal government shutdown.

Superintendent Gunderson shared the success of the recent Professional Learning Day. The event included several workshops, including sessions for new teachers, math workgroups, Differentiated Assistance and Community Schools trainings.

Superintendent Gunderson reported that the Secure Rural Schools Forest Reserve (Titles II and III) program was not reauthorized. The bill received Senate approval but was not taken up in the House.

Additionally, the Governor did not sign two education bills that had bipartisan support. These bills, co-sponsored to extend the number of days substitute teachers could serve (from 30 to 60 days in general education, and from 20 to 60 days in special education). This is particularly concerning given the current teacher shortage.

Finally, Superintendent Gunderson shared the efforts that are ongoing to improve reciprocity for out-of-state teachers. Currently, educators holding credentials from other states face significant barriers when applying for California credentials. Work continues to streamline this process to allow for more efficient credential recognition.

### **REVIEW WILLIAMS LAWSUIT**

#### **QUARTERLY COMPLAINT**

##### **SUMMARY:**

It was noted that the LCOE did not receive any Williams Complaints during the last quarter.

### **CONSIDERATION OF**

#### **RESOLUTION 25-10, GANN**

#### **APPROPRIATIONS**

##### **LIMITS:**

**MSCU (Erickson/Davie) to approve Resolution 25-10, Gann Appropriations Limits.**

### **CONSIDERATION OF**

#### **APPROVAL OF SACS**

#### **PRIOR YEAR (2024/25)**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT/**

#### **UNAUDITED ACTUALS**

#### **AND REVISED BUDGET**

##### **FOR 2024/25:**

Chief Business Official Courtney Russell reviewed the Unaudited Actuals for the 2024/25 fiscal year, as well as the Revised Budget for 2025/26. She noted that the LCOE is very financially sound.

**MSCU (Davie/Hagata) to approve the SACS Prior Year (2024/25) Financial Report/Unaudited Actuals and Revised Budget for 2025/26.**

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**CONSIDERATION OF  
APPROVAL OF REVISED**

**BOARD POLICY/**

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**REGULATION 3550,**

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS: MSCU (Hagata/Erickson) to approve the revised Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 3550, Business and Noninstructional Operations – First Reading (Second Reading Waived Pursuant to Board Bylaw 9300)**

**FUTURE AGENDA**

**ITEMS:**

- Board Member Benefits
- Establishing base pay for the County Superintendent
- Update on the Youth Camp
- LCOE Properties

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.