

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcription of the proceedings and discussion associated with the business on the Commission's agenda; rather, what follows is a summary of the order of business and general nature of testimony, Commission deliberation, and action taken. Votes are shown in abbreviated format when unanimous (Ayes-Noes-Abstain).

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A. Roll Call

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Members present: Commissioners Julia Brownfield, Anna Burke*, Heidi Carpenter-Harris, Jill Cox, Jake Grossman-Crist, Andrew Johnson, and Alternate Commissioner Joe Kasper.

Members absent: Commissioner Corbett, Alternate Commissioners Liam Gogan and Lisa Harper.

Staff Present: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer (EO), Krystle Brogna, Clerk/Analyst

*Participated remotely.

Commissioner Burke requested to participate remotely for emergency circumstances under AB 2449 due to an illness. Commissioners agreed to remote participation.

2. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. None

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes from February 18, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting

Motion to approve the consent calendar was presented by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Carpenter-Harris, and passed by 6-0-0 roll call vote.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

No public comment was received.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Proposed Budget and Workplan for FY 2025-26

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided an overview of the proposed budget, including planned revenues and expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year. She noted that, consistent with prior years, projected revenues fall short of covering total planned expenses. She emphasized that this shortfall persists despite staffing levels and associated service costs remaining flat for many years. To help stabilize the agency's finances and close the structural gap, staff is recommending a phased 5% annual increase in member agency contributions over the next several years.

Commissioners held discussion on the budget including whether a more substantial annual increase in member contributions should be considered to expedite financial stability, The appropriate timing for rebuilding LAFCo's financial reserves, and the potential need to revisit and update LAFCo's financial policies in the future. It was also noted that the County Auditor-Controller's Office continues to administer invoicing and collection of member contributions on behalf of LAFCo.

Motion to adopt Resolution 25-02 approving the proposed FY 2025-26 LAFCo budget for distribution to member agencies was presented by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Grossman-Crist, and passed by 6-0-0 roll call vote.

6. BUSINESS

A. Status of Post Mountain Public Utilities District

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided an update on ongoing coordination with PMPUD, including regular communication with the District's Board Chair. The District is exploring additional funding opportunities to enhance services, including a proposed special tax dedicated to road maintenance. This measure is anticipated to go before voters in November 2026. The existing \$24 annual fire assessment would remain unchanged and continue to support fire protection services.

PMPUD Board President Blong Yang shared insights on the District's current status and ongoing efforts to improve local services and increase community engagement. He also raised concerns about disruptive behavior by an active board member, including inappropriate conduct during meetings, repeated interruptions, and obstruction of official proceedings. Commissioners inquired whether the District required outside support to address this governance issue and suggested that County Counsel may be able to assist.

Further discussion focused on the status of volunteer firefighter training, the need for additional gear and equipment, and the purpose and scope of the proposed road assessment. Commissioners acknowledged the significant scale of road repair needs and the added complexity of managing infrastructure across multiple jurisdictions. EO Santsche noted that the District's recent rate study proposes an annual parcel tax of approximately \$173 to support ongoing road maintenance. However, this estimate assumes that all parcels are contributing and that the existing infrastructure is already in "good" condition. Commissioners recognized the substantial challenge this presents for a small district and emphasized that coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, Trinity County, and the broader community will be critical in identifying a viable long-term solution.

B. Status of Current and Future Applications

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided an overview of current applications. The two annexation applications for Trinity County Waterworks District #1 have been recorded with the County and are ready to be filed with the State Board of Equalization.

C. Public Member Appointment

EO Santsche introduced the staff report and provided a summary of the current terms of office for the Commission's public members. Public notice was provided regarding the open public member position. Only one application was received from incumbent Anna Burke.

Motion to appoint Anna Burke as Public Member for the next four-year term was presented by Commissioner Carpenter-Harris, seconded by Commissioner Grossman-Crist, and passed by 6-0-0 roll call vote.

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE (Information Only)

EO Santsche noted that there are changes occurring with CALAFCO. A Northern Region meeting is being scheduled for May and the annual staff workshop will be taking place at the end of April. Staff will continue to follow proposed changes and report back to the Commission with any updates.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Burke thanked the other commissioners for reappointing her as a regular public member and also for allowing her to participate in the meeting via Zoom.

Commissioner Kasper read out a statement regarding the potential effects of federal firings on the community and requested help setting up a meeting of regional resource agencies to discuss ways to help individuals affected by the recent layoffs.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 5:15 pm.

ATTEST:

Krystle Brogna, Clerk

DATE: _____