



BUTTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR AGENDA FEBRUARY 10, 2026 9:00 AM

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

BILL CONNELLY, DISTRICT 1
PETER DURFEE, DISTRICT 2
TAMI RITTER, DISTRICT 3
TOD KIMMELSHUE, DISTRICT 4
DOUG TEETER, DISTRICT 5

ANDY PICKETT
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CLERK OF THE BOARD

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS
25 COUNTY CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 205
OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA

BRAD STEPHENS
COUNTY COUNSEL

1. CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Observation of a Moment of Silence

2. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Rules of Decorum

The Board of Supervisors welcomes the public to its meetings and encourages and appreciates public engagement. The Board of Supervisors expects members of the public to act in a courteous, civil, and respectful manner, and not make personal, impertinent, slanderous, or profane remarks to any member of the Board, staff, or the general public. The Board of Supervisors will not tolerate loud, threatening, personal, or abusive language, or disorderly conduct, which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of Board meetings. Violation of these rules of decorum will result in the meeting being recessed.

2.1 Corrections and/or Changes to the Agenda

2.2 Announcement(s) of Recusal

3. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda will begin with any Supervisor Comments on the Consent Agenda Items, then proceed with the Adoption of the Consent Agenda. Items can be removed for further discussion at the request of a Supervisor.

3.1. County Administration

3.1.a Approval of Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

Submitted for approval are the January 27, 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes. (COUNTY ADMINISTRATION)

Action Requested - APPROVE THE JANUARY 27, 2026 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES.

3.2. County Counsel's Office

3.2.a Agreement with Baron & Budd, P.C. and Simonsen Sussman, LLP for Specialized Litigation Services

Butte County has seen a dramatic increase in the cost to purchase and maintain fire trucks. County Counsel recommends that the Board of Supervisors approve a single agreement with two law firms—Baron & Budd, P.C. and Simonsen Sussman, LLP—to jointly investigate whether fire truck manufacturers or other entities may have engaged in business practices that violated antitrust and unfair competition laws, which could have contributed to these increased costs. If such practices are identified, the firms will pursue legal action, under County direction, to recover damages or other remedies. No fees will be charged unless the litigation results in a recovery for the County. Payment to the law firms will come solely from the recovered funds and only after the litigation successfully concludes. The term of the agreement begins upon execution and remains in effect for the entire duration of the legal action, ending in accordance with the terms of the agreement unless terminated earlier. (COUNTY COUNSEL)

Action Requested - APPROVE THE AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZE COUNTY COUNSEL TO SIGN.

3.3. Department of Human Resources

3.3.a Resolution to Amend the Salary Ordinance

The Department of Human Resources recommends the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution amending the Salary Ordinance for the following departments:

County Administration: Reduce the Department's Communications and Public Information Officer (PIO) from 1.0 FTE to .75 FTE. The department plans to utilize the savings for an Extra-Help PIO to keep the County's communication function fully staffed. Extra Help will be used to cover 10 hours per week. This meets the needs of the current employee and provides a backup PIO during vacations and for use during activation of the County's Emergency Operations Center.

Employment and Social Services: Delete 3 vacant flexibly staffed Inventory/Warehouse Worker positions and add 1 flexibly staffed Facilities Maintenance Technician. The changes will better suit the needs of the department. Convert 1 Staff Development Officer position to 1 Social Work Supervisor - Child Welfare and convert 2 flexibly staffed Social Worker - Child Welfare positions to 2 Paralegal positions. These changes better suit the operational needs of the Department. The total annual cost savings for these changes will be \$135,867. Total allocations to decrease by 2.

Sheriff's Office: Delete 2 Sheriff Security Officer positions and add 1 flexibly staffed Deputy Sheriff position. This will better suit the current and future needs of the Department and result in an annual salary and benefit savings of approximately \$9,500. In October, the Sheriff's Office added 1 Sheriff's Administrative Division Manager and 1 Department Public Information Officer. Both positions were filled through departmental recruitments. The Department is now returning to delete the resulting vacancies: 1 Senior Fiscal Manager position and 1 Community Relations Coordinator position. Total allocations to decrease by 3. (DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES)

Action Requested - ADOPT RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN.

3.4. Fire Department

3.4.a Grant Agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program and Resolution Approving Grant Award

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection awarded the Butte County Fire Department a grant for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program in the amount of \$20,000. The grant provides personal protective equipment (PPE) to replace old and worn out PPE for Volunteer Firefighters. The grant requires a \$20,000 local match, which is included in the Department's fiscal year 2025-26 budget.

The Department recommends approval of a grant agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program and adoption of a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the grant agreement. The term of the grant agreement is from approval through June 30, 2026. (FIRE DEPARTMENT)

Action Requested - 1) ADOPT RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN; AND 2) APPROVE AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO SIGN.

3.5. Other

3.5.a Appointments to the Butte Water District in Lieu of Election

In the Butte Water District, the number of qualified candidates filing for the Director seats did not exceed the number of positions to be filled and no petition calling for election was submitted. Pursuant to California Elections Code section 10515, the Butte County Board of Supervisors shall appoint nominees to the office of Director in lieu of election. Butte Water District requests the Board of Supervisors appoint Dale Smith, Charles Etchevery, and Pete Waller to a four-year term in lieu of an election. (OTHER)

Action Requested - APPOINT DALE SMITH, CHARLES ETCHEVERY, AND PETE WALLER TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BUTTE WATER DISTRICT TO SERVE A FOUR-YEAR TERM IN LIEU OF AN ELECTION.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1 Board Member/Committee Reports and Board Member Comment

4.2 Public Comment

Comments to the Board on issues and items not listed on the agenda. Pursuant to California State law, the Board of Supervisors is prohibited from taking action on any item not listed on the agenda. Please note that Public Comment is in two separate sections. One, at the beginning of the regular agenda, which will last a maximum of 15 minutes, with another to follow as the last item on the regular agenda with no time limits.

4.3 Appointments to the Butte County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB)

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board was created to review and evaluate the

community's behavioral health needs, services, facilities and special challenges. The BHAB consists of a minimum of 10 members, with 50% of the membership being consumers or family members of consumers who are receiving or have received mental health services. The remaining members should include a member of the Board of Supervisors; one law enforcement representative; one youth representative; one Veteran or Veteran advocate; one member from a local education agency; and one community member.

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board recommend the Board of Supervisors appoint Kristopher Mudd to serve in the position of a family member of a consumer, to fill a vacant unexpired term ending December 9, 2027, and Michelle Gradnigo, to serve in the position of Veteran Advocate, for a three-year term ending February 9, 2029. (OTHER)

Action Requested - APPOINT KRISTOPHER MUDD TO SERVE IN THE POSITION OF A FAMILY MEMBER OF A CONSUMER, TO FILL A VACANT UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING DECEMBER 9, 2027, AND MICHELLE GRADNIGO, TO SERVE IN THE POSITION OF VETERAN ADVOCATE, FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM ENDING FEBRUARY 9, 2029.

4.4 Grant Agreement with DOT Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Safety for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program

The Department of Public Health, in consultation with Public Works, led the development of the Butte County Safety Action Plan (Plan) using funds from the first SS4A award. The Plan is a comprehensive effort to enhance the safety of people using all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit, and driving and seeks to create safer streets within unincorporated areas of Butte County and the cities of Biggs, Gridley, and Oroville. The Department has received additional funding from FHWA for a supplemental planning and demonstration grant for the SS4A program. The funding will allow the department to deploy and analyze evidence-based, low-cost, high-impact activities to promote safety and reduce and prevent roadway fatalities and injuries throughout the county. The Department will pilot test specific activities which may include, but are not limited to, walk audits, pop-up demonstrations (e.g., temporary bike lanes), and behavior change safety campaigns. The Department will work in coordination with the Department of Public Works, local jurisdictions, community partners, and county residents to conduct pilot tests to maximize resources and gather community input. The Department recommends entering into a grant agreement with DOT FHWA. The term of the grant agreement is upon execution through February 15, 2030, with a maximum amount receivable of \$2,578,535. (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH)

Action Requested - APPROVE GRANT AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN.

4.5 Resolution Establishing Eligibility Requirements for the California Arts Council's State-Local Partnership (SLP) Program

The SLP Program was established to foster cultural development at the local level through a partnership between the California Arts Council and California counties. The Board of Supervisors may designate one local arts agency to serve as the State-Local Partner, which may be eligible to receive general operating support, technical assistance, and grant funding of up to \$75,000 annually from the California Arts Council. The County has been approached by multiple organizations interested in serving as the State-Local Partner; accordingly, the Board asked staff to recommend eligibility requirements and an

application process.

The recommended eligibility requirements are based on the California Arts Council State-Local Partners Grant Guidelines, including maintaining a principal place of business in California, providing countywide services, demonstrating nonprofit status, and a minimum of two years of consistent arts programming and/or services. If approved, staff will release the application which includes a statement of interest, which will be due March 15, 2026. Staff will review all applications for completeness and eligibility, and qualified applicants will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and selection at the April 14, 2026, Board meeting.

Upon Board approval of the SLP Program eligibility requirements, the application will be made available on the County's website and through the County Administration Department. (COUNTY ADMINISTRATION)

Action Requested - ADOPT RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN.

- 4.6 Contract with Ascent Environmental, Inc. (Ascent) for Roadside Fuels Reduction Plan
On May 14, 2024, the Board of Supervisors authorized submission of an application for CDBG Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Mitigation funds for the development of a Roadside Fuels Reduction Plan. The mitigation funds are available to the County as a result of the 2018 Camp Fire to reduce risk through planning and public services. The County was awarded \$494,060 to develop a Roadside Fuels Reduction Plan, a comprehensive planning document to assist with ongoing fuel abatement on primary evacuation routes throughout the county. Services include a local assessment of roadways and evacuation routes, current vegetation management, best practices for local conditions, a fuels reduction management plan, and an assessment of funding available for implementation.

On September 29, 2025, County Administration published an RFP for the Roadside Fuels Reduction Plan and ten proposals were received from qualified firms nationwide. Following a competitive evaluation process, Ascent of Sacramento, CA, was selected as the most qualified. Staff recommend the Board approve a contract with Ascent for the Roadside Fuels Reduction Plan. The term of the contract is from February 10, 2026, through November 30, 2027, not-to-exceed \$275,831. (COUNTY ADMINISTRATION)

Action Requested - APPROVE CONTRACT AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN.

- 4.7 Items Removed from the Consent Agenda for Board Consideration and Action
- 4.8 Update of Budget, Legislative, and other Current Issues by the Chief Administrative Officer
- 4.9 Board of Supervisors Public Comment (Continuation as needed)

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND TIMED ITEMS

6. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CLOSED SESSION

- 6.1 Public Employee Employment, Appointment, Recruitment, Performance Evaluations, Including Goals, Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

- A. Agricultural Commissioner
- B. Behavioral Health Director
- C. Chief Administrative Officer
- D. Chief Probation Officer
- E. Child Support Services Director
- F. County Counsel
- G. Development Services Director
- H. Employment and Social Services Director
- I. General Services Director
- J. Human Resources Director
- K. Information Systems Director
- L. Library Director
- M. Public Health Director
- N. Public Works Director
- O. Water & Resource Conservation Director

6.2 Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency

Designated

Representatives: Jack Hughes, Sheri Waters, Aaron Quin and Andy Pickett

Employee

Organizations: Teamsters - General Unit; Teamsters - Social Services Workers Unit; Teamsters - Mid Management Unit; Butte County Probation Peace Officers Association; Butte County Probation Peace Officers Association - Management Unit; Butte County Professional Employees' Association; Butte County Deputy Sheriff's Association - General Unit; Butte County Deputy Sheriff's Association - Management/Supervisory Unit; Butte County Correctional Officers Association - General Unit; Butte County Correctional Officers Association - Supervisory Unit; Skilled Trades Unit; Butte County Deputy District Attorneys Association - Attorney Unit; Confidential Employee Unit; Non-Represented Employee Unit; Board of Supervisors Executive Assistants

6.3 Actual Litigation Pursuant to Gov. Code Sec. 54956.9(d)(1) - One Case

Cathy Shelton v. Butte County; Workers' Compensation Appeals Board Case No.

ADJ12601346 (Claim Number: 1897110140) (DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES)

6.4 Closed Session Public Comment

**Butte County
Department Heads**

Agricultural
Commissioner:
Katharine Quist

Assessor*:
Alyssa Douglass

Auditor-Controller*:
Graciela Gutierrez

Behavioral Health:
Scott Kennelly

Chief Administrative
Officer:
Andy Pickett

Chief Probation Officer:
Melissa Romero

Child Support Services:
Elisabeth Holloway

Clerk-Recorder/
Registrar of Voters*:
Keaton Denlay

County Counsel:
Brad Stephens

Development Services:
Paula Daneluk

District Attorney*:
Mike Ramsey

Employment &
Social Services:
Tiffany Rowe

Fire Chief:
Garrett Sjolund

General Services:
Dennis Schmidt, Interim

Human Resources:
Sheri Waters

Information Systems:
Paul LaValley

Library:
Misty Wright

Public Health:
Monica Soderstrom

Public Works:
Wendy Tyler, Interim

Sheriff-Coroner*:
Kory Honea

Treasurer-Tax Collector*:
Troy Kidd

UC Cooperative
Extension

Advisor:
Preet Ahluwalia

Water & Resource
Conservation:
Kamie Loeser

*Elected Official

Information and Procedures Concerning the Agenda and Board of Supervisors Meetings

Meeting Information:

Meetings are generally held the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings start at 9:00 a.m. and are held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Administration Building, 25 County Center Drive, Oroville. At the end of each year the Board adopts a meeting schedule for the upcoming year. Meeting dates can be changed as a result of holidays or other events so please check the meeting calendar to be certain. Copies of the adopted meeting calendar for the year are available in the County Administrative Office or on the Clerk of the Board website page.

Agenda Information:

The agenda for every meeting of the Board is posted in front of the County Administration Building at least 72 hours before each meeting, and is available by mail subscription, e-mail subscription, or at the Clerk of the Board website. A copy of the agenda and supporting materials provided to the Board of Supervisors members to explain each agenda item (excluding documents that are not a public record within the meaning of the Public Records Act) are available for your review at the County Administrative Office, the Chico, Oroville, and Paradise libraries (please do not remove items from these files), and at the Clerk of the Board website. Copies of supporting materials can be made for you at a charge to cover costs. The list of communications included with the agenda packages is not comprehensive. Additional communications to the Board of Supervisors may have been received but not included in the agenda supporting material. Copies of all communications received by the Board of Supervisors (excluding documents that are not a public record within the meaning of the Public Records Act) are available at the County Administrative Office upon request.

Agenda Format and Meeting Order:

The agenda is usually organized into the following areas and meetings generally proceed in the following order:

1. **Consent Agenda:** These items are considered routine and are handled by one motion and vote of the Board. If you wish to discuss any item on the Consent Agenda you can either fill out a speaker card (located in the back of the board room) and give it to the Clerk of the Board (sitting to the right of the Board) or, when the Chair asks if there is anything anyone would like to remove from the Consent Agenda, stand and approach the podium and request the item be removed. The removed items are discussed at the end of the Regular Agenda.
2. **Public Comment:** This is the area of the agenda where members of the audience may address the Board on any matter not listed on the agenda. The Board, by law, cannot take action on any matter not listed on the agenda, but may respond to statements or questions and provide staff direction. Public Comment is limited to 3 minutes, and may be adjusted at the discretion of the Chair.
3. **Regular Agenda:** This is where presentations to the Board and items that require full discussion are heard. Items removed from the Consent Agenda are discussed under this section.
4. **Public Hearing and Timed Items:** This is where items that are required by law to be heard as a public hearing are set. This is the section where appeals before the Board are usually discussed. Hearings may start after the time listed, but will never start before the time listed.
5. **Closed Session:** The Board is authorized, by law, to meet in a closed session in certain circumstances. This area of the agenda identifies those items that will be discussed during the Closed Session.

Public Participation:

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors, and a requirement of the California Open Meetings Law, to allow members of the public the opportunity to comment on all matters before the Board. Public participation is limited to matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3. The Board of Supervisors is also committed to making its proceedings accessible to all residents. Individuals with special needs should call the Clerk of the Board at 530.552.3300, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to request disability-related modifications/accommodations, or to request materials in alternate formats. All requests for special accommodations and/or alternative format documents must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

Pursuant to Government Code section 84308, members of the Board of Supervisors are disqualified and not able to participate in any agenda item involving contracts (other than competitively bid, labor, or personal employment contracts), franchises, discretionary land use permits and other entitlements if the Board member received more than \$250 in campaign contributions from the applicant or contractor, an agent of the applicant or contractor, or any financially interested participant who actively supports or opposes the County's decision on the agenda item since January 1, 2023. Members of the Board of Supervisors who have received, and applicants, contractors or their agents who have made, campaign contributions totaling more than \$250 to a Board member since January 1, 2023, are required to disclose that fact for the official record of the subject proceeding. Disclosures must include the amount of the campaign contribution and identify the recipient Board member and may be made either in writing to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors prior to the subject hearing or by verbal disclosure at the time of the hearing.

For further information contact the:
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County Administration Office
25 County Center Drive, Suite 200, Oroville, CA 95965
530.552.3300

Board of Supervisors Agenda – Commonly Used Acronyms:

AB – Assembly Bill	EOC – Emergency Operations Center
APN – Assessor’s Parcel Number	EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
AQMA – Air Quality Management Act	FEIR – Final Environmental Impact Report
ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act	FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
BCAG – Butte County Association of Governments	FERC – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
BLUF – Bottom Line Up Front	FY – Fiscal Year
BOE – Board of Equalization	GP – General Plan
BCFD – Butte County Fire Department	GSA – Groundwater Sustainability Agency
BCGP – Butte County General Plan	IMP – Infrastructure Master Plan
BCOE – Butte County Office of Education	JPA – Joint Powers Authority
BCSO – Butte County Sheriff’s Office	LAFCO – Local Agency Formation Commission
BINTF – Butte Interagency Narcotics Task Force	MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
BRCP – Butte Regional Conservation Plan	MUP – Minor Use Permit
CAL FIRE – California Department of Forestry and Fire	NOC – Notice of Completion
Cal OES – California Office of Emergency Services	NOP – Notice of Preparation
CalTrans – California Department of Transportation	OEM – Office of Emergency Management
CDBG – Community Development Block Grant	RCRC – Rural County Representatives of California
CEQA – California Environmental Quality Act	RFP – Request for Proposals
CSA – County Service Area	SB – Senate Bill
CSAC – The California State Association of Counties	SBFCA – Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency
DEIR – Draft Environmental Impact Report	SGMA – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
DID – Durham Irrigation District	SHARP – Self-Help Assistance and Referral Program
DOT – Department of Transportation	TAC – Technical Advisory Committee
DWR – Department of Water Resources	YTD – Year-to-date
EIR – Environmental Impact Report	