

# Modoc Local Agency Formation Commission

## MINUTES

TUESDAY OCTOBER 10, 2023

City Council Chambers  
Alturas City Hall  
200 North Street, Alturas, CA 96101

1. Chair Minchella called to order at 4:00 pm and the Commission made a Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioners Present: Cheryl Nelson, Ned Coe, Paul Minchella and Shane Starr for Kathie Rhoads

LAFCO Staff Present: John Benoit, Executive Officer

2. Approval of the Agenda (Additions and Deletions)

The August 8<sup>th</sup> minutes were reviewed by the members present and a motion was made by Commissioner Nelson and seconded by Commissioner Coe. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Correspondence: No correspondence was presented

4. Appointment of a Public Member and Public Member alternate for LAFCo

*The Commission considered appointment of a public member. Laurie Pearce Price was introduced and gave the Commission her background. Ned Coe asked Laurie if she was an employee or officer of any local government in Modoc County. Laurie responded no longer employed by any public entity. Commissioner Nelson made the motion and Commissioner Minchella seconded and unanimously approved. John Benoit explained how the elections for a public member are conducted. Laurie Pearce Price was appointed by a unanimous vote of the Commission.*

*John Benoit explained Nikki French was interested in becoming the public member alternate. The Commission determined it would be appropriate she be invited to the next LAFCo meeting to be considered by the Commission.*

5. Consider Minutes for the August 8, 2023 LAFCo meeting

*The LAFCo minutes for the August 8, 2023 meeting reviewed. Upon motion of Commissioner Coe and seconded by Commissioner Starr, the minutes were adopted*

6. Public Comment

This is the time set aside for citizens to address the Commission on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. For items that are on the agenda, public comment will be heard when the item is discussed. If your comments concern an item that is noted as a public hearing, please address the Commission after the public hearing is opened for public testimony. The Chair reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes. Please understand that by law, the Commission cannot make decisions on matters not on the agenda.

Bonnie Sherer is waiting for a later item on the agenda.

7. Consent Agenda

*Ned Coe had a comment regarding the dark headings on the Spreadsheet. The payment of claims for August 2023 and September 2023 was moved by Commissioner Coe and seconded by Commissioner Shane approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission*

8. Progress Report: Alturas Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update

John Benoit gave a brief presentation of the upcoming Alturas Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence update. There was a general discussion regarding items of importance to be included in the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence. A workshop will most likely take place at the December 12, 2023 LAFCo meeting. John Benoit explained he had excellent participation from the City departments. He also explained the importance of median Household Income Data being 80% less than the State median Household Income. Also the RWQCB is under new legislation for water storage. He discussed a proposed Taxpayer Protection Act in November 2024 which will have some impact upon city annexations especially those that are inhabited. Commissioner Nelson indicated the population in the city is declining.

9. Canby CSD and Canby Fire Merger

*There was a Discussion of basic LAFCo Requirements. Bonnie Sherer gave a status report of the application to be filed with LAFCo and indicated the revised joint resolution would be approved within a few days by both the Canby CSD Board and the Canby Fire Protection District Board.*

*John Benoit indicated the application would be processed when the signed joint resolution are submitted to LAFCo and if received we could have a December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 public hearing.*

*The new "Canby Area Community Services District" would have Fire, Domestic Water, Parks and Recreation and lighting. Wastewater may be later and be much more difficult to implement and operate. Can establish "benefit zones" which would include special services areas.*

*The district will need to prepare a service plan and financial plan in addition to a metes and bounds descriptions.*

10. Executive Officer's Report

- a. Canby CSD Engineering Report is in progress and no update yet*
- b. Surprise Valley Healthcare District LAFCo needs cooperation so the MSR and SOI can be prepared.*
- c. Ethics Training John Benoit will discuss with LAFCo Counsel*
- d. CALAFCo Conf. in Monterey: Paul Minchella and John Benoit to attend.*
- e. John Benoit will finalize the Lookout Pest Abatement District Dissolution with the State Board of Equalization.*

11. Commissioner Reports - Discussion

*Commissioner Nelson spoke of a pothole problem in the City.*

12. The meeting was moved to adjournment at 4:49 to the next regular meeting to take place on December 12, 2023.