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PLUMAS COUNTY GRAND JURY

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PLUMAS COUNTY GRAND JURY

2016-2017 Final Report - **ROSTER OF JURORS**

John LulloForeperson

Keith Mahan.....Foreperson - Pro Tem

Emily Brock.....Corresponding Secretary

Peter Hackbusch.....Recording Secretary

Catherine Oster.....Treasurer

Diana Angel.....Member

Robert Bolton.....Member

Jackie Brackett.....Member

Nita DeWeese.....Member

Stephen Janovick.....Member

Marsha Shepard.....Member

Robert Simpton.....Member

Beth Waterston.....Member



PLUMAS COUNTY GRAND JURY

The Honorable Janet Hilde
Presiding Judge of the Grand Jury
Plumas County Superior Court
Quincy, CA 95971

Dear Judge Hilde

The 2016-2017 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury was privileged to be selected to serve as jurors and respectfully present this final report to the Court and the citizens of Plumas County in accordance with California Penal Code Section 933.

Each year, as an early part of its term of service, the Grand Jury visits the Plumas County jail. The 2016-2017 Grand Jury accomplished this on August 16, 2016. Sheriff Greg Hagwood accompanied the Jury on its tour and advised that an application for a State grant to replace the current jail was in process. Due largely to efforts of Greg Hagwood and his staff, the long hoped for 25 million dollar grant was awarded. The award was made by the Board of State and Community Corrections and the projection is that progress on a brand new jail can begin next spring with estimated completion in 2019.

This year of service has given each of us an opportunity to learn about the administrative policies of the County and make reasonable recommendations designed to improve County Government and inform the citizenry of the County.

This year as in previous years, an important fact came to light. The County is in need of a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). This job has been vacant for 5 years. By the Board of Supervisors (BOS) failing to fill the position of CAO, they have by default assumed the responsibility of managing county operations. This is not the normal or established purpose of the BOS. Their role is to set policy and authorize spending. The result is inefficiency and discord among department heads. Refer to the Probation report contained herein.

The Grand Jury extends its appreciation to each of the County Departments for their patience and cooperation. The acceptance of the Findings and implementation of our Recommendations is now the responsibility of the County officials detailed in the report. We hope they and the public give them serious consideration.

Thank you for your confidence and support of this important service to our Community.

Sincerely,

John Lullo, Foreperson
2016-2017 Plumas County Grand Jury



PLUMAS COUNTY GRAND JURY

2016-2017 Final Report – **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

The Honorable Judge Janet Hilde

The Honorable Judge Ira Kaufman

The Honorable Plumas County Board of Supervisors

Plumas County Auditor/Controller

Plumas County Treasurer/Tax Collector

Plumas County Clerk/Recorder

Plumas County Counsel

Plumas County District Attorney

Plumas County Court Executive officer

Plumas County Jail Commander

Plumas County Libraries

Plumas County Sheriff

Plumas County Special Districts Association

Plumas County Superintendent of Schools

Plumas County Grand Jury

California Grand Jurors Association

California State Archivist

Smith & Newell CPA's

§ 933. Findings and Recommendations (Excerpt)

No later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority, the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body, and every elected county officer or agency head for which the grand jury has responsibility pursuant to Section 914.1 shall comment within 60 days to the presiding judge of the superior court, with an information copy sent to the board of supervisors, on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of that county officer or agency head and any agency or agencies which that officer or agency head supervises or controls. In any city and county, the mayor shall also comment on the findings and recommendations. All of these comments and reports shall forthwith be submitted to the presiding judge of the superior court who impaneled the grand jury. A copy of all responses to grand jury reports shall be placed on file with the clerk of the public agency and the office of the county clerk, or the mayor when applicable, and shall remain on file in those offices.....

As used in this section “agency” includes a department.

§ 933.05. Responses to Findings (Excerpt)

- (a) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each grand jury **finding**, the responding person or entity shall indicate one of the following:
 - (1) The respondent agrees with the finding.
 - (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.
- (b) For purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 933, as to each grand jury **recommendation**, the responding person or entity shall report one of the following actions:
 - (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
 - (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.
 - (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.
 - (4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.
- (c) However, if a finding or recommendation of the grand jury addresses budgetary or personnel matters of a county agency or department headed by an elected officer, both the agency or department head and the board of supervisors shall respond if requested by the grand jury, but the response of the board of supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision making authority. The response of the elected agency or department head shall address all aspects of the findings or recommendations affecting his or her agency or department.
- (f) A grand jury shall provide to the affected agency a copy of the portion of the grand jury report relating to that person or entity two working days prior to its public release and after the approval of the presiding judge. No officer, agency, department, or governing body of a public agency shall disclose any contents of the report prior to the public release of the final report.