

September 17, 2024

**Public Comment to the Plumas County Board of Supervisors and  
Plumas County Residents**

Good morning.

I want to make a brief comment this morning as a Plumas County citizen and attorney.

In my role as a Plumas County citizen, I am alarmed by the continual discord at the Board of Supervisor meetings. We are entering difficult financial times as COVID relief money runs out, while business and tax revenue and funding from the state decreases. This is happening at the same time as energy costs are going up and salaries and contractual costs are increasing, putting the County at serious financial risk.

The situation in Plumas County is similar to that of other counties in California. To get through this, we need to work together with the common goal of helping the County thrive in these difficult times. Unfortunately, I don't see that happening. I see a lot of finger pointing and personal attacks at Board meetings which has already led to legal action against specific individuals and the County. There is no faster way to make the situation worse and to incur greater financial liability than to continue in this manner.

In my role as an attorney with about 30 years of experience, I am very concerned about the numerous allegations and threats of litigation that have been aired in these chambers. There is often confusion about how attorney client privilege works and which matters should be in a public or closed session of the Board. We need experienced legal counsel to get through the complex issues our County government faces.

There is way too much time spent on disagreements between our elected officials, the Board, and the CAO. This could be minimized if there was sound legal advice for the Board to rely on. We don't have that and I fear there will be additional disagreements and lawsuits at a great cost to the County. Both individuals and the County as a whole are put at substantial risk when we do not have legal counsel with sufficient experience in County government guiding the Board. A confident, well trained attorney knows when to say, "I don't know". I urge the Board to seek more experienced legal help to avoid further liability going forward.

Thank you for your time.



Linda R. Judge