



WEST COAST BLASTING SERVICES

FILED

To: Lassen County Board of Supervisors

Subject: Conditional Use Permit Application – Explosives Storage (APN 115-120-022-000)

APR - 1 2026

JULIE BUSTAMANTE
LASSEN COUNTY CLERK

Dear Members of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors,

By _____, Deputy

I am submitting this letter in support of my application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow for the storage of explosives on Assessor's Parcel Number 115-120-022-000 in Lassen County, California.

My name is Tim Short, and I am the Founder and CEO of West Coast Blasting Services/Western Infrastructure Group, Inc. I have over 25 years of professional experience in the explosives industry, specializing in controlled blasting for industrial cleaning, energy infrastructure maintenance, forestry applications, and resource extraction. I have maintained a strong safety record with no OSHA recordable incidents under my supervision.

Existing Local Authorization

I currently hold a valid explosives permit issued by the Lassen County Sheriff's Office authorizing the use of explosives within Lassen County. The requested CUP is specifically to establish a compliant, fixed storage location in accordance with county zoning requirements and applicable federal and state regulations.

Purpose and Operational Necessity

The requested use directly supports Lassen County's economic base, including forestry, energy production, and resource extraction:

1. Forestry and Wildfire Mitigation

Explosives are used in forestry operations for stump removal, land clearing, and hazardous fuel reduction, directly supporting wildfire prevention. There is potential for a working relationship with Sierra Pacific Industries to support forestry operations within the region.

2. Resource Extraction and Land Development

Explosives are an established method for rock fragmentation and site preparation in rural and industrial environments where mechanical means are inefficient or infeasible.

3. Energy Infrastructure Support

Explosive cleaning is a recognized industry method for maintaining boilers and heat recovery systems at regional biomass and cogeneration facilities, including:

- Honey Lake Power
- Mt. Lassen Power
- Sierra Pacific Industries Quincy
- Burney Forest Power
- Sierra Pacific Burney

4. Bringing jobs to Lassen County

WCBS/WIG will be hiring 5-10 individuals over the next year and paying workers in Lassen County trade wages.

Historical Context – Coppervale Area

The use of explosives is historically consistent with land use in Lassen County, including the Coppervale, California area, where mining operations historically relied on explosives for excavation and resource extraction. This demonstrates that controlled explosive use is not a new or incompatible activity in the region.

Zoning Consistency and Basis for Conditional Use

Explosives storage is appropriate for approval under a Conditional Use Permit because:

- It directly supports agriculture, forestry, and industrial operations common to Lassen County
- It can be conducted with minimal impact through strict compliance with safety standards and setbacks
- It is subject to extensive federal, state, and local regulation

Safety, Compliance, and Site Design

The proposed storage facility will comply with:

- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) regulations
- California State Fire Marshal requirements
- Lassen County Code and zoning standards

916-572-9051: tim@westcoastblasting.com



WEST COAST BLASTING SERVICES

Safety measures will include ATF-compliant magazine construction, required separation distances, site security, and vegetation/fire control practices.

Insurance and Risk Management

Western Infrastructure Group, Inc maintains a **\$5,000,000 general liability insurance policy**. Lassen County can be named as an additional insured for this property and operation.

Public Safety and Transportation Risk Reduction

Local storage reduces the need to transport explosives over long distances, lowering public risk and improving regulatory oversight and response capability.

Findings for Approval (Consistency with Lassen County CUP Criteria)

The proposed project satisfies the required findings for approval of a Conditional Use Permit as follows:

1. Consistency with the General Plan

The project supports Lassen County's General Plan policies related to resource-based industries, including forestry, energy production, and rural economic development. The use aligns with the County's emphasis on responsible land and resource management.

2. Compatibility with Surrounding Land Uses

The proposed explosives storage will be located, designed, and operated to ensure compatibility with surrounding uses. Required setbacks, terrain considerations, and potential barricading will mitigate off-site impacts. The use is consistent with rural and industrial land use patterns in the area.

3. Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

The project enhances public safety by reducing transportation of explosives and ensuring materials are stored in a regulated, inspected environment. All operations will comply with ATF, State Fire Marshal, and local requirements, and are further supported by existing authorization from the Lassen County Sheriff.

4. Adequate Infrastructure and Access

The site will have adequate access for emergency response and operational needs. Storage facilities will be designed to meet all applicable fire and safety access requirements.

5. No Detrimental Environmental Impact

The proposed use involves contained storage with no ongoing emissions or discharge. With proper siting, vegetation management, and compliance measures, the project will not result in significant environmental impacts.

6. Suitability of the Site

The parcel is suitable for this use due to its location, ability to meet required separation distances, and compatibility with surrounding land uses. The site can be developed to fully comply with all regulatory requirements.

Conclusion

The requested Conditional Use Permit is necessary to support critical industries within Lassen County and is consistent with both historical and current land uses. The project meets all applicable findings for approval and will be operated in full compliance with all regulatory requirements. I respectfully request approval of this Conditional Use Permit. I am available to provide site plans, technical specifications, insurance documentation, and any additional information required. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Short
CEO / Founder
West Coast Blasting Services/Western Infrastructure Group, Inc

Environmental & energy binder

General information

Coverage: Commercial General Liability, Contractors Pollution Liability

Date	03/27/2026	Policy number	MKLV2ENV105471
Producer	Amwins Access Insurance Services, LLC 201 East Pine Street, Suite 915 Orlando, FL - 32801	Name insured	Western Infrastructure Group, Inc. Po Box 270101 Susanville, CA - 96130
Effective date	03/20/2026	Expiration date	03/20/2027
Issuing company	Evanston Insurance Company, a Surplus Lines Company	Deal number	6096479

Binder details

Coverage part	Limits of liability		
Commercial general liability	<input type="checkbox"/> Claims-made		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occurrence
Coverage	Limits of liability	Deductible	Retroactive date
Aggregate limit	\$2,000,000	\$5,000 Each Claim	Not Applicable
Products completed operations aggregate	\$2,000,000		
Personal and advertising injury limit	\$1,000,000		
Each occurrence limit	\$1,000,000		
Damage to premises rented to you	\$50,000		
Medical expense limits	\$5,000		
Contractors Pollution Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> Claims made		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occurrence
Coverage	Limits of liability	Deductible	Retroactive date
Aggregate limit	\$2,000,000	\$10,000	Not Applicable

Markel Southeast Region, a division of Markel Service, Incorporated
 4521 Highwoods Parkway,
 Glen Allen, VA, 23060 | (800) 963-7739 (804) 747-0136
 www.markelcorp.com



Environmental & energy binder

General information

Coverage: Lead Excess Environmental & Energy Liability

Date	03/27/2026	Policy Number	MKLV2EFX101815
Producer	Amwins Access Insurance Services, LLC 201 East Pine Street, Suite 915 Orlando, FL 32801	Named insured	Western Infrastructure Group, Inc. Po Box 270101 Susanville, CA 96130
Effective date	03/20/2026	Expiration date	03/20/2027
Issuing company	Evanston Insurance Company, a Surplus Lines Company	Deal number	6094652

Binder limits and pricing

Coverage part	
Lead Excess Environmental & Energy Liability	
Per Occurrence limit	\$5,000,000
Aggregate Limit	\$5,000,000
Excess of	\$1,000,000

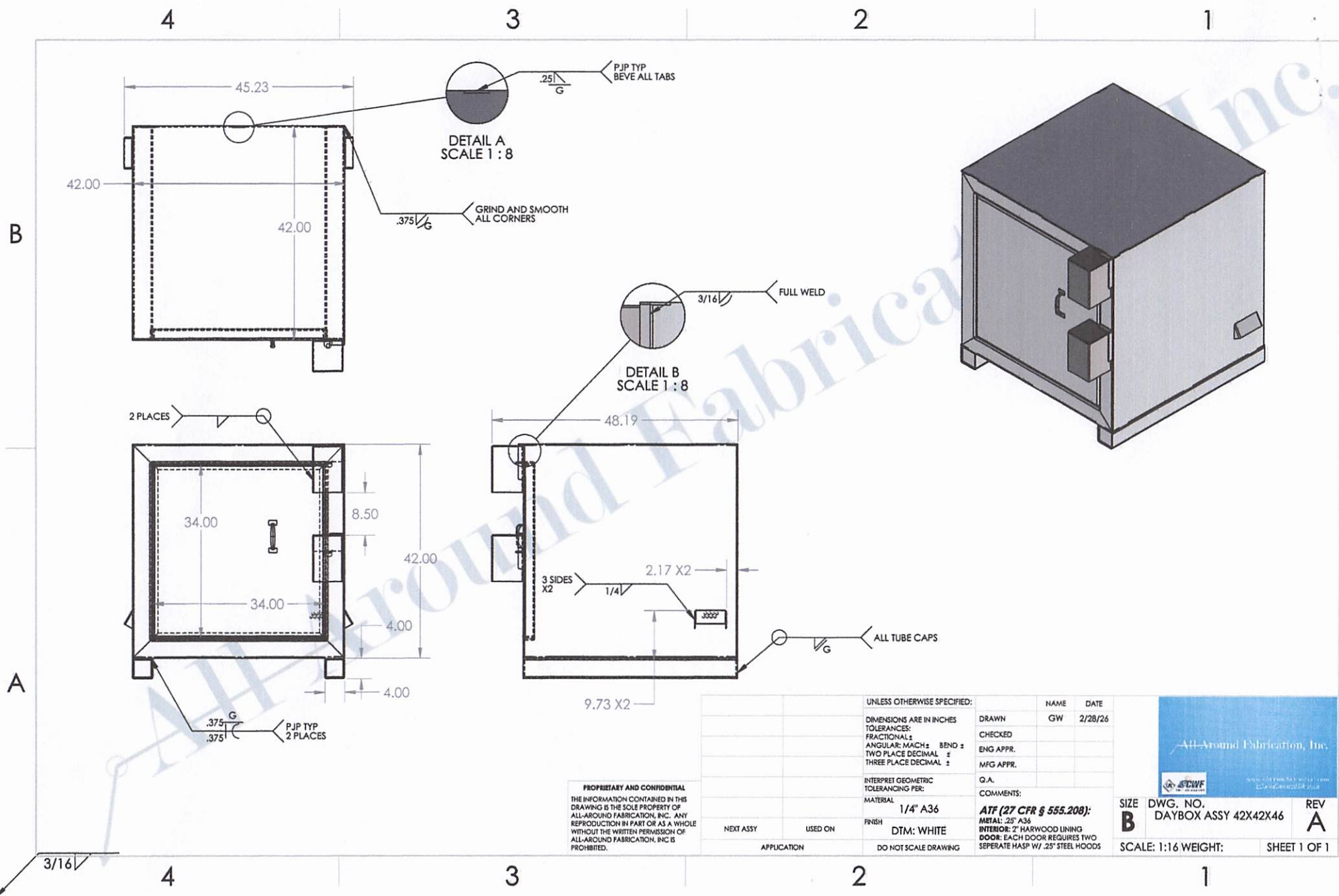
Premium and fees

Total premiums and fees	
Coverage Premium	\$15,000
Total premium	\$15,000
Grand total (including all charges and fees)	\$15,000.00
Exposure	\$700,000 gross revenue/sales (\$)
Premium Type	Flat and Non-Auditable
Min earned premium	25%
Payment Plan	Full Pay

Markel Southeast Region, a division of Markel Service, Incorporated

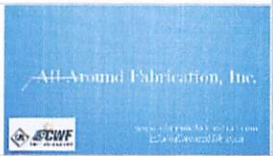
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UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:		NAME	DATE
DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES		GW	2/28/26
TOLERANCES:		DRAWN	
FRACTIONAL: ±		CHECKED	
ANGULAR: MACH ± BEND ±		ENG APPR.	
TWO PLACE DECIMAL ±		MFG APPR.	
THREE PLACE DECIMAL ±		Q.A.	
INTERPRET GEOMETRIC TOLERANCING PER:		COMMENTS:	
MATERIAL		ATF (27 CFR § 555.208):	
1/4" A36		METAL: 25" A36	
FINISH		INTERIOR: 2" HARWOOD LINING	
DTM: WHITE		DOOR: EACH DOOR REQUIRES TWO SEPERATE HASP W/ .25" STEEL HOODS	
APPLICATION		SCALE: 1:16 WEIGHT:	
NEXT ASSY	USED ON	DWG. NO. DAYBOX ASSY 42X42X46	
		REV A	
		SHEET 1 OF 1	



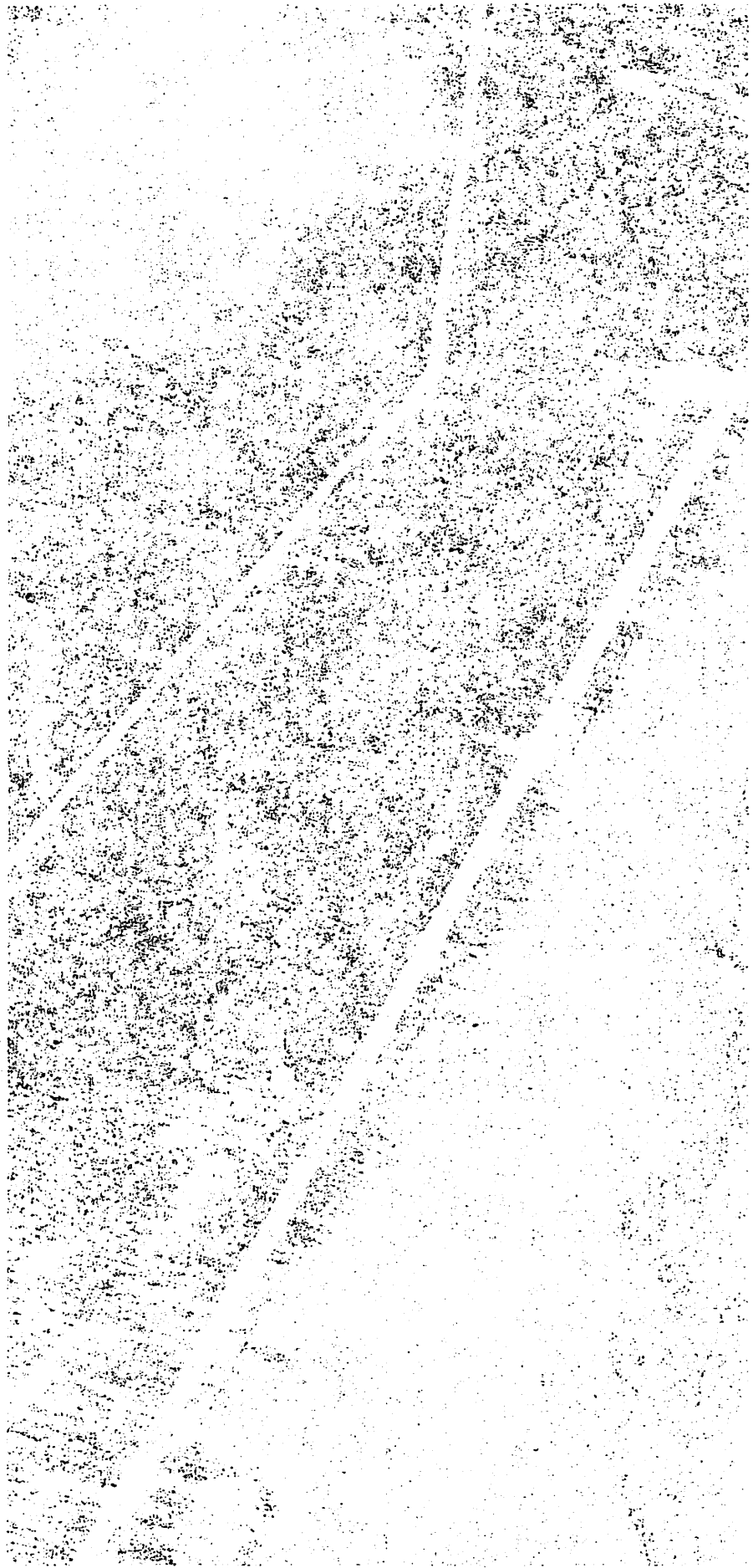
SIZE **B**
 DWG. NO. DAYBOX ASSY 42X42X46
 REV **A**
 SCALE: 1:16 WEIGHT: SHEET 1 OF 1





Imagery ©2026 Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2026 Google 100 ft

Measure distance
Total distance: 1,177.07 ft (358.77 m)





County of Lassen
Department of Planning and Building Services

• Planning • Building • Environmental Health • Code Enforcement • Surveyor • Surface Mining

Gaylon F. Norwood, Director
707 Nevada Street, Suite 5
Susanville, CA 96130-3912
Phone: 530 251-8269
Fax: 530 251-8373
email: landuse@co.lassen.ca.us
website: www.co.lassen.ca.us

March 27, 2026

Timothy Short
West Coast Blasting Services
1740 N National Ave #1024
Chehalis, WA 98532
tim@westcoastblasting.com
916-572-9051

Zoning & Building
Inspection Requests
Phone: 530 257-5263

Re: Request for Determination of Similar Use, Lassen County Code § 18.36.020; Location Highway 36, Westwood CA 96137, APN 115-120-022

Dear Mr. Short:

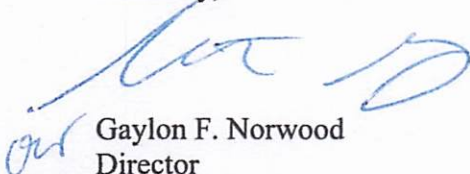
Pursuant to Lassen County Code Chapter 18.122 (Interpretive Action) you have requested a determination of similar use for storing explosives, as described in your attached letter.

The project site is zoned "U-C-2" (Upland Conservation/Resource Management District) and is located on Highway 36, Westwood, CA 96137. The proposed use involves a parcel of land that is 2 acres in size and is undeveloped.

After reviewing applicable code and the submitted project description, this Department has determined that an explosive storage as described, is not a use similar in character to those uses allowed in a U-C-2 zoning district.

This interpretation may be appealed to the Lassen County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Lassen County Code Section 18.122.050. An appeal would need to be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, together with a filing fee of \$785.00 (pursuant to Lassen County Code Section 3.18.020) within ten days of this notice.

Sincerely,



Gaylon F. Norwood
Director

GFN:cjm
Enclosure