

**Mono Basin RPAC
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center**

Members present: Duncan King, Bartshe Miller, Chris Lizza, Ilene Mandelbaum, Kristie Nelson and Lisa Cutting.

Public Attendees and Presenters: Paul McFarland, Bob Gardner, Lynn Boulton, Margaret Eisler, Jill Batchelder, Gary Nelson, Alex Aguilar and one other SCE employee.

1. **Call to Order:** 6:37 pm.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Election of Officers:** The slate of Vice-Chair, Bartshe Miller, and Secretary, Margy Verba was approved. Kristie Nelson proposed, Ilene Mandelbaum, vote was unanimous.
4. **Review Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2017 were approved with the following changes; add Eisler to Margaret in public attendees, item 6 line 1 add Sheep grazing at Conway Ranch, item 7c line 3 delete 'including those for interpretive uses'. Throughout the minutes change 'proposed' to 'moved'. Chris Lizza moved, Bartshe Miller seconded. The vote was unanimous.
5. **Supervisor's Report:** Bob Gardner reported on the BOS EMS meeting. The cost is \$4M annually, half by the taxpayers and half by the users. As 70% of the calls are for non-residents there is an imbalance and a change to 25%/75% users/taxpayers would be more appropriate. A geographic imbalance between use of service and unit locations is also being addressed. Bob encouraged taxpayers to look at the budget on the county website. The county has renewed the moratorium on type 2 short term rentals for another ten months and again Bob encouraged everyone to get involved in this issue and make their feelings and concerns known to the county. Cemetery fees and procedures have been finalized. There is no projected date for Tioga Pass opening for 2017. Bob is pursuing the idea of twice monthly status reports from the Park Service. Safety overrides any other concerns but an improved flow of information on this would help everyone.
6. **Chairman's Report:** Lisa Cutting reported that a large rock fell from the Marina Fire burn area but that the rail and fence did their job of protecting the highway and people on it. A large bulge in the fence shows the force of the impact. She attended the BOS meeting on 3/14 on Short term rentals and reinforced the need for community engagement. At the Fire Safe Council meeting there was an encouraging level of commitment on the action items – the next meeting is on Wednesday 4/19 at the Fire Hall. Lee Vining Post Office staffing (or lack of) remains a problem.
7. **Member's reports:**
 - a. Chris Lizza: Chris reported that he had always found the Park Service to be proactive on snow removal on Tioga Pass. Mammoth Mountain has offered assistance with snow clearing but the Park Service seems reluctant on this. He has always found that the park starts on time (4/15 or the first work day after) and works at it until the road can be opened safely. Caltrans clearing up to the gate is more variable. On the transient housing issue please ask Chris for more information if you feel the need. Part of his role on the Planning Commission is reporting back to the RPAC. As of 4/12 the Mammoth Mountain ski holdings have been sold to KSL Capital Investors, a conglomerate led by Aspen Ski Corp.
 - b. Bartshe Miller: Bartshe reported he had recently visited Tioga Pass and found 10 metres of snow at the elbow and that there was no sign of the road at the

Blue Slide – it is completely covered by snow. Most lake levels are at or near all-time highs, and we have just experienced the biggest winter since 1995.

- c. Ilene Mandelbaum: Ilene reported she and Cedar met with Randy Walker at the Caltrans station to discuss removal of an unsightly barbed wire fence, inquired as to the purpose of the bait boxes, and that the big lights should be down shielded. She also asked for support for the community garden.
 - d. Duncan King: Duncan reported on progress with the 350 MONO group. Ideas for a Solar Pavilion in Hess Park are proceeding. The RPAC response was that they would like to see more community involvement in this, and receive a specific proposal at a later time. There is a March in Bishop on Earth Day, April 22, and there will be another Climate Change Seminar preceding the Mono Basin Chautauqua on June 15.
 - e. Zane Davis: Absent.
 - f. Marby Verba: Absent.
 - g. Kristie Nelson: Kristie reported that the recycling bins at the Pumice Valley Dump station were often full to overflowing. Supervisor Gardner to follow up on this.
8. **ESTA Unmet Transit Needs:** Jill Batchelder gave a brief review on ESTA confirming that in 2017 the current 4 days/week Reno run will continue. They have had an interesting winter weather season but the bus almost always got through. The Non-Emergency Medical Transport scheme has been a success for Inyo and Mono county residents needing access to out of region medical services. A mileage allowance of 23.5 cents/mile is available for patients to reimburse their volunteer drivers. A discussion on the unmet needs of children for access to recreational activities followed.
 9. **SCE Infrastructure Update:** Alex Aguilar announced that 59 poles are to be replaced this year (by December 31, 2017) on the transmission lines between Lundy and Lee Vining. Out of a total of 4187 poles. This will bring the recently replaced total to 100 after the Marina Fire and other damage. On the issue of bird guards, the new poles are bird-friendly (friendly to SCE that is, in that the birds then won't or can't perch in hazardous areas). However, let SCE know of any old poles that need guards. Clearing vegetation from around poles has pros and cons. The Mono Basin Fire Safe Council will ponder this issue at the next meeting.
 10. **Planning Staff Update –** Report of development activities in the Mono Basin – Sage grouse counts started this week in the Mono Basin. On the Planning Commission agenda are two items in the basin – the first is the issue of use permits for RACE (the last mile provider for high speed Internet from D395) in the Crowley and Lee Vining areas. Mono City will follow later. The other item is a change in use permit from single family residence to B&B by Mono Lake within the Forest Service Scenic Area. Mono Basin Fire Safe Council – on 3/15 action items received owners...next meeting 4/19. There will be a hazardous waste drop-off 4/22 at Lee Vining Community Center from 7:30 a.m ... also e-waste drop-off...also LV town clean-up day is 4/22.
 11. Upcoming Agenda item: Caltrans ADA sidewalk project – an expanded version of this will be presented.
 12. **Adjourn: 8:40 Next meeting Wednesday, May 11, 2017**

Prepared by Duncan King