



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: The First, Second, and Third Tuesday of each month. Location of meeting is specified just below.

MEETING LOCATION Mammoth Lakes BOS Meeting Room, 3rd Fl. Sierra Center Mall, Suite 307, 452 Old Mammoth Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

**Regular Meeting
August 18, 2015**

9:00 AM Meeting to Order by Chairman Fesko.

*Supervisors present: Alpers, Corless, Fesko, Johnston and Stump.
Supervisors absent: None.*

*Break: 10:31 a.m.
Reconvene: 10:44 a.m.
Lunch: 11:48 a.m.
Reconvene: 12:33 p.m.
Break: 1:47 p.m.
Reconvene: 2:00 p.m.
Break: 3:37 p.m.
Reconvene: 3:47 p.m.
Adjourn: 4:48 p.m.*

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Corless.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors stream all of their meetings live on the internet and archives them afterward. To listen to any meetings from June 2, 2015 forward, please go to the following link: <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/meetings>.

1. **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Rick Phelps:

- He is from the High Sierra Energy Foundation; also with him is Pam Bold. He wants to focus on numbers, as is the Board's topic today. The High Sierra Energy Foundation has been in operation as a non-profit for over ten years. Next number is \$160,100, the approximate savings from the recent direct install program in government facilities and businesses. This is the

- estimated savings over the next 5 years.
- Another program is the Energy Upgrade California, and they distribute information about the PACE program to Mono Co residents.

Supervisor Stump:

- He assumes the Foundation is aware of the County's PACE program?

Deb Schweizer:

- She is the Public Affairs Officer for the Inyo National Forest. She wanted to give an update on the Walker Fire. As of this morning, it is 20% contained at 3,613 acres. They are seeing a downhill easterly push, which is unusual. The firefighters are putting in some really hard work. Good news, they received a lot of resources yesterday.
- She is very grateful for social media, as it is a great way to get information out. The origin of the fire is still under investigation.

Supervisor Alpers:

- Congratulations to all involved for the quick response. Just watching the fire, wanted to compliment the fire fighters in and around the June Lake community. The communities have been very lucky so far.
- Shelley Abajian of Senator Feinstein's office sent a text for anyone who needs help on the Walker Fire to contact her office.

Supervisor Corless:

- Acknowledged that the use of social media is important in disasters.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Board Minutes

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 4, 2015, as corrected.

M15-177

Johnston moved, Alpers seconded.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no.

Supervisor Johnston:

- On page 5 under Scott Burns, it should say "general plan", not "general transportation plan".
- On page 7 under Supervisor Alpers, change "will to host" to "willing to host".
- On page 8 under his second bullet point, change "overhead lines done fit" to "overhead lines don't fit".

B. Board Minutes

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 11, 2015, as corrected.

M15-178

Stump moved, Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no.

Supervisor Stump:

- On page 11 under his bullet point, replace "tourism" with "jurisdictions".
- On page 12 under his comment, insert "Lower Rock Creek" before the word trail.

3. RECOGNITIONS - NONE

4. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

The Board did not hear Member reports.

5. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

The CAO had nothing to report at this time.

6. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

No one spoke.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

A. MOU with American Red Cross Los Angeles Region

Departments: Social Services

Proposed MOU to document the cooperative relationship between the American Red Cross Los Angeles Region and Mono County in providing emergency preparedness and disaster services.

Action: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the American Red Cross Los Angeles Region and Mono County for cooperation in providing emergency preparedness and disaster services.

M15-179

Corless moved, Stump seconded.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no

B. Hiring Freeze Variance; DSS Social Worker

Departments: Social Services

A Social Worker III position within the Child and Adult Welfare Division of Social Services was vacated by the incumbent in June 2015. Social Workers respond to and investigate reports of child and elder adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation, provide case management and arrange for services, assess needs of adults and children for in-home care, conduct court investigations, and provide conservatorship services for adults and families. Leaving this vacant position unfilled poses safety concerns. This position is included in the current BOS-approved Allocation List.

Action: Approve hiring freeze variance and authorize the Director of Social Services to fill one Social Worker I/II/III vacancy within the Child and Adult Services Division of Social Services.

M15-180

Corless moved, Stump seconded.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no

- C. Pumice Valley Landfill Purchase Agreement Revision
Departments: Solid Waste Division of Public Works

Resolution #R15-59, Acknowledging and Approving Minor Typographical Corrections and Changes to Agreement of Purchase and Sale of Real Property for the Pumice Valley Landfill Site, Previously Approved by Resolution 15-01.

Action: Approving Minor Typographical Corrections and Changes to Agreement of Purchase and Sale of Real Property for the Pumice Valley Landfill Site, Previously Approved by Resolution 15-01.

R15-59

Corless moved, Stump seconded.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (INFORMATIONAL)

All items listed are located in the Office of the Clerk of the Board, and are available for review.

- A. Wildlife Conservation Board

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Correspondence dated August 3, 2015 from the Wildlife Conservation Board regarding Summers Meadow, Mono County (Project ID: 2014087) and the consideration of the acquisition of land for the preservation and enhancement of high desert wildlife habitat.

- B. Los Angeles Times Article on State Road Funds

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Correspondence forwarded by Supervisor Johnston regarding an article in the LA Times on Road Funding Shortfalls at the State level.

- C. BLM Regarding Proposed Sagebrush Habit Restoration

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Correspondence dated July 31, 2015 from the Bureau of Land Management regarding site specific planning that is occurring for two proposed sagebrush habitat restoration treatments in the Bodie Hills near Bridgeport, CA.

9. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

- A. Discussion Regarding California Public Utilities Commission

Departments: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(Cody Naylor) - Cody Naylor from the California Public Utilities Commission will introduce himself to the Board of Supervisors, describe the work of the CPUC, and answer questions from the Supervisors about how the CPUC can be helpful to Mono County.

Action: None.

Cody Naylor:

- The CPUC is a State regulatory agency. Priorities of the commission are safety, reliability, and affordability. The CPUC is best known as a regulator of electric utilities, but also oversees other companies such as water companies, the railroads, and shuttle and bus companies. He is available to keep us informed.
- Credits the county's effort to reach out to CPUC regarding the importance of redundancy. He offers to be a resource for scams or fraud, and help connect residents to assistance programs. Some income based programs for electricity or telephone include the CARE program, California Lifeline (phone), and programs to assist people with disabilities as well.
- Thanks the supervisors for comments, and agrees that good, reliable connections are critical. It is a challenge to get some big telecommunications companies to make investments out here.

Supervisor Fesko:

- There is no direct connection from North County to South County. He would like a redundancy plan in place for the 911 system to improve public safety. Would like to see Frontier take advantage of fiber currently in the area, and wants current projects such as "last mile provider" completed.

Supervisor Stump:

- Thanked Cody for coming. He feels it is a big improvement to have an assigned representative to the County. There is a tremendous disempowerment among his constituents. Commissioner Sandoval has really stepped up for Mono County, so thank you to her. Race Communications has grant applications, and they need to be supported. Large sections of his district are without cell service or only have one provider. His district has lots of agriculture and we are in a dry period. Farmers have already connected a pivot device to a cell service in case of problems to save water, but this is reliant on a good cell connection.

Supervisor Alpers:

- Aquaculture is very important to our county. The County is considering an aquaculture operation on county property in the Mono Basin. It is very important to monitor operations on computers, so connections are critical.

B. Budget Hearings

Departments: Finance/CAO

PUBLIC HEARING: 9:30 A.M. / 4 Hours (30 minute presentation; 3.5 hour discussion)

(Leslie Chapman) - Public hearing followed by proposed resolution R15-60, A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Adopting the Final Mono County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. To view the budget document, please visit the following link:
<http://monocounty.ca.gov/auditor/page/2015-16-proposed-budget>

BOARD INTENDS TO HEAR POLICY ITEMS AT 2:00 P.M.

Action: Adopt proposed resolution R15- 60, A Resolution of the Mono

County Board of Supervisors Adopting the Final Mono County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. Provide any desired direction to staff.

R15-60

Supervisor Fesko:

- There will be no closed session items today. Policy items to be heard at 2:00 p.m. Opened public hearing on budget items.

Leslie Chapman: POWER POINT

- Town Hall Recap
- How we covered the \$1.8m gap
- CAO recommended County Budget: Balanced, no new debt, maintains current services
- Overview of 2015-2016 total budget
- Overview of the Non-general fund
- Chart of Non-general fund expenditures
- Overview of the general fund
- Chart of general fund expenditures
- Certified fund balance for the 2015-2016 FY Budget: \$2,265,805
- Policy Items availability
- Community Feedback and Recommendations
- County Liabilities – Unmet Needs

Leslie Chapman:

- The differences between the CAO recommended budget and the department requested budget are all policy items.
- At last session when the strategic plan came forward, we weren't far enough along to agree on one year goals. Asked Board and departments for lists of goals, then outlined department goals that also fit in with Supervisors' goals.
- In CAO budget, there is \$365k for contingency, or 1% of general fund budget, as recommended by County policy. We are roughly \$200k short of policy minimum due to expenses from the Round Fire.
- The County has internal service funds; it is very important that state and federal monies are only used for their intended purpose and not put into the general fund.

Supervisor Alpers:

- Compliments to Leslie, County Finance Director. Her presentation was well explained, simplistic. How does all this fit in with our strategic planning efforts? Compliments also to Robin Roberts on her department plan; all seems to be inline with the strategic plan.

Supervisor Corless:

- Strategic planning group has been working consistently to get a final document that incorporates all Board and Department head comments and goals that is inline with budget. Next year will be done differently. Wanted to get through budget first this year.

Lynda Salcido:

- Each department in the County works within mandates, directives, and regulations; how do we recognize these within the strategic plan? Rather than ask department heads to envision all new things, we wanted to take time to recognize what we're already doing. By next year, that should be very well integrated into the process.

Supervisor Johnston:

- Although were pursuing a strategic plan, we are limited as to what we can do through mandates/regulations. Suggests listening to each policy item, then

prioritize and decide what's important to us this year.

Roberta Reed:

- General update on reimbursement from insurance companies from Round Fire. Waiting on roughly \$100k; needs to have phone conversation with OES representative.
- Reimbursements are not included in the current budget.

Department Heads

The following Department Heads came before the board and summarized and answered questions about their budgets. Board members provided direction as necessary:

Ingrid Braun – Sheriff:

- Personnel – department currently has 4 vacancies; requesting to fill 2 for the remaining 9 month of this fiscal year. Looking to hire laterals; cannot afford to send someone to the academy at this time. Full time hires would require future funding to continue the employment; she expects to have the funding available next year.
- Equipment – needs to purchase vests for staff, and some grant money is available. Vests have an expiration date, and she wants her PSOs to have vests as well. Tactical equipment is needed, some exterior gear for vests. Body cams are already in use and fully funded. Not looking to militarize, wants to enhance safety and community involvement.
- Armory – increased expenditures by \$22k to replace existing, out-of-warranty guns. The current guns are no longer supported and need to be replaced before they fail; believes this is a safety issue. Ammunition budget is reasonable; they were able to conduct all range training last year within budget.
- Search and Rescue – no revenue. Almost all volunteer, works on a mutual-aid agreement with surrounding areas.
- **Board:**
 - Discussion and questions related to hiring staff, the purchase of vests and tactical equipment, the replacement of shotguns. Can the existing guns be salvaged/sold back? Are we replacing these prematurely? Questions regarding the hiring of staff and how shifts are covered with existing staff and OT. Is Search and Rescue revenue-generating? Grand Jury recommended a relief cook to alleviate OT for 2 existing cooks.

Rob DeForrest – EMS:

- Equipment – the department needs to maintain self-contained breathing apparatus for use in hazardous situations such as carbon monoxide, overturned propane tanker, and others. Not for entry on fire scene. These have already been on the rigs and are in the job descriptions for employees to use them. Received \$100k on grant, to not use them is a waste.
- Education/training – Trying to bring in training to the guys, rather than send them out. Some outside training is required.
- Department was at 90% of OT budget by mid-year last year. The \$150k budgeted for OT depends on injuries, admin leave, etc., OT also incurs when another County department asks for standby; that increases revenue, but OT has to be paid to cover.
- Community outreach – community involvement has increased; more blood pressure checks, more outreach in schools.
- **Board:**
 - Discussion and questions surrounding the need for the self-contained breathing apparatus, safety issues of not having them available is not a

risk to be taken. Question about the current state of the department OT. Asked for comparison of last year's budget to this year's, in light of the additional money put into the program.

- **Leslie Chapman:**
 - Last year's budget versus this year's is about \$190k increase, but budgeted OT is \$150k less. Last year, concessions were expected but not realized.

Tony Dublino – Public Works (Conway Ranch):

- Goal for next year, if we move forward with RFP, is we need to look at a comprehensive long term plan for property. Thinks an RFP in aquaculture is in the future. The Fisheries Commission should want to participate in discussions on the property. Wants to involve Mono Basin RPAC, maybe a subcommittee to focus on property, conservation easement was helpful to defining use, but won't chart the course to where we need or want to be years from now.
- The direction of the Ranch is a good example of why the board needs to get together and give him clear direction on what we want to do out there. Doesn't feel the budget hearings are the time to hash out what direction to take Conway Ranch in.
- **Supervisor Alpers:**
 - Compliment Tony on work done out there. Doesn't see the planning as a huge impact on the budget, save for staff time, but is an asset to the County. Sees potential revenue streams with a bit of restoration.
- **Supervisor Johnston:**
 - What is our overall plan for the Ranch? Higher level questions, more suitable for Economic Development and/or Planning Commission, may include development of RFP.
- **Supervisor Fesko:**
 - This should be brought back at a regular meeting as a workshop in September or October.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

10. **CLOSED SESSION WAS NOT HELD**

A. **Closed Session--Human Resources**

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Marshall Rudolph, John Vallejo, Leslie Chapman, and Lynda Salcido. Employee Organization(s): Mono County Sheriff's Officers Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association), Local 39--majority representative of Mono County Public Employees (MCPE) and Deputy Probation Officers Unit (DPOU), Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association (PARA), Mono County Public Safety Officers Association (PSO), and Mono County Sheriff Department's Management Association (SO Mgmt). Unrepresented employees: All.

REGULAR AFTERNOON SESSION COMMENCES 12:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

11. REGULAR AGENDA - AFTERNOON

A. Budget Hearings

Departments: Finance/CAO

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING

(Leslie Chapman) - Continuation of Public hearing followed by proposed resolution R15-60, A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Adopting the Final Mono County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. To view the budget document, please visit the following link: <http://monocounty.ca.gov/auditor/page/2015-16-proposed-budget>

BOARD INTENDS TO HEAR POLICY ITEMS AT 2:00 P.M.

Action: Adopt proposed resolution R15-60, A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Adopting the Final Mono County Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

R15-60

Johnston moved, Alpers seconded

Vote: 4 yes; 1 no; Fesko.

Jeff Walters – Public Works (Roads):

- Discussed organization chart handout because previous version was incorrect.
- Roughly 2 months' time for hiring, wants to come to board with hiring freeze variance, then work on internal recruitments. Has 4 vacancies total. These positions are budgeted for the full year. Asked the Board to confirm that if the budget is approved, he can move forward with the 2 new hires he has waiting.
- Vianey has information on the cemetery burial plots and can give an update when she returns.
- **Board:**
 - Congratulations on dealing effectively with the shortfall so we can hire roads employees. Feel we need to address setting aside monies for roads, given the State funding crisis, and avalanche safety, as we may have an El Nino winter, as per an email Supervisor Stump received (included in Additional Documents). How quickly can we get people hired and trained, ready for winter? Pull money out of contingency if it's needed, at the time?
 - Discussion that hiring these employees needs to be done whether or not the El Nino winter hits. Asked County Counsel whether a hiring freeze variance could be granted today. Directed Public Works to begin the 10-day internal recruitment process. Confirmed that Public Works is authorized to hire the 2 people waiting, fly in-house for the other 2 positions, and come back to the Board in September with the hiring variance.
- **Marshall Rudolph:**
 - Public Works can go ahead with hiring, start the process, then go to

Board for direction in middle of process. It is the action of hiring that requires the variance from the Board.

Joe Blanchard – Public Works (Facilities):

- Parks - We do projects out of a CIP fund. Both Benton and Chalfant parks need extra help. Previously, we attacked a weed problem which exceeded whole fund. Before, we did half the basketball court, with the intention of doing all of it this year.
- Campgrounds – We are below average on fees, but our campgrounds are basic, while others may have “fluff”. Discussion on how BLM fees compare to similar County campgrounds. The County has a contract with an individual to service campgrounds which increased, and our septic contract increased.
- The camping season is not over, so the numbers do not reflect total revenue for this season.
- **Board:**
 - The CIP fund for these parks was from a mitigation fee to White Mountain Estates #1; fees for White Mountain Estates #2 have been waived. General discussion regarding approval of having a CIP fund for parks.
 - What are we charging for camping? Are we in line with other campgrounds? Question regarding whether the County should be running a campground or if we want to continue directing staff time toward this? Discussion whether camping nights have changed when fees were increased. *Consensus to bring fee schedule back as an item for fee increase to begin next camping season.
 - The campground budget says contract services have gone up. What kind of services?

Animal Control:

- **Board:**
 - Can the County run a no-kill shelter? Acknowledged that Animal Control has worked hard to bring animals from other shelters and get them adopted and increase revenues. Commend Animal Control for this.
 - The Grand Jury analyzed AC this year and recommended that records be digitized. Looking to implement this through new finance system this year. Grand Jury was critical of Mammoth Lakes for not contributing to AC services; may be potential in the future for the Town to contract with the County for AC services.

Garrett Higerd – Public Works (Engineering):

- The department has 5 employees. One is retiring at the end of year, one is out on maternity leave. Daily work is transitioning in the next 6 months as projects are completed. Then, he can re-evaluate staffing needs, depending on whether we see a revival in land development. Airport work is needed.
- Linked the Academy (High School in Bridgeport) closing its doors to negative growth and not being able to find someone with the qualifications they require.
- **Board:**
 - General discussion regarding the stress levels in the department due to understaffing. General consensus to bring the idea of an intern back the Board at mid-year.

Alicia Vennos - Economic Development:

- State of the County Part 2 is in the works. Three ideas in the works. \$20k

Incentive program to encourage existing businesses to expand and grow is in policy items.

**BOARD DISCUSSION ON NON-GENERAL FUND POLICY ITEMS:
TOTAL NON-GENERAL FUND POLICY ITEMS: \$620,942**

- **Clerk-Recorder:**
 - De-acidify and preserve old Recorder's documents: **\$150,000**
 - Potentially replace document recordation system: **\$50,000**
 - Replace map storage racks: **\$15,000**
 - Scan and digitally store old Recorder's documents: **\$25,000**
- **Public Health:**
 - Promote Admin. Services Specialist to Public Health Fiscal & Administrative Services Officer: **\$4,453**
 - Promote Health Program Manager to Director of Nursing: **\$5,316**
- **Public Works/Motor Pool:**
 - Replace 4 vehicles: **\$126,000**
 - **Board:** questions regarding the need for each vehicle, discussion on base prices, gas mileage, intended use of vehicles.
 - Backup power for fuel system: **\$16,000**
 - **Board:** Motor pool to fund, upgrades needed, existing system has issues.
 - CARB compliant dual purpose water truck/dump-plow truck: **\$224,547**
 - **Board:** Discussion on replacing 2 older pieces of equipment with 1 multi-use piece.
- **Social Services:**
 - Promote 2 Eligibility Worker I/II positions to Integrated Caseworker I/II positions: **\$1,298**
 - Promote 1 Eligibility Supervisor to a Supervising Integrated Caseworker: **\$3,328**

**BOARD DISCUSSION ON GENERAL FUND POLICY ITEMS:
TOTAL GENERAL FUND POLICY ITEMS: \$414,337
USE FROM CONTINGENCY: \$65,000**

- **Board of Supervisors:**
 - General Fund Reserve (Bring to 5% of Current Expenditures): **\$38,934**
 - CIP Fund – Park Improvement Set-Aside/Benton: **\$5,000**
 - CIP Fund – Park Improvement Set-Aside/Chalfant: **\$2,000**
 - Facilities – Complete Chalfant Basketball Courts: **\$7,500**
 - Property Tax Admin Fee Refund (6 smallest fire districts): **\$20,000**
 - Arts & Culture: **\$5,000**
 - Discussion: split this category out of from Community Grant Program to target this genre specifically.
 - Contribution to Youth Sports Programs: **\$6,000**
 - Discussion: Stuart Need from AYSO, represents 600 kids, they need funding to keep youth sports alive.
- **Assessor:**
 - Add to Harold W. Bertholf, Inc. contract for pending appeal: **\$50,000**
 - Add to Norman Dowler, LLP contract for pending appeal: **\$50,000**
 - Discussion: Adding to existing contracts.
- **Community Development/Planning:**
 - Temporary Intern – part time, unbenefited: **\$7,513**
 - Discussion: Tied to grant revenue.
- **Economic Development:**
 - New/Expanding Business Incentive Grant: **\$0**

MEETING MINUTES

Aug 18, 2015

Page 12 of 12

- **Economic Development/Tourism:**
 - Film Commission marketing support: **\$5,000**
 - California State Fair exhibit and Interagency Visitor's Center: **\$10,000**
 - Community Event Marketing Fund: **\$20,000**
 - Contribution to Mono Historical Societies: **\$6,000**
 - Trail Maintenance Program: **\$8,500**
 - Air Service Subsidy: **\$50,000**
 - Discussion: Stump and Fesko cannot support this; TOML does not give air subsidy.
- **Information Technology:**
 - Bridgeport Board of Supervisors Video Equipment: **\$25,000**
- **Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services:**
 - Increased Radio Contract: **\$97,980**
 - Discussion: Took bids to improve existing radio system with maintenance contract.

Supervisor Alpers:

- This is the only 1 of 13 budgets he's been involved in that have been completed in one day. Thank you to the staff.

Supervisor Fesko:

- Thank you to all department heads; great job!

ADJOURN 4:48 p.m.

ATTEST

TIMOTHY E. FESKO
CHAIRMAN

HELEN NUNN
SR. DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD