



**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.
Teleconference Only - No Physical Location

**Regular Meeting
August 18, 2020**

9:01 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chair Corless.

Supervisors Present: Corless, Gardner, Kreitz, Peters, and Stump (all attended via teleconference).

Supervisors Absent: None.

All votes were conducted by roll call.

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by CAO Lawton.

Supervisor Stump:

- "How poor are they that have not patience! What wound did ever heal but by degrees?" - William Shakespeare

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. Recognition of Antelope Valley Fire Chief and Regional Planning Advisory Committee Chair Mike Curti

Departments: Board of Supervisors

(Supervisor Peters) - Proposed resolution in appreciation and recognition of Mike Curti, Antelope Valley Fire Chief and Regional Planning Advisory Committee Chair, who will be retiring.

Action: Adopt resolution in appreciation and recognition of Mike Curti.

Supervisor Peters:

- Introduced item and Mike Curti
- Read proclamation

Mike Curti:

- Thanked the Board of Supervisors
- Spoke of his career and 10 years as fire chief

Peters moved; Stump seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-168

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Presentation by Beth Cohen
- Economic Recovery Branch meeting
- Meeting with Sheriff regarding Animal Control
- Budget Workshop
- Business Round Table

4. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

Robin Roberts, Behavioral Health Director:

- Met with County staff and Dr. Jei Africa regarding racial equity issues

Kathy Peterson, Social Services Director:

- Update on Rental Program through Mammoth Lakes Housing

5. 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. Reappointment of Richard Liebersbach to Assessment Appeals Board

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Richard Liebersbach has been a member of the Assessment Appeals Board since 2005. His current term expires on August 31, 2020.

Action: Reappoint Richard Liebersbach to the Assessment Appeals Board for a three-year term, effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2023.

Peters moved; Stump seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-169

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Thanked Richard Liebersbach for years of service on Assessment Appeals Board

B. Contract with Tarzana Treatment Centers for the Provision of Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services

Departments: Behavioral Health

Proposed contract with Tarzana Treatment Centers for the Provision of Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services.

Action: Approve County entry into proposed contract and authorize CAO to execute said contract on behalf of the County.

Peters moved; Stump seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-170

C. Reappointment to First 5 Mono County Children and Families Commission

Departments: First 5

Request for Board of Supervisors to reappoint Patricia Robertson to the First 5 Mono County Children and Families Commission.

Action: Reappoint Patricia Robertson to the Mono County Children and Families Commission to serve a second three-year term expiring May 1, 2023. In accordance with Chapter 7.90 of the Mono County Code, Ms. Robertson, as the Director of Mammoth Lakes Housing, wishes to serve under the membership category: representative of a community-based organization that has the goal of promoting or nurturing early childhood development.

Peters moved; Stump seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-171

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Direction may be given to staff regarding, and/or the Board may discuss, any item of correspondence listed on the agenda.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

A. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Letter re: Request for an Extension of Time to Submit Part 12 Recommendations 9-12 for the Tioga Project

A letter from Frank L. Blackett, P.E., Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Regional Engineer, to James A. Buerkle, Southern California Edison Company Director of Generation, granting a request for an extension of time to submit Part 12 Recommendations 9-12 for the Tioga Project, FERC No. 1388.

B. Statewide COVID-19 Racial Disparity Task Force Letter

A letter from ACLU of Northern California urging each county across the state to create a task force which will be designated to addressing the racial/ethnic disparities in COVID-19 data collection, impacts, and outcomes and includes membership from Black, Indigenous, and Latinx led community organizations.

Supervisor Gardner:

- Asked Robin Roberts to include this in the work she is currently doing with Dr. Jei Africa

Supervisor Corless:

- Asked CAO Lawton to bring this to EOC for consideration

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project

Departments: Board of Supervisors

(Stacy Corless) - Presentation by Janet Hatfield of Plumas Corporation on the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project. This fuels reduction and wildfire prevention project, currently in the planning stage, will treat 55,000 acres of land on the Inyo National Forest around Mammoth Lakes in Mono County.

Action: None.

Janet Hatfield, Plumas Corporation Project Manager:

- Presented the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project (presentation available on meeting webpage under Supporting Documents)

B. Appeal of Planning Commission's Approval of Use Permit 20-001/Barter for a Short-Term Rental in Swall Meadows

Departments: Community Development - Planning

(Kelly Karl) - Appeal by Amy Motroni & Pete Peterson of the Planning Commission's approval of Use Permit 20-001/Barter for an owner-occupied short-term rental in Swall Meadows.

Action: Adopt Resolution 20-80 granting the appeal and denying Use Permit 20-001/Barter and reversing the Planning Commission's May 21, 2020 decision.

Stump moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 4 yes, 1 no

R20-80

Kelly Karl, Assistant Planner:

- Introduced item

Supervisor Stump:

- Follow up communications with the community, this Resolution and the following Ordinance represents a majority of community members' wishes

C. Ordinance Prohibiting Short-Term Rentals in the Community of Swall Meadows

Departments: Community Development - Planning

(Kelly Karl) - Proposed Ordinance of the Mono County Board of Supervisors prohibiting Short-Term Rentals in Swall Meadows.

Action: Introduce, read title and waive further reading of proposed Ordinance 20-___, prohibiting owner-occupied short-term rentals in Swall Meadows.

Stump moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-172

Kelly Karl, Assistant Planner:

- Introduced item

D. Appointment to Mono County Economic Development, Tourism and Film Commission

Departments: Economic Development

(Alicia Vennos) - Appointment of Scott Burkhard to the Economic Development, Tourism and Film Commission for a 4-year term from August 18, 2020 through June 30, 2024.

Action: Appoint Scott Burkhard to the Economic Development, Tourism and Film Commission for a 4-year term from August 18 through June 30, 2024.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-173

Supervisor Peters:

- Introduced Scott Burkard

Alicia Vennos:

- Thanked Scott Burkard for applying for the vacant position
- Acknowledged Chris Long and her longstanding time as a commissioner
- Acknowledged Pam Hamic, former president of Northern Mono Chamber of Commerce

Scott Burkard:

- Appreciate Board's consideration
- Interested in continuing to help support safe and appropriate tourism within Mono County

Break: 10:32 AM

Reconvened: 10:40 AM

E. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Departments: CAO

(Bob Lawton, CAO) - Update on Countywide response and planning related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including reports from the Emergency

Operations Center (EOC), Unified Command (UC), and the various branches of the EOC, including Community Support and Economic Recovery, Joint Information Center (JIC), and Public Health.

Action: None.

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Nobody currently quarantined at Sierra Nevada Resort
- Received 68 test results over the weekend with 1 positive result
- Latinx outreach committee met on July 28, thanked Robin Roberts
- EOC developing communication sheet to clarify accomplishments
- Staff is caught up on contact tracing
- The only specific advantage associated with being removed from the monitoring list is that schools can reopen without a waiver after 14 days off the list
- Mono County is scheduled to receive nearly \$1.6 million in epidemiology and laboratory capacity for prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases
- Three primary non-General Fund funding streams:
 - CARES Act funding – least restrictive, 1.4 million needs to be spent by December 30, 2020
 - ELC funding – 2.5 years to spend, must have spending plan in place by end of August
 - FEMA funding – requires 25% County match
- Mono Basin Visitor Center update

Chris Mokracek, EMS Chief:

- Public testing resuming
- Community Support, new taskforce leader
- EOC phone line will have a Spanish outgoing message in addition to English
- Increasing capacity of paramedics – flu shot clinics, COVID testing

Dr. Tom Boo, Mono County Health Officer:

- Mono County can be removed from the state monitoring list if positivity rates stay below the State threshold for at least three days
- Lag time between State and local data
- Second death due to COVID in Mono County
- Guidance on how ski industry in California will operate during the pandemic
- No success in obtaining rapid antigen tests for use by Public Health

Bryan Wheeler, Public Health Nurse:

- Typically receive COVID results back from UCSF within 2-3 days
- 2-1-1 line is available 8AM-5PM, 7 days a week

Alicia Vennos, Economic Development Director:

- Economic recovery
- Restaurants without outdoor seating capacity are struggling, as are personal care services
- Private RV parks and some of the lodging sector are doing well
- Lodging sector reporting dip in bookings after this weekend
- Town of Mammoth Lakes has allocated funds to various business grant applicants from their Business Assistance Program.
- Working with CAO Lawton and Finance Director Dutcher to develop a similar program for the unincorporated business community

Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff:

- Public Lands Enforcement Meeting – productive meeting to review what is going on in all the different areas of enforcement
- DWP still having issues at Grant Lake
- Receiving calls regarding illegal campfires and illegal camping
- Mammoth Fire has offered their services to Inyo National Forest to patrol Mammoth Scenic Loop
- In order to have a campfire on Inyo National Forest or BLM land, you must be at an established campsite that you have paid for, with a campfire ring
- Per Mammoth Fire, this fire restriction also applies to private land. Homeowners with a campfire ring cannot have an open flame wood fire in their backyard.

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Noted that a large portion of the Public Lands Enforcement Meeting consisted of BLM, Humboldt-Toiyabe, and other agencies thanking the Mono County Sheriff's Department for their assistance, support, and response.

Supervisor Kreitz:

- Possibility of using CARES Act funding or other funding sources to help support essential workers who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are unable to work

Supervisor Peters:

- Request for comprehensive document showing available funds and appropriations
- Work with the Town to make sure any gaps are filled

Supervisor Gardner:

- Focus on the needs of the community

Supervisor Corless:

- Thanked Sheriff Braun for her leadership and work dealing with public lands related law enforcement issues
- Thanked MLPD and MLFD for their work

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

9. CLOSED SESSION

*Closed Session: 12:02 PM
Reconvened: 1:01 PM*

Nothing to report out of Closed Session.

A. Closed Session - Public Employee Evaluation

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

B. Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Bob Lawton, Stacey Simon, Dave Butters, Janet Dutcher, and Anne Frievalt. 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). Unrepresented employees: All.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION WILL RECONVENE NO EARLIER THAN 1:00 P.M.

10. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

11. REGULAR AGENDA - AFTERNOON

A. Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act Funds

Departments: Economic Development

(Jeff Simpson) - Public hearing regarding request to approve by resolution an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cares Act Funds in the amount of \$64,484 for a Microenterprise Financial and Technical Assistance Program.

Action: Conduct public hearing. Approve an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cares Act Funds in the amount of \$64,484 for a Microenterprise Financial and Technical Assistance Program.

Gardner moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R20-81

Alicia Vennos, Economic Development Director:

- Introduced item

Jeff Lucas, Community Development Services Principal:

- First phase of funds, additional funds available in a month
- Provide assistance and grant funds to businesses that are either members of the low-moderate income group or have employees who meet that requirement.
- Targeted specifically for small businesses with 5 employees or less. Program offers no flexibility for businesses with more than 5 employees.
- Allowable program costs: lease costs, purchasing additional equipment to improve their business/cash flow, any legitimate business cost that is needed for the business to retain itself and there are no other available resources the business can pursue
- Application process to establish eligibility

Public Hearing opened: 1:14 PM

Public Comment:

- No Name
- No Name

Public Hearing closed: 1:16 PM

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Corless:

- Thanks to our staff for budget process and last week's workshops!
- 8/12: Rural County Representatives of California Board Meeting. Official announcement from CEO/President Greg Norton that he will retire at the end of the year, executive committee is starting the search process. RCRC board voted to take positions on 5 of the upcoming ballot measures
- RCRC Homeowner's Insurance Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) adopted a "Support" position Assembly Bill 2167 (Daly), which would establish the Insurance Market Action Plan (IMAP) program. The Committee also adopted a "Support" position on the accompanying bill, Senate Bill 292 (S. Rubio), which would, among other provisions, create a process that identifies counties eligible under the IMAP program.
- 8/14: Golden State Natural Resources board meeting--reports on feasibility studies for feedstock, processing facilities, economic/social/environmental impacts, call with state and forest service representatives re: USFS/California shared stewardship agreement
- 8/17: Meeting to discuss county anti-racism training, framework for addressing disparities county-wide. Looking to do an introductory presentation at Board of Supervisors meeting on 9/8 or 9/15, will work with CAO Lawton to schedule.

Supervisor Gardner:

- Last Wednesday morning I participated in a NACO Public Lands Policy Committee meeting. Topics covered included the Great American Outdoors Act, BLM wild horses and burros activity, the status of COVID-19 legislation, the status of FY 2020-2021 Congressional appropriations, and planned advocacy for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program.
- On Wednesday Aug. 12 I attended the Mono Basin RPAC Zoom meeting. Topics discussed included a COVID-19 update, the status of the SCE substation project, and ATV activity in the Mono City area.
- On Thursday I participated in the County Budget Board Workshop with other Board members.
- On Friday August 14 I participated in an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Zoom meeting. Topics discussed included ESCOG clerical and fiscal agreements, the status of ESCOG liability insurance, recruitment for an ESCOG part time Executive Director, a presentation by the Regional Fire and Forest Capacity Program, a presentation from the Innovative Financing for National Forest on the recent campground infrastructure grant award, and an update on Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership activity.
- Also, on Friday morning I participated in a Zoom meeting of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) Board of Directors. Topics and actions at that meeting included regular financial and operations reports, approval of two policy updates, approval of three grant applications, and review and approval of the ESTA

Strategic Business Plan. Ridership is slowly increasing this summer, although still below last year.

- I have also included with my Board report a copy of the draft ESTA Strategic Business Plan Dashboard. This is an excellent example of where I hope we can go with all our Depts. In the future. It shows in a simple and straightforward way to our Board and our citizens how we are doing providing service, as well as data on costs and other performance. Transit may be easier to measure than many County programs, but I would hope we can move in this direction sooner than later, of course after COVID-19 workload diminishes.

Supervisor Kreitz:

- On August 12, I attended the Mono County Census Committee meeting. Mono County is at 20.6% response rate, still the last in the state's 58 counties, the state response rate is at 65.6%. Census work sets are in our communities and there is still time to respond, through the end of September - at my2020census.org
- I participated along with the rest of the Board on Thursday, August 13 for the county's budget hearing. Many thanks to staff for putting together a comprehensive workshop!
- On Friday August 14th I attended the ESTA Board of Directors meeting. Ridership is still down but is picking up. The Board approved an ESTA Business Plan with a dynamic dashboard which will be used in part as a guide for the Executive Director's employee review.

Supervisor Peters:

- 8/11: Bridgeport RPAC - discussions about possible off-road activities, virtual Founders Day on Facebook
- Phone call with Katie Bellomo regarding Mill/Wilson Creek, followed up with CAO Lawton and Jason Canger. Looking forward to hearing more about that at future meetings.
- 8/12: Attended RCRC meeting
- Economic Recovery Branch meeting
- Budget Hearings – thanked Megan, Janet, and everyone involved with making the budget process a more palatable and digestible experience this year
- Petition circulating regarding the Bridgeport jail location. Requested staff arrange a community meeting to update Bridgeport community members on the status of the jail project.

Supervisor Stump:

- Capital Account Budget Hearing CSA 1 funding
- 8-13: County Budget Workshop
- \$44,000 for donations to community groups – would like to have this addressed as a separate item during budget hearing

ADJOURN AT 1:38 PM

ATTEST

**STACY CORLESS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
SENIOR DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**