



Community Development

Collaborative Planning Team – Federal, state, and local agency directors were joined by numerous public attendees Tuesday to discuss planning issues: USFS staff Debra Schweizer and Leeann Murphy presented an update on the Inyo Forest Plan, noting that comments are still sought; Ryan Dermody of Caltrans reviewed results of an origin & destination survey for Mono and Inyo counties; Deanna Dulen distributed a Devils Postpile historic survey; CDD analyst Brent Calloway presented a PowerPoint on the Housing Element update; and Carl Benz of USFWS reviewed potential listing of sage grouse as threatened/endangered.

Building inspector reaches pinnacle – Jim Shoffner attained the designation of Master Code Professional (MCP), the highest level of certification that the International Code Council (ICC) offers. ICC has certified thousands of individuals over many years, but only a small, select number attained this high level of achievement. Currently, just over 700 individuals have MCP certification. Obtaining this level of certification demonstrates commitment to the profession, diverse knowledge of codes, and a high degree of self-initiative.

CONTACT: CD Ritter, (760) 924-1804

County Administrator's Office

RCRC weighs in on Toads and Frogs – The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) has sent their comments in on the Economic Analysis of the Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frog, the mountain yellow-legged frog, and the Yosemite toad. Their letter is attached as a PDF to the Board Update email.

As a reminder, the deadline for submitting comments on the Economic Analysis is March 11, 2014. Please forward a copy of any county comments submitted to the RCRC office. The Economic Analysis and additional information may be found at:

http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/outreach/Public-Advisories/SierraAmphibian_Proposals/outreach_PA_SierraAmphibian_Proposals.htm

Thank you to RCRC and their continued advocacy on issues impacting our County.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (760) 932-5414

Mail Courier Change saves money and preserves service – Kudos to Stacie Klemm for finding, designing and implementing a cost saving idea. Stacie analyzed and presented an alternative way to ensure county mail courier service continued utilizing existing staff while saving the County \$10,000 annually.

Staff will be sending out an “all staff” memo next week on the new process for courier mail which maintains all of the current services to departments and allows us to cancel the \$10,000 per year contract for outsourced courier services. This was an innovative idea and we should thank Stacie for her creativity!

Look forward to an email next week with the additional details however no one will notice a difference in the current service levels as this new process is implemented.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (760) 932-5414

Thank you from CHP for County response – Kudos to all of the departments: Paramedics (see article below from Rob DeForrest), Public Health (Thanks, Dr. J!), and the Sheriff's Office). They all responded to the recent Bus incident in Bridgeport on Sunday, February 23rd and received positive feedback from the CHP. The event will also provide a valued learning opportunity for us to build upon existing systems and seek improvements.

The following was a "thank you" email is from Lt. Ron Cohan. The event was thankfully non fatal and provides an opportunity for our departments to coordinate and be prepared more in future for other incidents.

"Jim,

Last night's bus event could have, obviously, been much, much worse (something like another Walker River bus crash from years ago). I wanted you to know EVERYONE from Mono County really "shined" last night, and this morning! Sheriff's folks, Paramedics, Bridgeport Fire, Dr. Johnson at County Health was all over this in my first phone call to him this morning. The press releases speak to the fact emergency folks in Mono County work well together, and we depend on one another. Here is a Sunday night event that involves 50-60 people, and it all goes well, everyone is cared for....and no long-term harm comes to anyone. I did about four press telephone interviews this morning....all of the reporters noticed how quickly, efficiently and coordinated this event was handled.

Thanks,

*Ron Cohan, Lieutenant
Commander
CHP Bridgeport Area"*

Great work again to everyone who helped address a difficult situation!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Coffee with the CAO Returns Reminder! - Starting March 6th and 7th and continuing on the **first Thursday** of every month at Memorial Hall from 8:00 am to 9:00 am and the **first Friday** of every month in Mammoth at the Board of Supervisors Chambers from 8:00 am to 9:00am an informal round table to sit and talk about any issues will be started back up.

These meetings are **voluntary** and will be open forums where anyone can stop by and discuss any pressing issues.

Location shift for March 6th meeting in Bridgeport: It will be at Animal Control due to use of Memorial Hall that morning!

I am also available to meet to discuss any issues facing our



County, so if you cannot make the new monthly meeting or want to meet one on one, call, email, text or reach out by whatever means possible. **Note: Telepathy tends not to work due to my thick skull!**

For those folks who can't make it due to duties, let me know and I will swing by your workplace. Increasing and improving our communication is an ongoing effort and I appreciate your willingness to participate.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Strategic Planning Steering Committee March 6th at Lee Vining – The MC Strategic Planning Steering Committee will be back at Lee Vining center on March 6th at 4:00pm for the next meeting and with our new Facilitator. At this meeting we will be starting to complete the details for the All Employee process and keep the momentum moving forward.

The Steering Committee is open to ALL employees and we welcome your participation. Please feel free to attend and encourage co-workers to attend if possible. Please keep spreading the word!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Economic Development

West Walker River Opening Year-Round - Thanks to the hard work of our Mono County Fisheries Commission members the West Walker River will be opening March 1st for Year-Round fishing! Year-round fishing regulations apply until the regular fishing season opens on April 26th. Year-round fishing regulations are catch-and-release on public lands with barbless artificial flies and lures only. Year round fishing destinations are highlighted in green →

CONTACT: Jeff Simpson, (760) 924-4634

Information Technology

Digital 395 - This past week, California Broadband Cooperative (the operating company of Digital 395) turned on service for all of Mono County's remote sites which will allow us to bring Internet/network to those locations in the coming weeks. The next step in the project is for IT staff to deploy equipment at each location which will allow for County staff and the general public to connect to wireless networks at those locations. This effort will begin in early March, with the top priority being sites that house County staff, followed by community centers, and then other locations behind that. We anticipate the effort taking a few months to complete.

IT Space Lease Innovation Idea- Over the past couple months, the IT department has been working with Town and County administration on securing a new office location for Mammoth IT staff. On February



19th, Town Council approved a lease agreement which would allow the County to sub-lease the old Town Finance Department space, located on the second floor of Minaret Mall.

This idea is being brought to the Board for their review. If approved the move is estimated to save the General Fund \$27,000 annually. The new space is approximately 35% larger than the existing IT space, has a room which will better accommodate our servers and infrastructure (including future expansion), and will cost approximately one-third of what is currently being paid for the Sierra Center Mall space.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

Public Health

Mono County Paramedics play vital role in response to Bus Incident - Members of Mono County EMS, Bridgeport Fire Dept., Mono Sheriff's Office, and CHP responded to a "multi casualty incident" at the Bridgeport Shell station last Sunday Evening. What began as a simple "sick female" call quickly turned into an appx. 40 patient, possible Carbon Monoxide poisoning call. Patients were assessed rapidly and it was determined 13 of the 40 would need transport. Mammoth Hospital was contacted, and it was determined that 8 patients would go south, and 5 would head north to CVMC. Medics 1, 7, and 2 transported the patients, who all improved in route to the respective hospitals. CHP did determine it was a carbon monoxide leak after exam by highly trained techs from their agency.

It is important to keep in mind this was an extraordinary event that was handled professionally by our EMS crews, and the other agency first responders. An after-action plan and debriefing is to be held next week in Bridgeport, and further updates to follow.

Also, I would like to thank Leslie, Rose and especially Penny in Finance for allowing the billing and collection for our agency to be moved "in house." This will allow strict oversight of a system that has been farmed out over the last few years, should increase revenue, and makes our system more reliable.

CONTACT: Rob Deforrest, (760) 924-1831

Sheriff's Office

1. MONET conducted (2) search warrants in the Town of Mammoth Lakes with Supervisor Fesko monitoring the happenings. Narcotics and suspect(s) were seized, detained and/or arrested.

If any other Supervisor has an interest in riding with Sheriff Deputies please do not hesitate to ask. We welcome any opportunity to show you and/or the public what the Sheriff's Office responsibilities are and the professional law enforcement we provide.



2. Sheriff's Officer(s) were involved in a pursuit over the weekend. One suspect was taken into custody, while the other fled the scene into Nevada. Our officer terminated the pursuit for safety reasons, and the Nevada agencies ended up losing the suspect in the Reno area.

3. Sheriff's Officer(s) were involved in a rescue operation in a very difficult canyon of the White Mountains on Thursday. Multiple agencies were involved in this 5 hour operation: Mono County Sheriffs, Mono County Paramedics, Mono County Search and Rescue, Chalfant Valley Fire, White Mountain Fire, CHP and Interagency. A vehicle with two occupants rolled down a canyon, with the two occupants sustaining injuries and having to be extracted by the SAR team and others. The crash site was reached by using the Sheriff's Office Quads and Ranger OHV vehicles which were brought to the scene as no standard vehicles could safely negotiate the off road conditions. Pictures attached.

CONTACT: Sheriff Ralph "OB" Obenberger, (760) 932-7549