



CALIFORNIA'S GREAT BEYOND

MONO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM & FILM COMMISSION
PO BOX 603 | MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546 | 800-845-7922 | MONOCOUNTY.ORG

MINUTES

Regular Meeting via Teleconference*
Tuesday, June 28, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.

*As authorized by Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20, dated March 17, 2020, and continuation pursuant to AB 361, this meeting will be held via teleconferencing with members of the Commission attending from separate locations. There will not be a physical location of the meeting open to the public. This altered format is in observance of recent recommendations by local officials that certain precautions be taken, including social distancing, to address the threat of COVID-19.

Teleconference call-in information for Commissioners and members of the public is as follows, via Zoom:
<https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/2488929627>

If you are experiencing technical issues trying to connect to the meeting, please contact Jeff Simpson: jsimpson@mono.ca.gov / 760-924-4634 or Liz Grans: lgrans@mono.ca.gov / 760-924-1738.

NOTE: The public will be able to comment during the meeting; instructions will be provided. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item *before* the meeting, please submit your comment via email to Lgrans@mono.ca.gov or Jsimpson@mono.ca.gov before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Thank you.

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact us. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).

1. Call to order.

Chair McQuilkin called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

2. Introductions and announcements. Introductions were made. In attendance:

Commissioners: Vanderhurst, Morrison, Walsh, McQuilkin, Trainor

Staff: Simpson, Grans

Other: Supervisor Peters, Supervisor Duggan, Ralph Lockhart (June Lake Chamber)

Welcomed Florine Trainor once again to the Commission and announced Economic Development Director Alicia Vennos' retirement on June 3, 2022.

3. Opportunity for the public to address the commission on items of interest of the public which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Speakers may be limited in speaking time depending upon the press of business and number of persons wishing to address the Commission.

No public comment.

4. Findings Relating to the Holding of Remote Meetings Under AB 361

Find that: (1) The Proclamation of State of Emergency issued by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic remains in effect; (2) Local Public Health Officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing; and (3) As a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Accordingly, meetings of the Economic Development, Tourism, and Film Commission may be held remotely in accordance with the requirements set forth in subdivision (e) of Section 54953 of the California Government Code.

Motion made by McQuilkin, Second by Vanderhurst.

Verbal Roll Call for the vote: Commissioner McQuilkin – yay; Commissioner Vanderhurst – yay; Trainor – yay; Commissioner Walsh – yay; Commissioner Morrison – yay. All in favor, no abstentions; findings approved 5-0.

5. **Commission Meeting Format.** Discuss format of future meetings – in-person, virtual or hybrid. The Commission discussed meeting options and agreed an upcoming fall meeting be held in person in Mammoth Lakes with a tour of the new Mono County Civic Center. Hybrid meetings in the future were also discussed, as well as enhancing the once or twice annual in-person meetings by inviting guests (like Fred Wong and Stephanie Heller, new Inyo National Forest district rangers, new Bodie ranger, new Bridgeport district ranger, etc.), visiting businesses, etc.
6. **Approval of the minutes of the April 26, 2022 regular meeting.**
This item was postponed to the following meeting.
7. **Monthly financial/budget report.**
 - a. FY 22-23 Budget Calendar
Staff meet with CAO Lawton on Friday, July 1st to review department budget and narrative. The budget is scheduled for adoption on August 16th.
8. **Economic Development and Tourism report – information on current or emerging issues, including but not limited to:**
 - a. Update on the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) program
Letter of support to recognize the Sierra Business Council as our region’s fiscal agent and regional convenor will be on the Board of Supervisor’s July 12 agenda.
 - b. Report on regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) program sponsored by the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC).
The RCRC has applied for funding to create a regional CEDS with Inyo, Mono, and Alpine counties., which would allow us to apply for U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants and allow us to join an economic development district.
 - c. Update regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act – CV1, 2, 3 for Microenterprise Financial Assistance Program for small businesses.
After almost two years, the program continues, almost the entire \$260,000 has been allocated to small businesses. Next steps are to follow up with businesses to forgive the loans and wrap up with a public hearing.
 - d. Update on new Short-Term & Transient Rentals (STR) moratorium.
Staff gave an update on the County’s STR moratorium.
9. **Film Commission update on film production in Mono County, permitting issues, and other film-related updates** – Liz Grans/Steve Morrison

Very busy with inquires and filming. Cerro Gordo small film, Asics, sunglass company, Mammoth Lakes Tourism, side-by-side company.

10. **Fisheries Report**, including update on California Department of Fish & Wildlife regarding outbreak of *Lactococcus petauri* bacterial infection at two CDFW hatcheries (<https://wildlife.ca.gov/News/new-bacterial-outbreak-confirmed-at-two-eastern-sierra-fish-hatcheries>) – Jeff Simpson
Staff established a new community grant with the Fish and Game fund monies and has received two applications that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval on July 12th.
11. **Project status update, including collateral, public relations, advertising/social media, websites, California's Great Beyond brand video, and tradeshow/conferences.**
 - South County map completed
 - California's Great Beyond promotional :30 video almost finished.
 - Working on two new business testimonial videos. When completed, the compilation will be updated.
 - Staff is enrolled in California Association for Local Economic Development's (CALED) Accredited California Economic Developer (ACE) training in August.
12. **Commissioner reports.** Commissioners are invited to share EDTFC-related information and reports, announcements, and updates from their respective districts/communities.
Commissioners gave brief updates related to business and tourism in their respective districts.
13. **Call for agenda items for next regular meeting.**
Request for an update on the CORE mining project in Long Valley.
14. **Adjourn the meeting** and reconvene in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on July 26, 2022.
Staff agreed to cancel the July Meeting and reconvene on at 10:00am on August 30th.