

Mono County Local Transportation Commission

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MINUTES

February 8, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.

(Adopted March 15, 2021)

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Jennifer Kreitz, John Peters, Rhonda Duggan

TOWN COMMISSIONERS: John Wentworth, Bill Sauser, Jennifer Burrows

COUNTY STAFF: Gerry LeFrancois, Wendy Sugimura, Megan Mahaffey, Bentley Regehr, Michael Draper, Tony Dublino, Chad Senior, Becky Peratt

TOWN STAFF: Haislip Hayes, Dan Holler

CALTRANS: Ryan Dermody, Dennee Alcalá, Austin West, Mark Heckman

ESTA: Phil Moores

YARTS: Kate Molthen

Inyo County: John Pinckney, Ashley Helms

MCWD: Garrett Higerd

Public: Sandy Hogan

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Kreitz called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Commissioner Burrows led the pledge of allegiance.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Opportunity to address the LTC on items not on the agenda. Please refer to the Teleconference information section to determine how to make public comment for this meeting.
 - A. Gerry LeFrancois provided comment on behalf of Supervisor Corless. On February 11 at 6:30 p.m. the Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association is hosting a meeting with Beth Pratt.
3. **MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of minutes from January 11, 2021
 - **Motion:** Approve the minutes from the January 11, 2021 LTC meeting.
 - *Wentworth/Peters. Ayes: Burrows, Duggan, Peters, Wentworth, Kreitz. Absent: Sauser*
4. **LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**
 - A. Review a draft of 2021/22 Overall Work Program and provide any direction to staff (*Gerry LeFrancois and Bentley Regehr*)

**Commission Sauser joined the meeting during the presentation of this agenda item*

- Gerry LeFrancois reviewed the 2021/22 OWP and work program elements with the commission. Questions followed and staff responded.
- B. Update on activities at Bishop Airport – verbal update (*Ashley Helms, Inyo County Public Works*)
 - Ashley Helms provided an update on activities at Bishop Airport over the last year. Questions followed and staff responded.

5. CALTRANS

A. Activities in Mono County & pertinent statewide information (*District 9 staff*)

- Ryan Dermody provided information relating to the recent winter storm. The commission expressed their thanks to Caltrans for their work during the storm.
- Benton Paving Project: Austin West provided information on the Benton Paving Project, what it is for and what they are doing; pointed out the survey link for those who wish to provide comments on the project. Also noted that ATP survey is due by tomorrow. Discussed how to best distribute to residents of Benton and Hamil Valley. Questions followed and Austin West responded.
- Dennee Alcala discussed wanting to get the public involved in planning documents, not just planning bodies and government agencies. Also made a project announcement on the Sonora Junction Shoulders draft environmental document, which is out for public comment.

6. TRANSIT

A. ESTA Update (*Phil Moores*)

- Phil Moores reviewed the annual report with the commission. Questions followed and Phil Moores responded. The annual report will be made public as part of a board packet; Phil will also be going to the Inyo and Mono Board of Supervisors, TOML and the City of Bishop as they are all members of the JPA.
- Authorize the Chair's signature on a Letter of Support for ESTA's Federal Transit Administration Section 5304 grant application for sustainable transportation planning
 - Chair Kreitz noted some changes to be made to the letter and there was general consensus for approval of the letter.

B. YARTS Update (*Christine Chavez*)

- General update: Kate Molthen filled in for Christine Chavez and gave an operational update on YARTS. Questions followed and Kate Molthen responded.
- YARTS strategy planning efforts: JPA meeting later in the afternoon. Encouraged people to attend the meeting and will share some links to information with the commission.

7. ADMINISTRATION

A. Local Transportation Account (LTF) projections for FY 2021-22 and provide any direction to staff (*Megan Mahaffey*)

- Megan Mahaffey presented on the Local Transportation Fund allocation. Questions followed and staff responded.

B. Receive and accept LTC Financial Statement with Independent Auditor's Report ending June 30, 2020 (*Megan Mahaffey*)

- Megan Mahaffey reviewed the auditors report and financial statements.
 - **Motion:** Receive and accept the auditor's report ending June 30, 2020.
 - *Peters/Wentworth. Ayes: Sauser, Burrows, Duggan, Peters, Wentworth, Kreitz.*

C. Summary of Governor's budget update regarding transportation funding (*Gerry LeFrancois*)

- Gerry LeFrancois provided a broad summary of the governor's proposed budget from the governor's website and briefly discussed, and provided more background information on the connection to funding of local projects. Questions followed and staff responded.

D. Authorize Chair's signature on a letter for support on Mono County's submission of a Sustainable Communities Grant (*Bentley Regehr*)

- County staff on this is Michael Draper, not Bentley Regehr. Gerry LeFrancois noted that the county is looking to submit an application for a Sustainable Communities Grant, and this would be a letter in support of the grant from the LTC.
- If approved, Chair Kreitz requested fixing the spelling of her last name on the letter.
 - **Motion:** Motion to authorize the chair to sign said letter.
 - *Peters/Wentworth. Ayes: Sauser, Burrows, Duggan, Peters, Wentworth,*

8. QUARTERLY UPDATES

*Next updates in April

9. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Caltrans response to concerns about District Active Transportation Plans

- Gerry LeFrancois provided background information on the letter and Caltrans' response, reiterated that Caltrans is asking that we finish up online surveys regarding the District 9 ATP, and provided an update on staff work on this item. Questions followed and staff responded.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Time for Commissioners to bring up items of importance and/or future agenda items

A. Commissioner Wentworth: Discussed last Town Council meeting and their discussion of Town mobility needs. Also discussed other Town projects, the Red's Meadow Road rebuild and items pertaining to Devils Postpile management plan.

B. Commissioner Sauser: Reiterated and emphasized some of Commissioner Wentworth's comments. Had questions for Caltrans regarding paved trailheads and plowing schedules. Dennee Alcala and Mark Heckman from Caltrans said they will follow up on this.

C. Commissioner Duggan: Thanked Ashely Helms and discussed the airport project, and also discussed the recent District 9 Caltrans meeting. Mentioned other upcoming meetings with government agencies, and her resignation from the Board of Mammoth Lakes Recreation.

D. Commissioner Peters: Reiterated thanks to Caltrans for their snow removal and communication, and thanks to Mono County Public Works and road crew as well. Their work prevented injuries. Inquired about any studies that have been done on the impacts of winter storms, mobility around the Civic Center, connectivity issues, and any lessons learned from this winter. Mentioned upcoming meetings and task forces.

E. Commissioner Burrows: Discussed the District 9 Caltrans meeting and the upcoming Town Planning Commission meeting.

F. Chair Kreitz: Mentioned an upcoming meeting as part of her role in CSAC.

11. INFORMATIONAL

A. LTC Overview for new commissioners

- Gerry LeFrancois discussed internal staff conversations to update LTC bylaws and reviewed the LTC Overview document. Shared hyperlink to Caltrans Transportation Funding in CA document that is a 411 to transportation funding in the state and pointed out some information.

12. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

A. Update on Tioga Pass coordination for 2021 season

- Meeting with Park Service later this month

B. MOU projects and status

- Update in March or April

C. Region-wide GIS tools to integrate recreational use data from trail counts, vehicle counts, etc.

- Meetings later this week, more information coming hopefully in March

13. ADJOURN TO March 8, 2021 – next meeting date will likely need to be changed to a date TBD due to commission conflicts.