

**Long Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 6:30p.m., Crowley Lake Community Center**

Members Present: Ron Day, Pat Agnitch, Ron Glende, Johnny Goetz, Haislip Hayes, Greg Newbry

Presenters and County Staff: Fred Stump, Long Valley Fire District Chief, and incoming Board of Supervisor; Nate Greenberg, Digital 395 Project Manager, Courtney Weiche, Associate Planner

1. The Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Ron Day at 6:40p.m.
2. Minutes from the August 22, 2012 meeting were reviewed/approved (Newbry/Glende). Ron Day abstained as he did not attend the August meeting
3. Election of Officers
Haislip Hayes was nominated as Chairperson (Goetz/Newbry) and elected unanimously. Johnny Goetz was nominated as Vice Chairperson but recommended that Ron Day continue to serve as Vice Chair. The nomination was approved unanimously (Goetz/Glende).
4. RPAC Members Report
No report.
5. Public Comment:
 - Fred Stump, Long Valley Fire District Chief, reminded everyone that the deadline to submit a waiver to reduce the SRA fee to the State Board of Equalization was imminent. Fred explained the required documentation and how to obtain it from the County's GIS website. He also mentioned that he had copies available for residents and the need to submit the waiver to the State Board of Equalization, plus two other agencies.
 - Fred Stump also reported that Amerigas has purchased Turner Propane and the transition is underway. He mentioned that Mammoth Brewing Company has obtained space in the Long Valley Industrial Park and recently installed a refrigeration unit.
6. Digital 395 Update and Receive Community Feedback Relative to Communication Policies
 - Nate Greenberg provided an update regarding Digital 395 and explained the "last mile" provider plan. He mentioned that 3 crews are working between Barstow and Ridgecrest, Bridgeport to Coleville and in the Mammoth area. It is hoped that the Mammoth section will be completed by the end of the year.
 - Nate reported that a Verizon grant had been obtained for the Crowley Lake area as existing service is below standard (1 mg up/3 mgs down). He indicated that the new service will be 3 to 5 times faster and that Verizon will be offering a DSL plan in mid-January.
 - Nate announced that the Sierra Business Council will be conducting a panel discussion on November 1 that includes a Broadband expert plus an Ecommerce and Internet Marketing presentation by Mammoth Lakes Tourism.
 - Policies are being developed which can vary from town to town. The goal of Digital 395 is to provide the best service possible, and the quickest service possible, at the cheapest price. The public will be asked to prioritize the service delivery method - underground versus aerial. Informationally, Aspen Springs and Sunnyslopes will not be covered by Digital 395.
 - In the Long Valley Area Plan, there is a provision for underground wiring. The question was raised as to whether it would be feasible to use existing overhead lines, and the response was "yes". The Area Plan also cites that County land can be used for facilities needed to support Digital 395.

- There was discussion regarding technology (wireless, fiber, DSL, etc.) which relates to service and speed, but at what cost? The concept of fiber optic and tying into the existing Fire Station tower, with revenue going to the Fire District, was discussed.
 - Nate solicited input regarding speed and service delivery on a grid consisting of pros and cons. The cost of providing underground wiring is 10 times more expensive than overhead in an existing community. Conceptually, RPAC members were supportive of using existing power lines to bring service to the Long Valley communities.
 - The question was raised about whether County funding was available for underground wiring, and the answer was mixed. Funding could be provided, but whether it would be is questionable as there are other countywide projects that may take priority.
7. Continuation of Long Valley Area Plan Workshop
 - A draft survey developed by Courtney Weiche was distributed for review. There was discussion about how a survey should be distributed to the community – in written format that is mailed to the community, versus an online Survey Monkey. Courtney will revise the survey and email to the RPAC members for comment.
 8. Report Development Activities in Long Valley
 - Courtney reported that the cell service tower should be operational sometime between November 15 and 30.
 - The Geothermal facility renovation was approved; however two appeal letters have been received. The Board of Supervisors will make a determination as to how to proceed at their November 13 meeting.
 9. Review Action Items
 - Long Valley Area Plan - Survey
 10. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, November 28, 2012**
 11. Adjournment
 - Meeting adjourned at 9:03p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Agnitch