

Mono Basin RPAC
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2012, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center

Members present: Katie Bellomo, Steve Connett, Lisa Cutting, Zane Davis, Alex Flores, Chris Lizza, Mark Logan, Ilene Mandelbaum, Bartshe Miller, and Lucy Parker. **Absent:** No one.

Public Attendees and Presenters: Tim Alpers, and Heather deBethizy, and Nate Greenberg.

1. **Call to order:** 6:40 pm
2. **Public comment:** a) Ilene Mandelbaum – Ilene believes the bear management issue and public education effort for Lee Vining and Mono City should start up again. She offered to lead such an effort.
3. **Minutes: December 12, 2012.** Revise item 9 to read: “...the RPAC was “*originally*” (added) formed to...” Strike: “*Therefore, the RPAC really has limited scope and authority especially on non-planning issues.*” Strike: “*However, it...*” and add: “*Over time the RPAC has developed into a community forum which...*” Motion to approve – Chris Lizza; second – Katie Bellomo. Approved unanimously with Lucy Parker and Zane Davis abstaining.
4. **Supervisor’s report:**
 - a. Tim Alpers – The Board of Supervisors swearing in ceremony was well attended. Ralph Obenberger was appointed sheriff and Rob Weber was appointed under-sheriff. Garrett Higerd reported that the Lee Vining Streetscape Project will happen in 2014. Tim will send a report to everyone on the Lee Vining Airport Capital Improvement project. Tim will be on the following committees: ESTA, YARTS, LTC, and RCRC. Over the holidays, June Lake hotels were 100% full. Tim will be going on a peer resort tour in Vermont with Carl Williams (June Mountain) to see how smaller ski resorts can be viable. Rusty Gregory has assured Tim that June Mountain will open next winter. Mammoth is close to resubmitting their operating plan for June Mountain to the Inyo National Forest. No update from Sacramento on the fire tax bills that people received. Mono County is working to fill high level staff vacancies.
5. **Chairman’s report:** Nothing
6. **Member’s reports:**
 - a. Ilene Mandelbaum: Nothing to report.
 - b. Alex Flores: Nothing to report.
 - c. Chris Lizza: a) Planning Commission meeting tomorrow but no hearings. Four workshops: Initiation of General Plan update; home occupation regulations; floodplain regulations; and parking regulations. b) The Draft EIR for the Tuolumne River Plan is out and available for comment. There will be a public meeting in Mammoth on February 23rd from 9-12 noon. c) The Lee Vining and Mono City Fire Departments are considering a merger. This will be a future agenda item.
 - d. Lisa Cutting: Nothing to report.
 - e. Zane Davis: Nothing to report.
 - f. Lucy Parker: Nothing to report.
 - g. Katie Bellomo: Skunks and bears have been a problem in Mono City. Attended the swearing in ceremony.
 - h. Mark Logan: Nothing to report.
 - i. Steve Connett: Nothing to report.

7. **Nomination of new officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.** The current slate of officers was nominated again for this year. Bartshe Miller – Chair; Lucy Parker – Vice Chair; and Lisa Cutting – Secretary. The RPAC members will vote at the next meeting.
8. **Move to open RPAC membership application acceptance period.** There is one open position on the RPAC and Tim Alpers will consider all applications and interview all applicants. Chris Lizza motion: Open the Mono Basin RPAC application period from now until the end of January and carry-over any existing applications currently on file. Katie Bellomo seconds the motion. Unanimously passed with Lucy Parker abstaining. The vacancy will be publicized in the Mammoth Times, the Sheet, and at the Mono Market and Lee Vining Post Office.
9. **Digital 395 update and community feedback on communication policies (Nate Greenberg).** Nate briefed the RPAC on the status of D395 Project including: 1) Overview of the project; 2) planning department policy development; 3) undergrounding potential; and 4) community reaction to implementation. This Middle Mile project will add fiber optic cable from Barstow to Carson City (600 miles). There will be 250 hard wired “anchors”. Construction is scheduled to be completed by July 2013. Mono County is trying to get service to all parts of Mono County. This will be a market driven venture for ISP ventures but Mono County can set sideboards. The Last Mile (meaning the connection from D395 to individual businesses or residents) can be either hard wired or wireless. There are trade-offs with both regarding cost, time to implement, and performance. Then there is the question of underground or overhead and reliability vs. expense. The anchors for the Lee Vining area include: Lee Vining Schools, Post Office, the Mono Basin Visitor Center, USFS (Hwy 120), Lee Vining Community Center, Mobil Cell Tower, Caltrans Yard, Mono County Yard, and Lundy Fire Station. There is not an anchor in Mono City – not even the Mono City Fire Station. Anchors are where ISPs could tap into to provide service. Nate described the Mono County PUC Rule 20 funding source which is a modest fund that can be applied to fund undergrounding of power lines. The RPAC expressed interest in using some of these funds to do some undergrounding which is consistent with goals set forth in the Mono Basin Community Plan. Ideas include: Mattley Ave in Lee Vining; within Mono City; and adjacent to Mono City especially upwind for fire protection. Nate will return to the RPAC with a draft policy plan for members to review and comment on.
10. **Lee Vining Community Center subcommittee Update (Bellomo, Cutting, Mandelbaum).** Ilene reported still no meeting with Mono County. List of questions and request for a meeting was submitted to Jim Arkens and Rita Sherman. They will get back to us. Tim Alpers will try to intervene to get a meeting scheduled.
11. **Review and approve 2013 RPAC Work Plan (Mono County staff).** Heather distributed the Mono Basin RPAC draft work plan. Suggestion to move undergrounding potential project to Level 2 priority list given funding opportunity. RPAC will vote on the Work Plan at the next meeting.
12. **Information items: (Planning)**
 - a. Report of development activities in the Mono Basin – There is a pre-application for a brewery in June Lake at the old gas station across from the Sierra Inn.
 - b. Other – RPAC member reappointments for another two years will be going to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
13. **Schedule next meeting:** Wednesday, February 13, 2013.
14. **Adjourn:** 9:20 pm.