



**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND MAMMOTH LAKES TOWN COUNCIL,
COUNTY OF MONO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

MEETING LOCATION Mammoth Lakes Suite Z, 437 Old Mammoth Rd., Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes,
CA 93546

**Special Joint Meeting
May 17, 2016**

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Stump

*Supervisors Present: Alpers, Corless, Fesko, Johnston and Stump.
Supervisors Absent: None.*

*Councilmembers Present: Raimondo, Richardson, Wentworth, Fernie, Bacon.
Councilmembers Absent: None.*

*Break: 10:48 a.m.
Reconvene: 10:58 a.m.*

The Mono County Board of Supervisors stream all of their meetings live on the internet and archives them afterward. To listen to any meetings from June 2, 2015 forward, please go to the following link: <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/meetings>

Pledge of Allegiance led by Leslie Chapman.

Supervisor Stump:

- This is our first ever joint meeting of the County Board of Supervisors and the Mammoth Town Council.

Mayor Raimondo:

- This is a great opportunity to get together to talk about regional solutions. More of these should take place in the future.

1 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Jo Bacon:

- Here as resident of Mono County and Mammoth. Concerned over mistake in ballot; there are 2 seats available, not 3. Not placing blame, just wants to get the word out so there won't be any problems with the upcoming election.

Bob Musil:

- Yes, he just made a mistake. Vote by Mail ballots went out yesterday. He became aware of the issue yesterday, both sample and ballots were incorrect. He was lead person, his fault. Working with County Counsel and the ballot printer, ballot layout, and other counties for a

solution. One option would be a separate ballot, to be voted alongside the primary ballot. Other option might be to temporarily cancel Town election and hold special election during summer. He will be in contact with town attorney to come to a resolution.

- 88 days is needed for a special election, but he hasn't yet looked at code to see if there are exceptions. Two council members will term out before 88 days, need to see if pushing election back will violate town charter.

Supervisor Stump:

- We need to do all we can to make this right. We should bear cost if special election is needed.
- Appreciates Bob's admission of a mistake.

Andrew Morris, Town Attorney:

- He will work closely with Stacey to make sure it's resolved.

Greg Newbry:

- As a member of public, representing measure G. Offers help to Bob in any way he can. Measure G needs 66%, general election is a little harder to get. Parcel tax renewal, \$640k is huge and needed for schools. G is for class size reduction, arts, music, wants to push measure G, very important for our schools. We need to attract people to come to Mammoth Lakes, families to move here, our schools need to be able to offer everything new residents are looking for.

John Peters:

- Resident of Bridgeport, operator of Bridgeport Inn. Next week is EMS appreciation week, didn't see that on the agenda. Wants to recognize public safety, wants to see it included in next year's governance calendar and all public safety.

2. AGENDA ITEMS

A. **Resolution of Appreciation for Dan and Leslie Dawson**

Departments: Clerk of the Board

(Supervisor Corless) - Present Resolution of appreciation to Dan and Leslie Dawson.

Action: Approve resolution of appreciation to Dan and Leslie Dawson.

Johnston moved; Alpers seconded

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no

M16-109

Supervisor Corless:

- Read resolution into record.

Dan Dawson:

- Thank you very much for the consideration and honor. Thought he was only here to introduce his successor. Pleasure to introduce his successor, Dr. Carol Blanchett.

Carol Blanchett:

- Appreciates Dan and Leslie's work as well. She is looking forward to the job ahead and working with everyone.

Leslie Dawson:

- Thank you for the recognition. Thinking about all the children they have been able to get out on the land, amazing opportunity for her life to be able to put all that together.

B. **Forest Plan Revision and USFS Fire Outlook**

Departments: Town Manager

(Jon Regelbrugge, District Ranger and John Wentworth, Councilmember) - Forest Service briefing on the current fire outlook, the Forest Plan Revision and Devils Postpile road improvement options followed by comments on the Forest Plan Update by Councilmember Wentworth.

Action: Hear presentation regarding USFS issues regarding USFS related topics followed by discussion and feedback.

Jon Regelbrugge:

- He is the District Ranger for the Mammoth and Mono Lake Districts, representing Inyo National Forest. With him is Margie Derose, Deputy District Ranger. Town Manager Dan Holler asked him to speak on a few topics.
- 1st, fire season, lots of uncertainty. Fire season depends on when, where, and under what weather conditions. Potential for some bad days. Water resources about average for precipitation and runoff, the Lake Tahoe Basin and northward seems above average runoff and watersheds, southern areas are below. We are about in the middle. Better than the last 4 drought years. Fuels reduction work is being done and will continue. Statewide outlook: on west side of Sierra Nevada, extreme bark beetle outbreak and high tree mortality. 100x more dead trees than can be processed by saw mills in area. Could see large west side Sierra Nevada fires. Southern Sierras have worse conditions than in previous years. Understands there was a lot of interest in fires last year, last fall Raimondo and Holler wanted to speak with fire forest managers to see if there's knowledge of how the fires there affect us over here. Field trip was taken, met with supervisor and management staff (Rough fire area). June 2 is another field trip day, hoping 2-3 representatives from the County and Town will meet with staff over there. Will follow up with Town Manager to make travel arrangements. May anticipate tighter fire restrictions in the forest this year, but right now things are pretty wet. Big fires don't typically come from campfires or recreational activities.

Supervisor Johnston:

- The Governor's budget is attacking the tree mortality issue. Money being filtered into system to help issue. Has been a big topic at Great Basin, wind and air quality.

Supervisor Stump:

- The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has offered Great Basin a seat on their board. Good step for collaboration between east and west for prescribed activities.

Jon Regelbrugge:

- 2nd: forest plan revision. Inyo National Forest is revising forest plan, describes how Inyo National Forest will be managed. One of 3 forests in California currently revising their plan. Copies of the plan can be requested. County boards should be getting one hard copy set each. 90 day comment period open to the public.

Supervisor Alpers:

- Would like to publicly acknowledge Margie DeRose for coming to RPAC meetings. Thanked her for coming, her presence is appreciated.

Jon Regelbrugge:

- 3rd, over snow vehicle travel management. Several years ago, forest service was sued. The suit named 11 national forests. Lawsuit was settled a few years ago, 5 of 11 forests would conduct surveys. If we have motorized over snow vehicle use, we must conduct appropriate decision making process to regulate over snow vehicles. 2 years ago, we got a grant. There are complexities related to new forest plan, potential problems with zoning. Pausing to see how to work it out. Goal is to come up with plan that fits in with mandates.
- Reds Meadow Road ends near Minaret Summit, then becomes national forest. Needs resurfacing, needs repair. Grant was received to do engineering and analysis of redoing the road. Looking for opportunities to fund the repair of the road.

Councilmember Fernie:

- Assuming the agreement in the next week or two, trails maintenance in the spring and

summer?

Councilmember Wentworth:

- Had a presentation, may hold off. Asked to share at the Board of Supervisors meeting. Will work with CAO for a meeting in June.

Supervisor Corless:

- Planning on a similar discussion at ESCOG meeting in June in Bishop.

C. Devils Postpile Options / Reds Meadow Road – Planning and Environmental Linkage Study

Departments: Town/County Public Works

(Garrett Higerd, Grady Dutton, and Haislip Hayes) - Update on US Forest Service preliminary study evaluating options to improve Reds Meadow Road.

Action: Receive staff report and provide any desired direction to staff.

Garret Higerd:

- Consortium road is where it crests the hill and drops into Madera County. Upper 2.5 miles is the most difficult problem. Some options: Solution is close to \$30 million. Add retaining walls, make wider and safer. Others: maybe one lane pullouts, probably not a two lane road on upper section, similar to Rock Creek Road or Convict Lake Road, other projects that have been done in past. FAST act includes an increase in flap funding, a potential funding source for this project. For the grant, there are limitations on maintenance, 11.47% local match required.

Grady Dutton:

- We need a source of funding and maintenance for 20 years; he is encouraged that this is possible.

Councilmember Bacon:

- Interesting to hear the Town has a way to fund this.

Councilmember Wentworth:

- Encourages everyone to look at the documents. Important that the decision makers look at it through the lens. We have to act on this. In the forest service revision process, there are opportunities to forge relationships.
- There are mechanisms in place, tools we can use to move forward.
- The Town hasn't formally discussed that road or taking on the maintenance agreement.

Supervisor Johnston:

- We need to take advantage of these opportunities. Need to be strong in our comments to representatives in Congress. This speaks to all kinds of maintenance issues
- Need to not let Congress off the hook. Is there funding through national park system that can be used?

Jon Regelbrugge:

- There are separate programs through federal funding; National Parks and Forest Service both get line items, but the Parks portion is much larger. Most road funding goes to roads that completely within the parks system, that road is not. However, it leads to Devils Postpile, so it may be a possibility.

D. Air Service Update and Summer 2016 Partnership Request

Departments: CAO

(John Urdi, Executive Director, Mammoth Lakes Tourism) - Air Service Update and Summer 2016 Partnership Request

Action: Hear update and provide discussion and feedback.

John Urdi:

- Here as a presenter but also on behalf of Mammoth management and staff. Went through power point.
- What is Air subsidy?
Winter passenger numbers and cancellations
- Summer funding and cancellations history.
- Economic impacts of air service
- Economic impacts of air service to local economy and residents
Air service finding, mono county inclusion
- Contribution request

Supervisor Corless:

- ESCOG is sending a letter to FAA expressing interest in playing a role.

General discussion on incorporating the Bishop airport into the possibility of a backup to reduce cancellations, TSA presence, adding flights from Chicago.

Councilmember Fernie:

- Lots of important work as a Town and a County; the airport has a very close proximity to the Town of Mammoth Lakes and is a regional airport that runs from Bishop to Yosemite, typically a 45 minute plus drive to an airport like ours. We have a 10 minute drive.

Councilmember Bacon:

- No supervisor representation on the air service committee? Should consider.

Supervisor Johnston:

- Hard to justify subsidy when not all supervisors see benefit to their district.

Supervisor Stump:

- Saw Alaskan is in a buyout with another airline, please watch and update if that would create changes for us.

E. Airport Update

Departments: Town Public Works

(Grady Dutton) - Update on terminal planning and other airport issues.

Action: Hear staff report on Mammoth airport

Grady Dutton:

- Member from Regional office of San Francisco is going to visit the area along with Dave Cushing from LA office. Possibly the regional director also for a day.
- Air service is an operational meeting, talked about the future, projects, mostly staff, not appointed committee.
- Apron project, reconstructing in front of hangers. \$1.3m project. Airport fence is on list, mostly for wildlife. 8 foot chainlink fence has been approved, rather than 10 foot.
- Injunction, lawsuit in 2003, this is not the same. 2003 environmental impact statement done by TOML. Federal government and Town were sued by state/Sierra Club for not looking at environmental impacts. FAA has petitioned court to remove injunction, thinks does not apply anymore. Hoping to hear from court this Thursday.
- Feb 3rd was an airport workshop, went through entire history of airport, encourages people to go back and check that out.
- The \$3-6 million need for improvements will come up sometime in 2018 when we have to finance the plan, before construction docs and before goes out to bid.

Councilmember Wentworth:

- Mentioned \$3-6 million; when will the council need to take a vote on that? Can the Town and County do this together? Does this have regional benefit as well as to the Town?

Supervisor Stump:

- Hoping that the planning for the airport is taking aircraft becoming obsolete into account.

F. Recreation - Youth Sports, Facilities, Current and Future Interconnections between the Town and County

Departments: Town Manager, Parks and Recreation, Trails Coordinator

(Dan Holler, Stuart Brown, Joel Rathje) - Stuart Brown, Parks and Recreation Manager will present a recreation update including youth sports funding, facilities and interconnections between the Town and County. Dan Holler, Town Manager and Joel Rathje will facilitate discussion and brainstorming regarding the big recreation picture and future planning for countywide recreation.

Action: Discussion only, no action required at this time.

Stuart Brown:

- Overall vision is to be the best alpine recreation community in country. Wants indoor and outdoor sports available to residents and visitors. Always in need of additional funding to expand or to reach low income. Funding rec'd through County budget process helped.
- How can we better collaborate to offer opportunities? Still short of the funding we need to fully implement all programs.

Councilmember Raimondo:

- We did allocate \$6k extra with a challenge to County to match it.

Supervisor Stump:

- Noted that CSA #1 paid for snack bar, bathrooms, etc at Crowley

Supervisor Johnston:

- It's hard to justify this, worthwhile as it may be, since employees are still on furloughs

Joel Rathje:

- Trails bring communities together because of strong partnerships. Lots of maintenance, take care of what we've got. Start within municipal boundary. Trails are relatively inexpensive to build; people will travel to use that facility.

G. ESTA Update and Transit Issue Discussion

Departments: CAO

(John Helm) - Presentation by John Helm, ESTA Executive Director regarding transit activities including the short term transit plan and priorities, transit statistics, impact of the loss of STIP funds, and other topics including the Reds Meadows rehabilitation project.

Action: Hear presentation with discussion to follow.

John Helm:

- Brief update. New development, completion of short range transit plan. 5 year roadmap to help guide decisions and improvements going forward. Plan makes recommendations operationally and financially, suggests expanding routes from Lancaster to Reno 5 days a week, increase trolley line on Meridian corridor. Capital projects, recommends Mammoth Lakes transit hub to serve Mammoth Lakes and regional connections to ESTA's routes and YARTS. Enhancement of bus stops. Identified some funding sources to make these happen. Grants have been applied for. Full plan on ESTA's website.
- Ridership within Mono County is up 51% over past 3 years. Purple line has been operating at 83% load factor. Service is well utilized within the community.
- State transportation funding picture is dire at best. ESTA has benefitted from STIF (State Transportation Improvement Funding). Due to funding crisis, that funding is no longer available. A year ago, ESTA board approved setting aside monies in anticipation of this.

- By Memorial weekend, the new app called Swiftly should be operational.

Councilmember Wentworth:

- Concerned how policy questions to Town and Supervisors can get to them before decisions are made. Would like to see it agendaized.
- Would like another joint meeting soon with this information, what we're willing to do or not.

Supervisor Stump:

- He wants more information before we delve into a policy item.

Consensus from Board to skip items H and I in the interest of time.

H. **Strategic Plan Update**

Departments: CAO/Town Manager

(Megan Mahaffey, Dan Holler) - Presentations by Town and County staff regarding their respective strategic plan updates. Additional material will be provided at the meeting.

Action: Hear presentations, provide feedback.

I. **Town/County Public Works Project Update**

Departments: Public Works

(Jeff Walters, Grady Dutton) - Overview of Town and County capital projects for this summer.

Action: Hear an overview of Town and County capital projects and provide feedback.

Jeff Walters:

- Quick update; Tioga will open "very soon". No services, but will open. No snow on the passes.

General thanks from both boards for getting the pass open.

J. **Solid Waste Flow Agreement**

Departments: Solid Waste

(Tony Dublino) - Agreement with the Town of Mammoth Lakes to facilitate an efficient closure of the Benton Crossing Landfill.

Action: Option 1: Approve entry into proposed Solid Waste Flow Control Agreement with the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Option 2: Direct staff to continue discussions on Flow Agreement with the Town, addressing specific points as directed by the Board. Option 3: Direct staff to begin preparation of Benton Crossing Final Closure Plan without the certainty of the Flow Agreement, and return to the Board for consideration of a rate increase to cover associated contingencies.

Tony Dublino:

- Renewing his request for the 5 year agreement. In 2014, he was hoping to move this forward, which it finally did in July 2015. In packet today is the agreed upon points, may not meet recommendations from management.

- Went over costs, permitting and closure. Accepted time frame in Waste Management is 5 years to close a landfill. We have a preliminary closure plan, but need to develop final closure plan to establish exact design, and it has to be approved by CalRecycle. Lahontan needs to review, air quality control district gets involved. Plan estimates current cost at \$4.4m. Final closure plan will probably be close to that figure.

Dan Holler:

- Challenges have been not only how to fund the transfer station, but also how the parcel fee rolls back into it, and do we move the trash somewhere else. The waste needs to go somewhere. Balancing act is not raising disposal rates because the waste has to be taken further away, and if rates need to change because of construction of the new facility.

Leslie Chapman:

- Would like the Board to approve this agreement based on three concerns: we know how much waste flows into landfill, concerns over costs and tipping fees are escalating, and if we can be guaranteed a certain amount of waste from Town, we can keep tipping fees stagnant.
- If we can maintain this plan, then we can rebate to the Town a certain portion of solid waste assessments.
- Disagreement over indemnifications, insurance, liability

Councilmember Bacon:

- The reason this item was brought forward was to state certain policy items, not ready to agree to a contract. Can't agree to a contract without better recycling efforts.
- At a policy level, it is important that all issues be discussed.

Councilmember Wentworth:

- We need a process discussion on how it's presented to both boards so we can debate it as a body. Needs clarification on what is needed.

Councilmember Richardson:

- Wants to put together an action plan by a certain date so decisions can be made. Feels the big issues have been worked out. Tonnage is biggest issue in his mind.

Councilmember Fernie:

- Feels an ad hoc committee is appropriate, but feels the report in front of him is incomplete and he can't make a decision based on this.

Andrew Morris, Town Attorney:

- There will be a hit to the county if we take too much out of flow. There are ways to resolve all these issues, just need a little policy direction. Can work this out with Stacey. Feels Town and County are on the same page; feels policy issues can be worked out.

General Board discussion on both bodies being able to discuss these issues together rather than separately with staff. No one wants to be in the position where anyone has to throw money into this. This needs to be worked out to benefit everyone.

Supervisor Stump:

- Proposed directing staff per recommendations from Andrew Morris and Stacey Simon. Wants a report back by first of August. Would like a joint report.

Board Consensus that Town Attorney and County Counsel will take the lead on the remaining details in the flow agreement and will bring back to the Board.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one spoke.

ESTIMATE 1:20 TO RECONVENE FOR SPECIAL BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING.

ADJOURN at 12:54

ATTEST

FRED STUMP
CHAIRMAN

HELEN NUNN
SR. DEPUTY CLERK