



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: First, Second, and Third Tuesday of each month. Location of meeting is specified below.

Teleconference Only - No Physical Location

**Regular Meeting
October 5, 2021**

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chair Kreitz.

Supervisors Present: Corless, Duggan, Gardner, Kreitz, and Peters (all attended via teleconference).

Supervisors Absent: None.

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Corless.

Supervisor Duggan:

- Request for the Board to adjourn today's meeting in memory of Alex Millan and Ed Parkinson.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Bartshe Miller, Mono Lake Committee Eastern Sierra Policy Director:

- California State Water Resources Control Board issued order amending DWP Mono Basin water rights

Fred Stump:

- Adjourn in memory of Alex Millan

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. Proclamation Designating October 15, 2021 Community Pink Day

Departments: Clerk of the Board

(Rosie Graves, Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance (ESCA)) - The Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance (ESCA) requests the Mono County Board of

Supervisors proclaim October 15, 2021 as "Community Pink Day" in Mono County in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness and National Mammography Day.

Action: Approve proclamation designating October 15, 2021 as "Community Pink Day" in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness and National Mammography Day.

Kreitz motion. Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-206

Chair Kreitz:

- Read proclamation

Marjorie Neer, Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance Board Member:

- Increasing awareness of breast cancer through early detection and treatment
- 21st Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Fun Run in Bishop next Saturday, October 16

B. Proclamation Designating the Month of October 2021 National Cyber Security Awareness Month

Departments: Information Technology

(Kirk Hartstrom, IT Communications Manager) - October is recognized as Cybersecurity Awareness Month by numerous Federal, State, and local agencies. This item approves a proclamation recognizing Mono County's commitment to cybersecurity.

Action: Approve a proclamation recognizing October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and Mono County's commitment to cybersecurity.

Gardner motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-207

Chair Kreitz:

- Read proclamation

Kirk Hartstrom, IT Communications Manager:

- Mono County has a commitment to protecting the integrity of our information systems and commitment to protecting the privacy of our citizens' and staff data

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Participated in September JEDI working group meeting

- Number of staff meetings on Redistricting – Community Conversation on Thursday, 10/7
- How the County provides critical services of public guardian, public conservator, and public authority. CAO's office has been working with DA, Social Services, Behavioral Health on looking at ways to realign service provision to our most vulnerable populations
- Recruitment for Public Health Officer
- Strategic Planning process continues – met with Supervisors Kreitz and Gardner and Robert Bendorf
- Completed County application for Fire Safe Council County Wildfire Coordinator Grant – \$175,000
- RCRC meeting
- Currently in Portland at ICMA Conference

4. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

A. Board Minutes - August 17, 2021

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approval of the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2021.

Action: Approve the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2021.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-208

B. Monthly Treasury Transaction Report

Departments: Finance

Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 8/31/2021.

Action: Approve the Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 8/31/2021.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-209

C. COVID-19 WeVax Funding Award and Appropriations Increase Request for FY 2021-22 Public Health Budget

Departments: Public Health

The WeVax+ grant funding opportunity is for vaccine-related services to increase vaccination rates amongst communities that the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately burdened. This item requests authorization to execute the grant agreement and increase appropriations by \$350,000 in the public health budget, paid for with the new grant in support the County's response to COVID-19.

Action: 1) Approve increasing appropriations in the amount of \$350,000 in the public health budget, funded with new grant revenues to support the public health response to COVID-19 (requires 4/5ths vote approval); and 2) Authorize the Public Health Director, Bryan Wheeler, to sign the Subcontract Agreement, Non-disclosure Certificate, and Conflict of Interest.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-210

D. Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplemental Funding County Application

Departments: Behavioral Health

Proposed County Application to the Department of Health Care Services pertaining to Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) & American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Supplemental Funding.

Action: Approve and authorize Behavioral Health Director to sign the County Application Enclosure X: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) & American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Supplemental Funding Allocation & Enclosure Instructions on behalf of the County.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-211

E. Echo Contract for Services

Departments: Behavioral Health

Proposed contract with Echo Consulting Services of California, Inc, pertaining to software support, maintenance, and hosting.

Action: Approve County entry into proposed contract and authorize Robert Lawton, CAO, to execute said contract on behalf of the County. Provide

any desired direction to staff.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-212

F. InSync Contract for Electronic Health Record (EHR) Services

Departments: Behavioral Health

Proposed contract with InSync Healthcare Solutions, LLC, pertaining to provision of Electronic Health Record (EHR) System Services

Action: 1) Approve the contract between Mono County and InSync for the provision of electronic health record system services and authorize the CAO to execute said contract on behalf of the County.

2) Provide authorization for the Behavioral Health Director to approve minor amendments and/or revisions to the contract that do not substantively modify its terms, with approval as to form by County Counsel.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-213

G. Allocation List Amendment

Departments: Sheriff's Office

Proposed resolution authorizing the County Administrative Officer to amend the County of Mono List of Allocated Positions to eliminate one (1) Jail Lieutenant and add one (1) Jail Sergeant II in the Office of the Sheriff.

Action: Adopt proposed resolution, R21-68, authorizing the County Administrative Officer to amend the County of Mono List of Allocated Positions to eliminate one (1) Jail Lieutenant and add one (1) Jail Sergeant II in the Office of the Sheriff.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R21-68

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Direction may be given to staff regarding, and/or the Board may discuss, any item of correspondence listed on the agenda.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

A. Letter of Commendation from Wes French Regarding the Mono County Sheriff's Department

A letter of commendation from Mono County resident Wes French regarding the Mono County Sheriff's Department.

Ingrid Braun, Sheriff:

- Appreciated the letter
- Sheriff's office pink patch stars – giving them out in exchange for donations to Mammoth Hospital Cancer Outreach Program

Supervisor Peters:

- Shared positive personal experience with Sheriff's Department at Bridgeport Inn

B. Alpine County Informal Comment on the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Proposed Middle-Mile Map and Mono County's Filing

Informal comments from Alpine County regarding the new middle mile network be extended up the Highway 4 corridor to serve several communities, businesses, and government offices in Calaveras County as well as the communities of Bear Valley and Lake Alpine in Alpine County.

C. USDA Forest Service Long Valley Exploration Drilling Project Update

The Inyo National Forest received a request from KORE Mining Ltd. for approval of a Plan of Operations for mineral exploration on National Forest land at its Long Valley Project area. The decision to move forward with the mineral exploration was made on September 27, 2021.

Emily Fox, Deputy County Counsel:

- No more formal process

Supervisor Corless:

- Given level of public interest and concern about this, request writing letter to Forest Service requesting regular updates to Board

Supervisor Duggan:

- Request to make sure we have a clear timeline, expectations, concessions that were stated in letter are followed

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. Workshop on Open Range in Mono County

Departments: Agricultural Commissioner

(Nathan D. Reade, Agricultural Commissioner) - This workshop will discuss the open range designation in Mono County, including the history of open range within Mono County and how it relates to the California Food and Agriculture Code.

Action: None.

Supervisor Peters:

- August 4 letter from constituent regarding grazing issues

Nate Reade, Agricultural Commissioner:

- Presentation – history of open range in Mono County, meaning of open range designation

Public Comment:

- William Osborn
- Christine Mead
- George Mead
- Bob McMahon
- Nicholas Bliss

Consensus from the Board to bring back more information regarding amending the Ordinance.

Break: 10:42 AM

Reconvened: 10:50 AM

B. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Departments: CAP / Public Health

(Robert C. Lawton, CAO, Bryan Wheeler, Public Health Director) - Update on Countywide response and planning related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Action: None.

Bryan Wheeler, Public Health Director

- PPT presentation (can be found under Supporting Documents on the meeting webpage: <https://monocounty.ca.gov/bos/page/board-supervisors-129> – recent metrics, post vaccination infections, Mammoth Hospital status, MUSD update, COVID vaccine school mandate, limited state resources and increased testing, booster shots for those with compromised immune systems, Pfizer boosters for general population, vaccine and testing schedule

C. Response to 2020-21 Grand Jury Continuity Reports

Departments: County Counsel

(Emily Fox, Deputy County Counsel) - Letter to the 2020-2021 Grand Jury responding to several continuity reports on past years' Grand Jury reports. While a response to these continuity reports is not required under the Penal Code, the Board can provide responses and updates to the continuity report findings and updates.

Action: Approve letter response to continuity reports.

Peters motion. Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-214

Emily Fox, Deputy County Counsel:

- Provided background on continuity report

Supervisor Corless:

- Concerns regarding lack of update on Radio System and Solid Waste

D. Budget Amendment Request to Provide for Additional Motor Pool Vehicle Purchases

Departments: Public Works

(Tony Dublino, Director of Public Works) - Budget Amendment Request to provide for additional motor pool vehicle purchases.

Action: Approve Budget Amendment, increasing appropriation in Motor Pool *Capital Equipment: Vehicles* (650-10-723-53010) by \$248,000 (\$78,000 for Probation Vehicles and \$170,000 for Public Health Vehicles) to accommodate additional vehicle purchases (requires 4/5ths vote).

Gardner motion. Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-215

Tony Dublino, Director of Public Works:

- Noted not in Staff Report – current appropriation in this line item is approximately \$1.3 million, the increase is on top of the \$1.3 million

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director:

- Probation funding for two additional vehicles – new program created by State, distributed to Counties, dedicated funding that is shared with Social Services

E. Updated Memorandum of Understanding with Long Valley Fire Protection District

Departments: CAO

(Robert C. Lawton, CAO) - Proposed memorandum of understanding with the Long Valley Fire Protection District pertaining to snow removal, storage of Sheriff's equipment, temporary lodging for County employees and cessation of prior agreement to share use of power generator, pertaining to the fire station in Crowley.

Action: Approve County entry into proposed contract and authorize Chair to execute said contract on behalf of the County.

Duggan motion. Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-216

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Presented item

F. 2021/2022 California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Nominations

Departments: Board of Supervisors

Nomination of a member and alternate to serve on the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board of Directors for 2021/2022.

Appointment of individuals nominated by the Board is made by the CSAC Executive Committee and appointments are for one year.

Action: 1) Nominate Supervisor Peters to be a member of the Board of Supervisors to serve on the CSAC Board of Directors for the 2021/2022 Association year beginning on November 29, 2021; and 2) Nominate Chair Kreitz a member of the Board of Supervisors to serve as an alternate on the CSAC Board of Directors for the 2021/2022 Association year beginning on November 29, 2021.

Corless motion. Duggan seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-217

G. Resolution Authorizing Remote Board of Supervisors Meetings under AB 361

Departments: County Counsel

(Stacey Simon, County Counsel) - Proposed resolution authorizing remote meetings of the Board of Supervisors for the period of October 5, 2021 through November 4, 2021, pursuant to AB 361.

Action: Adopt proposed resolution, R21-69, authorizing remote meetings of the Board of Supervisors for the period of October 5, 2021 through November 4, 2021, pursuant to AB 361.

Gardner motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R21-69

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Presented item

Moved to Item 10.

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session: 11:50 AM

Reconvened: 1:25 PM

No action to report out of Closed Session.

A. Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Bob Lawton, Stacey Simon, Janet Dutcher, Anne Frievault, and Ryan Roe. Employee Organization(s): Mono County Sheriff's Officers Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association), Local 39 - majority representative of Mono County Public Employees (MCPE) and Deputy Probation Officers Unit (DPOU), Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association (PARA), Mono County Public Safety Officers Association (PSO). Unrepresented employees: All.

B. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION. Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Name of case: *County of Mono v. K.R. Property Development & Real Estate et al.*, Mono County Superior Court Case No. CV200081.

C. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION. Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Name of case: *Cindy Abshire, et al. v. Gavin Newsom, et al.* (U.S. Dist. Ct. Eastern District, Case No.: 2:21-cv-00198-JAM-KJN).

D. Closed Session - Real Property Negotiations

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54956.8. Property: 36 and 40 Christie Lane, Benton. Agency negotiator: Stacey Simon, Erik Ramakrishnan and John Craig. Negotiating parties: Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe, of the Benton Paiute Reservation and County of Mono. Under negotiation: Price and terms of sale.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Corless:

- 9/22 - county staff JEDI meeting, training set for Nov. 8
- 9/23 - first RCRC Wildfire ad hoc committee meeting, good discussion with former Cal Fire chief Ken Pimlott on situation
- 9/18-10/1 RCRC Annual Meeting--great event and incredible work by RCRC staff, an honor to preside as chair; inspiring discussion with Sec. Leon Panetta, sessions on emerging building technology, the political landscape, NASA Mars missions and its meaning for water on earth (thank you to Mammoth resident Dr. Tom Painter for presenting on this panel), military installations and community

engagement. At the board meeting, discussion with US Forest Service Region 5 Forester Jennifer Eberlien, updates on state legislation/end of session, federal situation. RCRC staff mentioned the need for constituents of Asm Bigelow and Sen Borgeas regarding their "no" votes on key pieces of legislation to fund \$1 billion in wildfire prevention programs, asking for board's consensus to speak to legislators. Full details of board meeting here:

https://www.rcrcnet.org/sites/default/files/useruploads/Meetings/Board_of_Directors/2021/October_1_2021/BoardMeeting_Highlights_October_1_2021_FINAL.pdf

- Highlight of the meeting was the basket auction, which raises money for nonprofits in the chair's county. Over \$55,000 was raised, and that money will be shared among the following organizations: Antelope Valley Lions Club, Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps, Mono Arts Council, and Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserves. Thanks to all who donated to Mono's "basket"--it raised \$6,000: in Bridgeport, donors included Kim Bunn/Bridgeport Rodeo, Fish Enhancement Foundation, Ken's Sporting Goods, Growler's Eatery, and Bridgeport Inn; in Mammoth, Mono Arts Council (including a giant handmade log chair that got a lot of attention), Bluesapalooza, Mammoth Mountain, Devils Creek Distillery, and outside Mammoth, Ski California. Thanks to Supervisor Duggan and Peters with their help (John got the chair to Monterey, which wasn't easy).

Supervisor Duggan:

- 09/22/21 –
 - Friends of the Inyo – I met with Executive Director Wendy Schneider and Jora Fogg regarding upcoming issues affecting the Eastern Sierra.
 - I attended the TGWA meeting where we discussed their response to the OVGA draft of the GSP. Concern was again expressed at the lack of outreach and inclusion of input from the Tri Valley area, so a series of meeting will be held next week to give the public one more chance to provide feedback on the plan as it pertains to the Tri Valley.
- 09/23/21 –
 - CSAC/RCRC Counties Webinar – I attended a CalPERS webinar hosted by CSAC and RCRC. The webinar provided information on changes to the program along with guidance on suggested percentages for county contributions.
 - I participated in the IMACA Board meeting that reviewed financials, administrative needs, and upcoming challenges for the organization. The area Food Distribution calendar continues to grow based on needs and there are ongoing issues with mortgage for the Glass Mountain affordable housing property. Although the dispute with the state-sponsored lending program has been ongoing for many years, the Board has given staff direction to prevent adverse borrow impacts for other projects.
- 9/24/21 – Ed Parkinson Celebration of Life – I attended the Celebration of Life in Benton for Ed, who passed away in March 2020. It was great to be able to represent to County and my district, enjoy great barbecue, and reminisce about Ed and his contributions to building the community of Benton. Ed generously donated many pieces of land, including parcels for the Benton Community Center, The Ida Lynn Memorial Park, the land for the Community Church and the land for the high school. Ed started the Benton and Chalfant Fire Departments in 1968, and the community has expressed desire to rename the Benton Fire House in his honor. I would be happy to work with staff to make this happen.
- 9/28 – 30/21 RCRC 2021 Annual Meeting – I traveled to Monterey to attend the annual meeting in person along with Supervisor Peters and CAO Lawton. RCRC Board Chair Corless and the entire RCRC staff did an outstanding job of

providing content for the program. It was fitting to have Former US Secretary of Defense give his perspective while the decision on the Federal Government shutdown was unfolding (he was also a Director of the Office of Management and Budget.) Other sessions featured the effects of Migration in California, innovations in Alternative Housing, where we saw a demonstration of 3D printed house. One of the highlights for me was the session discussing Space Exploration and Water on Earth, that took us to Mars and into the clouds above our own Eastern Sierra in search of water – past, present, and future. Lastly, the panel discussing the 21st Century Challenges to California's Military Mission brought to light the impacts our military workforce and families have on our rural communities, including financial, housing, and volunteerism. The conference provided many ideas and resources we can explore and apply to the needs of Mono County.

Supervisor Gardner:

- On Wednesday Sept. 22 I participated in the monthly meeting of the June Lake Chamber of Commerce. Topics discussed included the Chambers summer efforts to keep the Village clean, various Chamber fall programs, and a proposal to create a parking area by the balanced rock in June Lake.
- On Friday Sept. 24 I participated in a meeting with ESSRP staff and others about possible grant funding for next year's Dispersed Camping project. Various opportunities are available for funding.
- On Monday Sept. 27 I joined a webinar sponsored by the Urban Institute on Leveraging Community Expertise to Advance Health Equity. This presentation had several good ideas and examples about how to reach out to underserved communities to provide better health care.
- On Monday the 27th I also joined CAO Lawton and Robert Bendorf to talk about the next steps for the County's strategic planning effort.
- On Tuesday Sept. 28 I participated in a call with Stacey Adler, Mono County Supt. of Schools, and various county staff to talk about planning for the proposed Children's Summit next summer. The group reviewed several data indicators to be used to assess the overall condition of children in the county.
- On Wednesday, Sept. 29 I listened to a webinar sponsored by the Hamilton Project on Resilience After Recession: The Emerging Landscape for American Workers and Families. This webinar provided interesting data about the employment impact of the recent recession and its impact on families, plus other information about the impact on poverty rates and overall safety net programs.

Chair Kreitz:

- Wednesday, September 22, I attended the State Rent Assistance Program Advisory Group meeting. The state is spending down federal and state funding and is not in jeopardy of losing funds.
- Later that day, I met with IT Director Nate Greenberg to discuss the redistricting process.
- Thursday, September 23, my first meeting was with the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care Budge Subcommittee. This was the first meeting of the committee, so there was a lengthy discussion on background. We didn't get through our entire agenda and will be meeting again soon to discuss future funding resources and allocations.
- My next meeting on Thursday, was with the CSAC Housing, Land-use, and Transportation committee staff to discuss programming for the upcoming annual conference.

- On Tuesday, September 28, I met with CAO Lawton and Robert Bendorf to discuss the strategic planning process.

Supervisor Peters:

- Week before last, I attended the IMACA meeting, a few NACo meetings covering legislative updates
- One call to action that came out today regarding the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program
- RCRC – Mono Arts Council chair donation
- Next week, attending WIR Conference in Utah and will not be attending the October 12 BOS meeting

Moved to Item 9.

ADJOURNED AT 1:25 PM in honor of Ed Parkinson and Alex Millan.

ATTEST

**JENNIFER KREITZ
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE BOARD**