

Board of Supervisors Update





May 2017





The kids made wonderful toys and blankets and goodie bags for adopters. They also brought some blankets and toys for the shelter pets as well. They will also be putting up posters around town. "Adopt don't shop" per Mrs. April and her class. The kids all got stickers and Scrap books for their pets at home and Diamond was our guide dog.

In case anyone wonders what Supervisors do on the 4th Tuesday of the month.....



Bridgeport Trash Pick-up day, May 10th

(last one of the season)



Pictured (clockwise) Megg Hawkins, Barry Beck, Stephanie Butters, Shawna Pettigrew, Jami Jerrett, (Stephanie), and Dave Butters. (Becky Buccowich, not pictured)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Transient Occupancy Tax: TOT for Q3 came in at \$390,282, slightly ahead of last year's record-breaking Q3 of \$382,299 (higher by 46% over Q3 in 2014-15). However, due to a delay in USFS contracts with two major campground concessionaires, the prepaid advance campsite reservations were not submitted (which historically nets about \$40K in TOT for Q3). This year's Quarter 4 should reflect a portion of that amount, depending on the timing of campground openings and subsequent canceled reservations this year. Overall, we are tracking 11% higher in TOT revenue, year over year.
- Commissioner Vacancy: It is with genuine regret that the Mono County Economic Development, Tourism & Film Commission (EDTF) accepted the resignation of Jennifer Roeser who was our commissioner representing District 2 since 2012. Jennifer's insights, perspective, and contribution to the Commission have been truly invaluable and she will be greatly missed. We are accepting applications shortly for the volunteer position of EDTF Commissioner, representing and residing in District 2 (South County, including Convict Lake, Crowley Lake, Benton, Rock Creek, Swall Meadows and Chalfant) for a 4-year term.
 Television Advertising: As part of our business attraction strategy, we are airing a 60-second "Start your Business in Mono County" spot in the Reno market: https://youtu.be/8UAPcvyelYU.

FILM COMMISSION:

- Bodie Television Documentary for Italy: We are looking forward to welcoming Fish Eye Digital Video Creation from Italy who will be filming at Bodie next week for an Italian television documentary. Thanks to Ranger Josh Heitzmann, Park staff Catherine Jones and Bodie Foundation director, Terri Geissinger and to Visit California and Mammoth Lakes Tourism for hosting this media visit.
- Mazda commercial: This medium-sized commercial filmed at Virginia Lakes, Twin Lakes Resort in Bridgeport and on US 395 just north of Mammoth Lakes last week. Sincere and profuse thanks to District Ranger Jeremy Marshall, Megan Mullowney, Sheryl O'Brien, and Adrianne Thatcher with the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Rick DeLaRosa with Caltrans, and Andrea Kachulis with the Inyo National Forest for assisting with permits. The production estimates local spending of approximately \$25,000 \$27,000 which is the average generated by commercials. Special thanks also to Supervisor Peters for his support and assistance.



TOURISM:

- Advertising: Our "Mono County Wildflower" television spots in the Reno/Bakersfield markets are airing now: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fs02PdGwExc.
- *PR/Media*: Travertine and Buckeye Hot Springs were included in Travel Channel's "<u>8 Natural Hot Springs to Visit This Summer</u>" (slides 3 and 8). Travel Channel has 9,428,786 Unique Monthly Visitors (UMV) so tremendous exposure.
- Social Media: When Bodie opened this year, we <u>created this short video</u> for social media platforms. On Facebook, the video received 242,000 views with 7,200 likes 600 comments and 3162 shares and a total reach of 435,000 people. Congratulations to Bodie Ranger Josh Heitzmann and staff for handling record-breaking Memorial Day visits with limited resources and services.
- *E-Newsletter:* <u>May's Newsletter</u> was sent to over 21,500 visitors in our database, and received an open rate of 21.3% and click-thru rates of 22%, well above industry average. Excellent work, **Liz Grans**!
- CalTravel Conference: Staff is attending the annual CalTravel Summit, June 27-29 in Newport Beach. Caltravel

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

June Lake short-term rentals - An intensive series of neighborhood workshops led by our skilled facilitator Wendy Sugimura, including several Saturday and all-day sessions, were conducted in May with June Lake residents and property owners to explore planning solutions for regulating short-term rentals of single-family homes. Workshops appeared well received, and appreciation was expressed for providing an informative conversation in a safe space where issues could be discussed without being confrontational. Policy development sessions continue later this month (see upcoming events). Huge thanks to Wendy, Paul McFarland, Michael Draper, Justin Nalder and Supervisor Bob Gardner for their hours of effort.





Housing survey – Thanks to all who participated in the recent Mono County housing survey. A tally of survey results is under way, and preliminary results and processes will be shared by the consultant, *Megan Mahaffey* and *Jake Suppa* at the Mono County Housing Authority meeting June 20.

Joint Committee – Regarding cannabis, the Joint Committee continues to review strategies for locally regulating cannabis, most recently at its public outreach meeting May 31. *Michael Draper, Nick Criss* and *Wendy Sugimura* reported on public input received during initial outreach to communities and reviewed land use regulation concepts such as buffers, setbacks and other potential site requirements. Interested public, including several land owners, and committee members from finance, public health, agricultural commissioners, environment health, sheriff, economic development, CAO and county counsel offices were in attendance. The Joint Committee will report on its progress at the BOS meeting June 13.

Thermal Biomass Project / Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant – The County biomass team completed the thermal biomass heating system project at the Bridgeport Road Shop and successfully closed out the \$236,500 Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant. A true cross-departmental and collaborative effort, the Public Works – Facilities, Public Works – Solid Waste, and Community Development Department staff played key roles in project completion. Special thanks to *Joe Blanchard, Jason Davenport, Tony Dublino, Megan Mahaffey,* and *Wendy Sugimura.*



Sunrise field surveys – CDD staffers *Jake Suppa, Justin Nalder, Michael Draper* and *Wendy Sugimura* were out at sunrise several mornings in the Bodie Hills and Long Valley areas to count sage grouse populations as part of the County's ongoing commitment to sage grouse conservation. *Jake* recently developed a new website to track progress of sage grouse inter-agency conservation efforts.



PROBATION

Our very own **Jon Himelhoch** was selected to participate on the Statewide Range Instructor Coalition (RIC) representing Central Region. The duties that Officer Himelhoch will be accomplishing on this Coalition are:

- Coordinate with fellow range instructors within region on training courses;
- Share training plans and outlines including range qualification courses;
- Participate in statewide RIC and attend an annual convening; and
- Complete special projects as determined by CPOC Arming Policy Committee.

Officer Himelhoch is also Probation's Lead Range Master for Mono and Inyo county providing training every three months. He will be a knowledgeable addition to this Coalition.

Probation participated in the Health and Safety Fair in Mammoth Lakes on June 3rd providing information on Bullying and Cyber Safety.

Several small Mammoth Lakes residents using their probation give-away Sand Buckets & Shovels.



Erin Van Kampen and Erin Knight talking with kids and parents. Youth could spin the wheel and land on a prize. If they answered a question correctly, they would win the prize. Fidget spinners were the most coveted prizes with pool noodles running a closed second.





Mono County Child Care Council Press Release

CONTACT:

Nancy Mahannah Member, Executive Committee <u>nmahannah@mono.ca.gov</u> 760-924-4621 Dyanna Hernandez Chair, Executive Committee <u>dhernandez@monocoe.org</u> 760-932-7311 Queenie Barnard Council Coordinator, IMACA <u>gbarnard@imaca.net</u> 760-934-3343

New Survey Shows Child Care Providers Love Their Jobs, But There are far too few Child Care Providers

Just released findings from the Mono County Child Care Needs Assessment show that Mono County in desperate need of child care providers.

Mono County, CA – May 15, 2017 – New research shows that child care is at a premium in Mono County. This is the situation: of 18 child care providers surveyed, providers reported between 2 and 27 families on their waitlist. One child

care center reported a waiting list of 27 infants and 11 preschool children. The Walker/Coleville area has no licensed child care providers for children 0-3 years, the Marine base only accepts the Marine's children and others must rely on friends and family. These findings are part of new research released by the Mono County Child Care Council after interviews and surveys of 27 child care providers, 178 parents using or needing child care, participants of First 5's Peapod groups, and 32 employers.

Mono communities are doing well economically, but if people don't have childcare, neither families nor employers can reap the benefits of a better economy.



"We are experiencing a lack of available, quality child care in every economic sector," said Dyanna Hernandez, mother, and chair of the Mono County Child Care Council. "There are insufficient subsidized child care spots, and insufficient child care placements for those who are better off." Parent surveys indicated that 85% needed child care to be able to work and support their families. While 70% of employers reported they were flexible in scheduling to accommodate child care needs, employers also reported that doing so creates stress and difficulty for the business.

In the employers' eyes, the top contributors to child care problems were lack of reliable child care, no alternative child care in emergencies, limited care for alternative work hours, and inability to afford child care. In both consumer surveys and interviews, the top 3 problems cited were inability to obtain child care are Cost (43%), none available (30%) and lack of child care for infants and toddlers (22%). Another frequently stated problem was lack of care on odd hours and weekends.

Child care is definitely not without its rewards. Providers say that working with children can offer a great opportunity for persons who love children, want to work out of their homes or want to stay home with their own children. Child care providers report great satisfaction from watching the children learn and reach developmental milestones, gaining the love and trust of the children, and witnessing them build relationships with each other.

"The chronic child care problem has become acutely worse in spite of an increased need," reflected Mono County Health Officer, First 5 Commissioner and pediatrician, Richard Johnson. "All partners need to come together and produce solutions." Meanwhile, Cerro Coso Community College has a great online program with many open Summer classes in Child Health/Development that begin in June. The Mono County Office of Education is working with partners to develop a child care center, but for right now, parents have few options. Persons interested in pursuing a business in child care may call Queenie Barnard at Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) at 760-934-3343.

A fond farewell ...

We bid good bye and thank you to **Marlo Preis, MSW, Staff Service Analyst III**. Marlo is relocating to sunny Santa Cruz at the end of this month. She served the County of Mono for eleven years in a variety of roles, starting in July 2006 as an Eligibility Worker I/II. Next, Marlo served as a Social Worker I, II, and III for three years, and then as a Staff Services Analyst I, II and III for the last six years.



Marlo received her master of social work degree from Sacramento State University while working fulltime within the department. She was one of the first county employees in the state to become a certified federal child and family services reviewer, and conducted reviews for both Mono and Alpine Counties.

She worked with the very young, to the very old and all ages in between. She served as our lead foster family recruiter, working tirelessly with State agencies, DSS staff, community partners including the Child Abuse Prevention Council, local schools, Wild Iris, and others, to identify, train, support, and nurture county residents in becoming foster parents. She also served as a board member for the Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action. We are grateful for the many years of dedicated service Marlo provided to the residents of our county, and to her fellow employees. We wish her the very best!



American Red Cross

Thanks to staff for assisting with the recent American Red Cross classes held in Mono County.

Here are some highlights:

- 5/31/17 Disaster Services Boot Camp, 5 attendees plus 3 more vetted afterwards.
- 5/31/17–6/3/17 Home installations 52 smoke alarms, 11 in Mono County
- 6/1/17 PrepareU, 2 attendees
- 6/2/17 Disaster Action Team Simulation, 7 attendees
- 6/3/17 CPR/First Aid, 5 attendees
- 6/3/17 Train-the-Trainer, 1 attendee
- 6/4/17 Red Cross Luau 16 attendees



For more information and to volunteer, contact Cathy Young, 760-924-1780.





(Don't miss out!)

ANNUAL LOW COST VACCINATIONS/DOG LICENSING CLINIC SCHEDULE

"Doggy Social"

2017/2018

Promoted by Mono County Animal Control and Eastern Sierra Veterinary Medical Association

BISHOP VETERINARY HOSPITAL

CROWLEY LAKE	<mark>Sat. June 3</mark> 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM	<u>Crowley Lake - County Road Shop</u> Tom Talbot, DVM	
<u>CHALFANT</u>	<u>Sat. June 3</u> 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	<u>Chalfant Valley Fire Hall</u> Tom Talbot, DVM	
BENTON	<u>Sat. June 3</u> 3:30-4:30	<u>Benton Road Shop – Benton</u> Tom Talbot, DVM	
BISHOP VETERINARY HOSPITAL			
WALKER	<u>Sat. June 10</u> 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM	<u>Walker Fire Hall – Hackney Dr./Shop Road</u> Tom Talbot, DVM	
PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGE FOR BRIDGEPORT CLINIC			
<u>BRIDGEPORT</u> PM – 3:30 PM	<u>Sat. June 10</u> Tom Talbot DVM	Bridgeport Animal Shelter. Jack Sawyer RD	2:00
ALPEN VETERINARY HOSPITAL			
LEE VINING	Sat. June 17 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	County Road shop / Lee Vining Gaylon Teslaa, DVM	
<u>IUNE LAKE</u> AM – 1:00 PM	<u>Sat. June 17</u> Gaylon Teslaa, DVM	June Lake Fire Hall / Hwy 158	11:30

<u>ONE STOP SHOPPING!</u> Stop by one of our <u>LOW COST VACCINATION</u> and <u>2016/2017 DOG LICENSING CLINICS</u> . Rabies vaccinations will be offered for <u>\$10.00</u> . <u>Canine and feline vaccinations/boosters will also be available</u> . Dogs' must have a current rabies vaccination prior to licensing for <u>2017/2018</u> . <u>(please review regulations on the back of this page)</u>			
To expedite waiting time, please bring last year's license receipt. If corrections need to be made to your dog license application form, please advise staff at the time of licensing.			
Jorm, please duvise stujj ut the time of incensing.			
Intact Dog License Fee: \$20.00 Altered Dog License Fee: \$10.00 (Certificate required for new dogs)			
? Mammoth Lakes, Invo County and Nevada residents are welcome to take advantage of the low cost vaccination clinics but are reminded			

that they need to purchase dog licenses in their own jurisdiction.



Join us for a picnic in the Park Mono Lake Miler - guess your time event 3.2 miles (5K) (All abilities welcome) WHEN: Wednesday June 28, 2017 WHERE: Mono Lake Park TIME: 12:00 – 5:00??? BBQ and Band will be provided BYOC (bring your own chair) Service Awards will be given FUN FUN FOR EVERYONE!!





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

June Lake policy development – Following neighborhood workshops held in May, a series of meetings will be held to review public input and data, and craft short-term rental policy and regulations for each neighborhood. The results will be incorporated into the June Lake Area Plan, which is part of Mono County's General Plan, and will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for consideration. All meetings will be held at the June Lake Community Center:

Wednesday, June 7, 6-9 pm

Meeting 1: Workshop information and data

Wednesday, June 14, 1-4 pm

Meeting 2: Data analysis and policy formation

Wednesday, June 28, 6-9 pm

Meeting 3: Consideration of draft policies

Thermal Biomass ribbon cutting ceremony – June 7 at 1:30 pm, 207 Jack Sawyer Rd, Bridgeport

Local Transportation Commission – **June 12** at 9 am, Town/County Conference Room (above Giovanni's Pizzeria), Minaret Village Mall, Mammoth Lakes

Cannabis workshop - June 13 in afternoon, Supervisors Chambers, County Courthouse, Bridgeport

Bridgeport Valley RPAC - June 13 at 7 pm, Twin Lakes Annex conference room

Public Health - Smoking Cessation



On Wednesday, June 14th, **Nancy Mahannah** will be in the CAO conference room in Bridgeport from 12:00-1:00 pm and again from 4:30 to 5:30 pm to assist people who may be interested in quitting smoking or chew tobacco. This will be a group discussion. No one needs to plan to quit or to quit that day. She will be discussing helpful medications and nicotine replacement products and resources that one can use to quit. Sometimes by learning new quit skills, smokers and chewers can more successfully entertain quitting tobacco.

Nancy Mahannah, PHN Health Promotion Mono County Public Health Dept.



APS: 800/340-5411 Ombudsman: 760/872-4128



Volunteers needed: Give just a little, or give a lot!

The Antelope Valley Thrift Store is looking for a few good men and women to volunteer at the Thrift Store. This unique thrift store is located next to the Senior Center and has a bit of everything and anything you might need. Some of the proceeds from the store helps the Senior Center with the purchase of materials and supplies for monthly birthday parties, bingo night, movie viewing, arts and crafts activities, and much more.

Volunteers are needed to help customers find treasure within the store, assist with receiving items, and keeping the store organized. This is a wonderful community-run, community-based partnership and a few hours of local volunteerism can make all the difference! Any number of volunteer hours is appreciated – we'll take whatever you can give.

To volunteer and for more information, call Mariann 530/495-1200. The Thrift Store is open 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM, closed Sunday, located at 399 Mule Deer Rd, Walker.

The Thrift Store and Recycling Center Board meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 2:00 PM at the Senior Center. The Board invites participation – all are welcome to attend! Also, the Board is looking for members. If you are 55 years of age or older and want to get involved with this marvelous group of volunteers, please let us know!