



**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.

Meeting Location: Board Chambers, 2nd Fl., County Courthouse, 278 Main St., Bridgeport, CA 93517

**Regular Meeting
September 14, 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.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

2. RECOGNITIONS - NONE

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Meeting on combined use of certain public rights of way for ATVs and other off-road vehicles
- Received Region 9 COVID-19 briefing from California Public Health
- Appointed to NACo Finance, Pensions, and Intergovernmental Affairs Steering Committee
- ESSRP meeting

4. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

Gordon Greene, Veteran Services Officer:

- Obtained accreditation through the Veterans Administration
- Background investigation through the VA, will obtain access to VA database
- Currently have four pending claims in Mono County

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Working towards contract with Inyo County for the VSO services

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. Reappointment to First 5 Mono County Children and Families Commission

Departments: First 5, sponsored by Supervisor Gardner

Request for Board of Supervisors to reappoint Dr. Kristin Collins to the First 5 Mono County Children and Families Commission.

Action: Re-Appoint Dr. Kristin Collins to the Mono County Children and Families Commission to serve a subsequent three-year term commencing September 12, 2021 and expiring September 13, 2024.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-199

B. Monthly Treasury Transaction Report

Departments: Finance

Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 7/31/2021.

Action: Approve the Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 7/31/2021.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-200

C. Ordinance Amending Mono County Code Section 3.04.030 Pertaining to Purchases Made by Department Heads

Departments: County Counsel; CAO; Finance

Proposed ordinance amending section 3.04.030 of the Mono County Code to authorize assistant purchasing agents (i.e., department heads) to

purchase services, supplies and equipment in amounts not to exceed \$25,000 per purchase.

Action: Adopt proposed ordinance amending Mono County Code Section 3.04.030 pertaining to purchases made by Department Heads.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

ORD21-10

D. Memorandum of Understanding Between Mono County and the Bureau of Land Management for Recreation Support Activities

Departments: Public Works

Proposed MOU between Mono County and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), relating to joint Sustainable Recreation efforts on BLM lands.

Action: Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Mono County and the Bureau of Land Management and authorize the CAO to execute said MOU on behalf of the County. Additionally, provide authorization for the Public Works Director to approve minor amendments and/or revisions to the MOU that do not substantively modify its terms, with approval as to form by County Counsel.

Corless motion. Peters seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-201

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 from Simpson Family and Employees of Bridgeport Shell Station Recognizing County Employee Donald Starks

A letter from the Simpson family and employees of Bridgeport Shell Station recognizing and thanking County employee, Donald Starks, for his quick action to extinguish a fire at the Station.

B. Request for Party Status and Opening Comments of the County of Mono to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Order Instituting Rulemaking 20-09-001

Request for Party Status and Opening Comments of the County of Mono to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Order Instituting Rulemaking 20-09-001 Regarding Broadband Infrastructure Deployment and to Support Service Providers in the State of California.

Action: The request for party status and comments were submitted pursuant to the County's Legislative Platform and Resolution R21-17 ("Resolution Providing Direction for the Use and Implementation of the County's Legislative Platform"), and are provided here for full Board review.

Supervisor Peters:

- Thanked everybody who pulled together an excellent document to formally allow us to be part of this process

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. Introduction of Waste Connections' Sustainability Coordinator Kendra Knight

Departments: Board of Supervisors, sponsored by Supervisor Corless (Kendra Knight, Waste Connections-Mammoth Disposal Sustainability Coordinator) - Introduction of Waste Connections-Mammoth Disposal Sustainability Coordinator Kendra Knight.

Action: None.

Kendra Knight, Waste Connections-Mammoth Disposal Sustainability Coordinator:

- CalRecycle's AB 341 mandate of commercial recycling
- CalRecycle's SB 1383 mandate and Mono County

B. Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project Update

Departments: Board of Supervisors, sponsored by Supervisors Corless and Gardner

(Janet Hatfield, Eastern Sierra Project Manager) - Presentation by Janet Hatfield of Plumas Corporation on the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project.

Action: None.

Janet Hatfield, Eastern Sierra Project Manager:

- Project purpose = wildfire resilience
- ESCCRP goals

Moved to Item 7D.

C. 30-day Review of Campfire Ordinance Prohibiting Open Fires on Private Property and County-Operated Campgrounds in Unincorporated Mono County

Departments: CAO

The Board has requested that the Ordinance prohibiting open fires on private property and County-operated campgrounds within unincorporated Mono County (Ord. 21-08), adopted as an urgency measure on August 17th, be reviewed every thirty days for consideration of continuing need.

Action: Board reviewed and determined that there is a continuing need to prohibit open fires on private property and in County-operated campgrounds.

Ingrid Braun, Sheriff:

- Recommend continuing ordinance

Moved to Item 7E.

D. PUBLIC HEARING: Community Development Block Grant

Departments: Finance

(Megan Mahaffey, Accountant III, Molly DesBaillets, First 5 Executive Director) - The 2017 CDBG award funded a child care program in partnership with Mono County First 5 and Eastern Sierra Unified School District. This award was able to fund a Child Care program in Bridgeport and Benton for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year as well as Bridgeport in 2020-2021.

Action: None.

Public Hearing Opened: 10:22 AM

Megan Mahaffey, Accountant III:

- Introduced item

Molly DesBaillets, First 5 Executive Director:

- Presented CDBG child care accomplishments

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director:

- Social equity

Public Hearing Closed: 10:51 AM

Break: 10:51 AM

Reconvened: 11:01 AM

Moved to Item 7C.

E. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Departments: CAO, 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.

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Expressed thanks to Public Health Director Wheeler and staff for work throughout the pandemic

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-127> – recent metrics, data delay, Mammoth Hospital status, federal vaccine mandate, school status, limited state resources and increased testing, addressing misinformation, booster shots for select group/general population, vaccine and testing schedule
- Pediatric cases
- Breakthrough cases
- Incentive program

F. Mountain View Fire Update and Review of Emergency Declarations

Departments: Mountain View Fire Emergency Operations Center

(Justin Nalder, EOC Director) - Review of continuing need for Board of Supervisor's November 17, 2020, Declaration of Local Emergency of and Mono County Health Officer's November 19, 2020, Declaration of Local Health Emergency for the Mountain View Fire.

Action: Find that there is a need to continue the local state of emergency declared on November 17, 2020 and/or the local health emergency declared on November 19, 2020 (ratified by the Board on November 24, 2020).

Peters motion. Gardner seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-202

Justin Nalder, EOC Director:

- State has completed assistance for MVF remediation
- Nine properties that opted out of state program or did not qualify still need to be cleaned up
- Recommendation to continue local emergency and health emergency

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director:

- Potential financial obligation for the County

Supervisor Peters:

- Letter to Borgeas and Bigelow and copy the appropriate entities (CalOES, Governor's office)
- Requested clarity on what happens to a property that is not attended to by the owner

G. Amendment to Conway Ranch Grazing Lease to Extend Grazing Season until October 9

Departments: Public Works

(Justin Nalder, Solid Waste Superintendent) - Proposed amendment to the Conway Ranch Grazing Lease with Hunewill Land and Cattle Company, Inc. pertaining to grazing of cattle on Conway Ranch, extending the grazing season for the 2021 calendar year from September 15 until October 9.

Action:

1. Find that the County's entry into an amended lease agreement for the extension of seasonal grazing of cattle on Conway Ranch in the Mono Basin from September 15 to October 9, related land and water uses, and the minor construction/reconstruction of fences, is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1: Existing Facilities).
2. Approve County entry into Agreement and First Amendment to Conway Ranch Grazing Lease to extend the 2021 grazing season until October 9.

Gardner motion. Kreitz seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M21-203

Justin Nalder, Solid Waste Superintendent:

- Presented item

Public Comment:

- Kay Ogden

H. Resolution Making PERS Findings to Hire Retired Annuitant Rebecca Buccowich

Departments: Finance, Human Resources

(Janet Dutcher, Finance Director; Ryan Roe, Acting Human Resources Director) - Proposed Resolution Providing Necessary Certifications for Exception to 180-Day Wait Period Under Government Code Sections 7522.56 & 21224 for Limited Term, Part-Time Employment of PERS Retiree Rebecca Buccowich as a Fiscal Technical Specialist IV in the Finance Department.

Action: Adopt proposed resolution making PERS findings to hire retired annuitant Rebecca Buccowich.

Gardner motion. Corless seconded.

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R21-65

Janet Dutcher, Finance Director;

- Reviewed need in the Finance department

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

Moved to Item 12.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session: 12:15 PM

Reconvened: 1:00 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, and Anne Frievalt. 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 - Initiation of Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION WILL RECONVENE NO EARLIER THAN 1:00 P.M.

10. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

11. REGULAR AGENDA - AFTERNOON

A. PUBLIC HEARING: 2021 Redistricting Communities of Interest

Departments: CAO, Board of Supervisors

Public Hearing: 1:00 PM

(Robert C. Lawton, CAO) - Focused work on collecting input on Communities of Interest. A Community of Interest is a population that shares common social or economic interests, including formally recognized communities or neighborhoods or portions of a community, that should be included within a single supervisorial district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest do not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates. Where possible, it is generally desirable to keep these geographic areas grouped together so that they may be represented by the same supervisor.

The work done in this meeting will be to capture the general boundaries of these geographies on a map so that they may be reviewed and used by individuals proposing supervisor districts in future steps of the process.

Action: Conduct public hearing.

Public Hearing Opened: 1:09 PM

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Reviewed process and timeline

Nate Greenberg, IT Director:

- Capacity to capture input from public and Board regarding Communities of Interest
- Walked through the Redistricting website and tool

Public Comment:

- Fred Stump – 2011 tour of communities that allowed each community to send representatives to talk to a committee, County staff assistance to Supervisors, Benton Tribe

Supervisor Corless:

- Suggestion for a more formal presentation or standalone video reviewing the basics of Redistricting

Chair Kreitz:

- Outreach flyers in Spanish

Christy Milovich, Assistant County Counsel:

- Reviewed outreach to date

Public Hearing Closed: 2:07 PM

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Supervisor Corless:

- 8/18 - RCRC Board of Directors meeting, formation of Golden State Connect JPA, formation of a wildfire-focused ad hoc, other highlights here: https://www.rcrcnet.org/sites/default/files/useruploads/Meetings/Board_of_Directors/2021/August_18_2021/BoardMeeting_Highlights_August_18_2021_FINAL.pdf
- 9/13 - Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership meeting

Supervisor Duggan:

- 09/08/21– NACO Policy Steering Committee Meeting – Environment, Energy, and Land Use –I participated in my first Steering Committee meeting via zoom. The Air Subcommittee hosted a sobering presentation on PFOA and PFOS – the “forever” chemicals that are of great environmental and health concern. These are still federally unregulated chemicals, and the EPA has only provided guidelines for their use. Some states and counties are trying to hold the polluter companies responsible for cleaning up PFAS from drinking water sources. Even today, firefighting foam containing PFAS that’s supposed to be for petroleum fires is still

being used on wildfires. Bipartisan support in Congress is growing for more oversight to be included in the Safe Drinking Water Act.

- 9/9/21 – Owens Valley Groundwater Authority – I participated in the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting last Thursday. We received an update on the Tri-Valley Groundwater Users Survey and were assured by OVGA staff the outstanding comments would be compiled in time to be included in the final GSP. The final draft of the GSP will be released to public for review and comment on 9/15 on the OVGA website. There has been a lot of public comment taken already on the various versions of the GSP, and all of those will be recorded as an appendix to the Plan. The Board also requested that the opening summary of the GSP reflect the extensive input from the public and how the OVGA staff weighed their findings against the public feedback. The next meeting is scheduled for November unless staff request a special meeting in October. Stay tuned.
- 9/10/21 – NACo Broadband – Congressional Briefing – I attended the presentation by the NACo Broadband Task Force. Once again, it was a clear, concise, and actionable presentation that identified the needs and solutions to bringing connectivity to everyone throughout the country. Our own Supervisor Peters brought the message home with importance and urgency of getting this solved now.
- I engaged in District 2 Constituent work with road construction issues, water use, highway safety, USFS access. Thanks again to our Mono County staff and our agency partners for the quick responses and information.

Supervisor Gardner:

- Last Wednesday I participated in the Mono Basin RPAC meeting. Topics discussed at the meeting included the Inyo National Forest closure with comments by Stephanie Heller, our new Mono Basin District Ranger, the status of the RPAC Housing Subcommittee, the status of the SCE work at the Lee Vining substation, and an update on grazing at Conway Ranch.
- On Friday the 10th I participated in a meeting of Recreate Responsibly, which is a group of non-profits, public agencies, and corporations that formed last year during the COVID pandemic to advocate for more responsible recreation practices by tourists across the country. The meeting included updates about initiatives from various parts of the nation, information about grant programs, and updates from several public lands agencies.
- Yesterday I participated with Supervisor Corless in the monthly meeting of the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership. Topics discussed included the status of grant proposals for various initiatives and updates from each of the participants.

Chair Kreitz:

- After our September 7th meeting I attended the CCRH Legislative Committee meeting. Concerns about CDLAC's proposed new rule on the allocation of private activity bonds associated with the 4% LIHTC. The proposal would allocate bonds to developments within regions and within each region, those developments with the greatest gap between fair market rents (FMR) and subsidized rents would be allocated the 4% LIHTC. There are areas within regions that have a wide berth of FMR, such as Riverside and Tulare county, where Tulare County developments would not be able to compete against Riversides since their FMR are so much higher.
- Wednesday, September 8th I participated in the monthly MLH Board meeting. We received an update on the Access Apartments project - progress is being made on the fundraising and development of the project, including approximately \$700,000 in possible value engineering. The Board approved a letter to the Mono County Grand Jury on their findings in their Workforce Housing Crisis report. MLH

legal counsel does not agree with the finding that there is a conflict of interest with the Town Council member and the Board of Supervisor representatives participating in contracts with their respective jurisdictions.

- Also on Wednesday was the NACo Community, Economic, Workforce Development Committee meeting. We received a briefing from Arthur Jemison on HUD ARP funds for homelessness. I requested that he recognize that homelessness does not look like homelessness in urban areas and to align funding to the various regional needs.
- Later Wednesday, I attended the State Rental Assistance Program Advisory Committee meeting. As of today, 64 applications for Mono County residents have been received by the state totally a requested roughly \$454,000 with 21 of those households funded approximately \$166,000.
- Last meeting of Wednesday was with MLH Program and Development Committee, MLH staff and HCD to review a few questions on the Access Apartment HOME application before it goes before the HCD Internal Loan Review Committee. It was a great meeting with some weaknesses in the HCD universal application highlighted for those applications without LIHTC.
- Friday, September 10th I participated in the regular CCRH Board meeting. The first two hours were focused on the JEDI work the Board and staff started about a year ago.

Supervisor Peters:

- On Friday, participated in the NACo Congressional Briefing
- WIR Public Lands monthly meeting – impactful presentation to heighten awareness about federal legislation about changing names of inappropriate, insensitive, derogatory named roads, areas, historical sites
- ATV/UTV Annual Jamboree was successful with more riders than they had anticipated
- Humboldt Toiyabe Bridgeport Ranger District has also been actively patrolling and out with visitors in developed campgrounds, making sure people are not staying overnight in dispersed camping areas or building campfires.

Moved to Item 9.

ADJOURNED AT 2:08 PM.

ATTEST

**JENNIFER KREITZ
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE BOARD**