

# Mono County Collaborative Planning Team

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**Members:** Stacy Corless, Bob Gardner, Mono County Supervisors; Cleland Hoff, Sandra Moberly, Town of Mammoth Lakes; Denee Alcalá, Caltrans; Doug Power, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center; Gordon Martin, USFS/Inyo; David Risley, USFS/Humboldt-Toiyabe; Jeff Fitzsimmons & Ed Hancock, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board; Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff; Steve Nelson, Bureau of Land Management; Heidi Calvert, California Department of Fish & Wildlife;

**Staff:** Gerry Le Francois, Kelly Karl, Melissa Bell

**Guests:** Patricia Robertson, Jasper Page, Sue, S135745, Leslie Ritter, Scott Burns

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## DRAFT MINUTES

July 30, 2020

### 1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ATTENDEE INTRODUCTIONS

- Stacy Corless called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. via Zoom. Attendees recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag and introduced themselves.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Patricia Robertson announced rent relief program available to Mono County & Mammoth Lakes residents through Mammoth Lakes Housing.

### 3. MINUTES: Approve draft minutes of April 30, 2020

- Stacey Corless suggested to move item to the October meeting. No members objected.

### 4. AGENCY ROUNDTABLE: Agencies discussed planning issues & pending project

### 5. AGENCY UPDATES ON CORONAVIRUS ACTIONS:

- **Jeff Fitzsimmons, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board:** Light staff. Continuing to meet needs.
- **Ed Hancock, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board:** Located in Tahoe region. Interested in participating in future meetings.
- **David Risley, Humboldt-Toiyabe USFS:** Very busy. Camping full. Dispersed camping causing issues- fights, trash, fires. Illegal fires being the largest issue. Buckeye hot springs project to start soon. Will include grading & gravel parking lot, rehabilitation of trails, & restroom installation. Fires have been burning- both small lightning caused & human caused. Employees are mostly teleworking. District Ranger must approve any field work. Hoover Wilderness permits are being issued through ranger station window & via recreation.gov. Wilderness permit quotas are filling. Bridgeport office currently closed. Wood fuel permits & America the Beautiful passes can be purchased at Bridgeport ranger station. All campgrounds open.
- **Denee Alcalá, Caltrans:** New Deputy District 9 Director of Planning. Construction still moving forward. Pavement projects have not been delayed. Seeing a lot of travelers in region. Back to pre-Covid numbers. Minimal staffing and most are tele-working. Will share traffic number dashboard data.
- **Gordon Martin, Inyo USFS:** Very busy. All visitor centers & group campgrounds are closed. Red Meadow is limiting visitors. Great American Outdoor Act will provide more funding to USFS, NPS, & BLM for projects. Each project will compete for funding. Criteria for funding approval will include number of people it will employ. Being treated similarly as a stimulus package. Funding is supposed to be spent within 4-5 years.

Ingrid Braun (Mono County Sheriff): Thinking of limitations to Lakes Basin or additional areas?

Martin: No, not enough staff to manage. "No parking" signs are on order to place in no parking areas. Reds Meadow has improved. June Lake Beach is the next priority.

- **Heidi Calvert, California Department of Fish & Wildlife**: 3 hatcheries infected by bacterial infection. Hatcheries are quarantined. Antibiotic used but did not help. In planning phase for de-populating & disinfecting hatcheries. Small amounts of fish being stocked locally. Working with private hatcheries to test fish. Still studying but bacteria most likely introduced by birds. ETA of normal operations is 2022. Working on overall state-wide plan for stocking. Due to Covid, most staff are teleworking. Field work must be approved. Gill netting & electroshock is postponed to next summer due to inability of working safely.
- **Sandra Moberly, Town of Mammoth Lakes**: New requirement for TOML restaurants. 30% of all restaurant employees must be tested for Covid. A lot of testing being processed. Increased positive numbers. Overall, businesses are being compliant. Business Assistance program is providing \$300,000 assistance. 19 applications received. Second round of application period is currently open. On Planning side, MMSA is moving forward with main lodge project. Expecting pre-application by end of year.  
Cleland Hoff (TOML Council): Congrats to TOML staff on G grant. \$20M grant for the Parcel.  
Moberly: Looking to start construction on the Parcel next year.
- **Steve Nelson, Bureau of Land Management**: Alabama Hill Scenic Area is in a preliminary assessment period for planning. Public comment ends on Friday. Request received for Wild Willies Road to help with vehicles in the winter. Sign on Aurora Canyon Road to communicate that road is not best for traveling to Bodie. All facilities are open, fully staffed. One additional law enforcement officer hired and will start in September. Ability to send project requests for Great American Outdoor Act funding. Funding looking to benefit local economies & communities. Office employees teleworking to minimize contact. Field work has additional protocols. More field presence, less office. Seeing benefit to having new employees in the field vs office. Working on staggering schedules for office work. Land Water Conservation Fund-2021 is in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of funding. Request for sub-committee to meet again to discuss funding.
- **Doug Powers, US Marine Corps Mountain Warfare**: Social distancing & masks at base. New Commanding Officer. Tier system implemented. Tier 1- essential personnel; Tier 2- active duty personnel; T3- teleworking staff, unless needed in person. Some summer training being conducted. Camp Pendleton training on site. High altitude training being reduced. Limited construction going on.
- **Gerry LeFrancois, Mono County Community Development**: Tioga Inn Specific Plan amendment going to Board of Supervisors. General Plan updates to cleanup. LTC awarded grant for June Lake Loop.
- **Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff**: No additional updates.
- **Bob Gardner, Mono County Board of Supervisors**: Covid positive cases have increased significantly. Local concern & anxiety. Priorities are protecting health of visitors & locals, protecting public lands, and protecting economy. Civic Center opened, with some working in offices but many tele-working.
- **Stacey Coreless, Mono County Board of Supervisors**: Collaborative Planning important, working with Covid. Public is looking for consistency and jurisdictions to work together. Will work to include Devils Postpile leadership in future CPT meetings.

## 6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Great American Outdoors Act projects
- Wildlife subcommittee meeting prior to next meeting, with update to be provided at October meeting
- Red Fox project updates

## 7. ADJOURN to next meeting: Thursday, October 29, 2020, at 9 a.m.

*Prepared by Melissa Bell, clerk*