

# Mono County

## Collaborative Planning Team

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## Draft Minutes

April 28, 2022 – 9 a.m.

The Collaborative Planning Team (CPT) complies with the Brown Act for posting agendas and minutes and holding an open meeting; however, it is not a body subject to the Brown Act and therefore may meet remotely. There is no physical meeting location at this time. This altered format is in observance of recent recommendations by local officials that certain precautions be taken, including social distancing, to address the threat of COVID-19.

The meeting may be joined by video at:

<https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/87138716359?pwd=dDhhWUJxcFJBOUhtbWExVFprbE90UT09>

And by telephone at 669-900-6833 (Meeting ID: 871 3871 6359, Passcode 1234) where members of the public shall have the right to observe and offer public comment.

An alternate method to access the video meeting is visit <https://zoom.us/join> and enter Meeting ID: 871 3871 6359, Passcode 1234.

### ***\*AGENDA SEQUENCE (see note below)***

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Supervisor Corless called the meeting to order and Mayor Salcido led the pledge of allegiance.
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.
- 4. MINUTES:** Review/approve draft minutes from April 29, 2021; October 28, 2021; January 27, 2022

Motion: Approve the minutes from April 29, 2021; October 28, 2021; January 27, 2022.

- Supervisor Gardner motioned; Mayor Salcido seconded
  - Roll Call Vote: BLM (Approve), BP Indian Colony (Abstain), Caltrans (Approve), CDFW (Absent), Lahontan (Absent), Devils Postpile (Approve), TOML (Approve), LADWP (Approve), Mono County (Approve), USFS HT (Absent), USFS INF (Approve), and MCMWTC (Approve).
- 5. 9:05 a.m. AGENCY ROUNDTABLE:** Agency planning issues and pending projects
    - **Douglas Power, MCMWTC:** Community Leaders visit had over 60 people in attendance, next event will likely be in the winter. Just finished up a battalion training from Camp Pendleton. Transitioning to summer schedule/operations. Change of command on July 1, 2022, Colonel Wittnam will return to the Pentagon and the new colonel is coming from 29 Palms. At the next CPT meeting (July) I will try to introduce him.
    - **Stephanie Heller, Mono Lake RD INF:** Campgrounds in June, Lee Vining, and Glass Creek are opening tomorrow 4/29 for fishing opener. Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center is still closed and will open in May. INF will be enforcing the travel management around Grant Lake to prevent camping on lakebed. Still working on wild horse management.

- **Dannon Dirgo, White Mountain RD INF:** Gearing up for summer season and Fishmas. Convict, French Camp, and Bitterbrush campgrounds are open, other Bishop campgrounds are awaiting water quality tests and Rock Creek campgrounds are still covered in snow.
- **Lynda Salcido, TOML:** Everything is starting to open up. Lakes Basin will open in a few weeks. At Town Council last night talked about budget appropriations we discussed capital improvement plan approximately \$24 million of projects. The Parcel will be opening in about a year and the Community Center sprung structure will be taking shape this summer. The Edison Theatre will be opening soon, and visioning is taking place for a future larger arts center. Childcare centers will be build/developed in town. TOML is working on various housing projects.
- **Rebecca Wong, DEPO:** Shared a Tioga Pass PDF. Road opening soon and DEPO is working through the process to get admin access and open facilities for the season. We were able to successfully hire folks for the season but are still trying to hire two facilities positions. Working on contracts for plumbing projects potentially this summer. No specific date for Reds Meadow Road. DEPO will try to open the first week of June.
- **Bob Gardner, Mono County:** Making good progress on Tioga Road, they were up to Tenaya Lake last week. Opening Tioga Road requires safety and sanitation requirements in addition to plowing. Hoping for before Memorial Day weekend, trying their hardest to open ASAP and the Park is short staffed. One question for Caltrans, when will the lower gate open? Tomorrow? Yosemite is providing an update every Thursday on Tioga Pass road opening and the update is posted on the County's roads webpage.
- **Jacob, Caltrans:** Not sure if Tioga is open to the lower gate yet. State highways 89, 120, 250, 270, 168 are all open. State highways 108, 120 and 203 still remain closed, hoping to open them soon. Starting construction season and have several Mono County projects scheduled.
- **Elsa Jimenez, LADWP:** The outlook for snowpack and runoff is bleak. The City of Los Angeles is enacting stricter water conservation requirements this year. Hoping for the best with this drought year. We're glad to hear that vehicles are going to be kept off the Grant Lake lakebed, LADWP will be patrolling and educating people this summer. Camping could pose a danger to water quality. Crowley Lake is opening for fishing season and quagga mussel inspections are starting ahead of fishing opener. The snowpack runoff this year is 47%, not as bad as last year but not much better.
- **Debbie Painter, Bridgeport Indian Colony:** Participating in the Pinon Forest Resilient program, we're having a field trip on May 6 and will be looking at the Leviathan Mine burn area and how replanting will take place. The site visit is on May 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., if anyone is interested in participating. Spring Gathering will be held on May 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting with a walk/run, then lunch and various activities for adults/kids. This is all put on by the Culture Committee for the Tribe and we welcome any booth space at the event as well.
- **Heidi Calvert:** Experiencing outbreak issues at our Black Rock and Fish Springs hatcheries, not as bad as two years ago. We're working on vaccinations and should be able to stock those fish out to hydrologically connected waters to the hatchery. The next round will be injection vaccinated. Bears are starting to be active a little bit earlier than normal. We have new Human Wildlife Conflict Staff, Dan Taylor out of the Bishop Office. Hired new drought staff for fisheries and wildlife. Regional Manager retired in September. Special presentation on Human Wildlife Conflict from Dan Taylor at July's CPT meeting.
- **Jeff Starosta, BLM:** Sherri's detail ends tomorrow, and no one is detailed behind so, I might detail in. They had to fly the field manager position twice. Staffing issues are ongoing. As far as geothermal projects, Ormat's project is ongoing. Wrapping up Sage-Grouse counts, as of this morning. No preliminary update on Sage-Grouse numbers yet. Public comment period for the OHV grants ends in May. All campgrounds are open as of today but need to do water testing on Horton and Crowley so

that might take a week for water at those campgrounds.

- **Wendy Sugimura, Mono County:** Meeting with LADWP about their Adaptive Management Plan for Sage-Grouse habitat in Long Valley, and as Elsa mentioned the water situation is very dire for the summer. Related to the drought, there is a new executive order from the Governor related to permits for new wells that could trigger CEQA and requires certain findings be made. June Lake Active Transportation Plan is being put together for all of Hwy 158. ADU prescriptive designs are 90% design and anticipate 100% design in May and on track to have those finalized and ready to use in June. New project we're taking on is a Special District assessment to assist with housing issues. New Housing Opportunities Manager, Sanjay. A bunch of trails projects in the works lead by Matt and is typically discussed at the ESSRP meetings. Mountain Gate Trails project is in the works, looking to connect Mountain Gate Park to the community. Processing a number of building and planning permits/projects throughout the County.
- **Stacy Corless, Mono County:** Board will be doing budget workshops in May. The County just completed a strategic planning process and protection of public lands is one of the keep items in that process.

**6. 10:00 a.m. CITIZENS WILDFIRE ACADEMY** (*Mono County/Bob Gardner*)

- Item taken first, before roundtable. Supervisor Gardner presented on citizens wildfire academy.

**7. 10:15 a.m. CPT FOCUS, FORMAT, FUTURE** (*Mono County/Stacy Corless*)

- Wendy Sugimura presented on the guiding principles of CPT.
- Members discussed the relevancy and focus of CPT.
- John Wentworth provided background/information on the ESSRP and provided a link and contact information to be added to the ESSRP list ([johnwentworth@mltpa.org](mailto:johnwentworth@mltpa.org) and <https://www.essrp.org>).
- Action items:
  - Potentially update CPT Guiding Principles in the future to address overlap with ESCOG and ESSRP.
  - Share invitations to this meeting ESCOG, ESSRP and vice versa.
    - When County staff gets the notification of ESSRP meetings, they will send ESSRP invites to the CPT distribution list.
  - Invite Inyo County and City of Bishop to next CPT meeting.
  - Mono County staff to reach out to members one month prior to the next meeting. Spotlight agency presentation at each meeting on a volunteer basis (CDFW for July CPT meeting).

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Mono County Water Quality (Lahontan/Ed Hancock)
- Desert Fish Habitat Conservation Working Group (USFWS/Kaylan Hager)
- Human Wildlife Conflict (Dan Taylor/CDFW)
- Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Annual Report (CDFW)

**9. ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 9 a.m.