

**Mono Basin RPAC
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 14, 2019, 6:30 pm, Solar Pavilion, Lee Vining**

Members present: Duncan King, Lisa Cutting, Chris Lizza, Kristie Nelson, Ilene Mandelbaum and Bartshe Miller

Public Attendees and Presenters: Bentley Regehr, Margaret Eissler, Wayne Beaver, Bob Gardner, Tim Banta, Elin Ljung, Gerry Le Francois, Lynn Boulton, Mark Heckman, Austin West, Damon Cherenzia, Terry Erlwein, Lianne Talbot, Ray Pok and Ryan Dore.

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** 6:33 pm.
2. **Public Comment:**

Patricia Holland – house width variance for community consideration – no objections.
Margaret Eissler – Requested that the RPAC send letter of thanks to Yosemite National Park Superintendent Mike Reynolds for improved traffic control through the park prior to Spring road opening.
Gordon Martin (Inyo National Forest) - thanked the Lee Vining community for hosting the 190 fire personnel involved with the Springs fire (currently 1,684 acres and \$2.1M).
Ray Pok (SCE) - reported that aerial inspections of high fire risk areas will commence in 2-3 weeks and so expect helicopter activity. Will give sub-station report next month. Fencing and driveway at the area are temporary only.
Elin Ljung – Community meeting on the Tioga Inn proposal will be Thursday August 15, 6-7:30pm, at the Lee Vining Fire Hall, Paul McFarland to moderate.
Lynn Boulton – A pre-application has been received by the county from Radius Gold for exploratory drilling in the Bodie Hills. They previously had permission for surface sample collection but now want State and County permits to drill.
3. **Review/Approve Minutes: May 8.** Chris Lizza moved and Bartshe Miller seconded that the minutes be approved with one spelling correction in line 2 of Public Attendees – change Eisler to Eissler – Motion approved unanimously.

Review/Approve Minutes: July 10. Bartshe Miller moved and Lisa Cutting seconded that the minutes be approved with two changes – in line 1 of Public Attendees change Eisler to Eissler, and in 6b, Bartshe Miller member report, move ‘County Staff input’ on line 15 to line 8, word 2 – Motion approved unanimously.
4. **Supervisor’s Report:** Bob Gardner reported the BOS had received a briefing by the Forest Service on the Springs fire which was a great learning experience on fire ecology and the need for controlled burns. He recommended everyone to view the presentation on the county website. On the Tioga Inn comment period he stressed that the process is well defined for all parties to give input within the published timeframe. He is always also open to comments .
5. **Chairperson Report:** Lisa Cutting reported she had attended the Tioga Inn workshop on July 30 which focused on the workforce housing element.
6. **Member’s reports:**
 - a. Chris Lizza – sorry to miss the July meeting but business pressures during the summer make it difficult for him and (and Oscar) to attend. Defended the honor of the RPAC at the BOS meeting on Tioga Green – Lee Vining will continue to have a great community as long as we have people like Stephanie Banta and Wayne Beaver around. Chris will recuse himself from the Tioga Inn Planning Commission agenda item due to business issues.

- b. Duncan King – Attended the Tioga Inn meeting July 30, and the FSC this week (see later agenda item). Noted this was the first formal RPAC meeting in the Solar Pavilion and thanked Janet Carle and Urs Williman for their work in creating it. The permit for the EV car charger adjacent to the pavilion has now been approved and is waiting for the county to approve the MOU and finish installation.
 - c. Bartshe Miller – nothing to report.
 - d. Kristie Nelson – SCE crews have been clearing vegetation around power poles.
 - e. Ilene Mandelbaum – The road from the VC to Old Marina is still not fixed. (Supervisor Gardner said the problem was now determined to be on LADWP land and discussions were ‘faltering’. He will pursue.)
7. **Fire Safe Council:** Much discussion on the relative value of defensible space versus home hardening – the latter being deemed more bang for the buck as it’s a one-time effort. Possibility of grants for either or both, but also the home hardening is easier for the homeowner to do – check out Lake County website for more info. Discussion on the use of the old Mono City fire truck for a banner about fire risk reduction. Would require a donation of suitably located land for display purposes – SCE? CERT discussion required at future RPAC – needs a leader.
8. **Lee Vining Rehabilitation Project and Main Street speed concerns:** Austin West and Damon Cherenzia (Caltrans) gave updates on the Public Engagement Process so far on the Main Street rehab project and an outline on the Project Initiation Document. (This is available at https://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/mono_basin_rpac/page/5502/draft_pir.pdf) Many of the issues raised during the public engagement process are being addressed and Tioga Inn developments will be mitigated as appropriate (and possible) over the years ahead. Alternatives are listed although only two are (probably) fiscally feasible, A1 and A2 in the PID – both these would only affect main street in Lee Vining and as far north Old Marina. Alternatives A3 and A4 would go 4 miles farther north to Cemetery Road but would be cost prohibitive. Alternative B (No Build) would not accomplish the project purpose. An additional consideration is a roundabout at the intersection of 120 and 395 to serve as a traffic calming device northbound into Lee Vining and to reduce collisions at the intersection. Construction work will be scheduled in 2024 in two stages with traffic controls and anticipated to be completed in one season.
- Lianne Talbot (Caltrans) gave results of a Lee Vining main street traffic survey and Ryan Dore (CHP) gave information on current traffic experience. The survey confirmed the 30mph limit for town. The main changes to be effected are: Place new vehicle speed feedback signs north and south of town (both counting down to 30mph); remove the southbound 45mph speed limit sign north of town and replace with more ‘30mph zone ahead’ signs (experience shows this is more effective in slowing traffic); place Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) signals at each pedestrian crossing in town. These are user-actuated amber LEDs that supplement warning signs at crossings and cost \$10k-\$15k per crossing. These improvements will happen around October this year. Lee Vining is welcome to introduce a red flag pedestrian crossing system until then.
9. **Road Maintenance Project:** Gerry Le Francois (Mono County Land Use and Transportation Planner) gave details of the planned Mono City Slurry Road maintenance project enabled by SB1 funds. The project will take a day or two, will involve traffic controls, and should happen within a month.
10. **Regional Transportation Plan update:** Gerry Le Francois - The housing element needs State approval and happens on an 8-year cycle – and the financial element of the Regional Transportation Plan on a 4-year cycle.

11. **Information items:** Gerry Le Francois – the 60-day comment period on the Tioga Inn Specific Plan and SEIR closes at 5pm on Wednesday August 21. All comments received by then will receive an official response. In due course the application will go before the Planning Commission (public hearing) and then to the BOS for a final decision, which could be approval, rejection, or amendment in some form.

Mono County Health Department is holding Community Health Improvement Workshops next month at Mammoth Hospital, conf room A/B:

Substance Abuse 9/16/19	1-5pm	Dental Care 9/17/19	1-5pm
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Behavioral Health 9/18/19	8am-12pm	Clinical Care 9/18/19	1-5pm
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12. **Upcoming Agenda items:** Lee Vining substation design, future of solid waste services in Mono County, letter to Yosemite National Park Supervisor, RPAC role on specific projects, affordable workforce housing, Regional Transportation Plan

13. **Adjourn 8:45pm to next meeting, September 11, 2019**

Prepared by Duncan King (Secretary)