

**Mono Basin
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center**

Members present: Duncan King, Lisa Cutting, Chris Lizza and Kristie Nelson

Public Attendees and Presenters: Margaret Eissler, Wayne Beaver, Bob Gardner, Elin Ljung, Gerry Le Francois, Justin Nalder, Shelley and Debbie Channel, and Dennis Domaille.

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** 6:32 pm.
2. **Public Comment:**

Wayne Beaver – Wanted to make sure that the RPAC knows that some business owners in Lee Vining do not want diagonal parking outside their stores, however, some do. Agreement in the meeting that an in-depth discussion on this is needed. Gerry Le Francois will contact Austin West (Caltrans) on where this currently stands in the planning. A future discussion at RPAC is required.

Justin Nalder – introduced himself as the county's Solid Waste Superintendent and Conway Ranch Manager.
3. **Review/Approve Minutes: May 8.** Kristie Nelson moved, and Chris Lizza seconded that the minutes be approved – Motion approved unanimously.
4. **Supervisor's Report:** Bob Gardner reported that the Springs fire, a 'good' fire with extensive fuels reduction, was now suppressed, however the Taboose fire south of Big Pine was now at 10,000 acres and being managed as a suppression fire. The BOS has received a report on health data showing that mental health, drug, alcohol and oral issues were prevalent in the youth of the county. The data is available in the BOS 9/10 meeting packet online. Meetings are being held next week for public input. The new county CAO Steve Barwick is now on board. The Forest Service has received a grant to put green waste dumpsters in June Lake, Mono City and Lee Vining.
5. **Chairperson Report:** Lisa Cutting reported that she has invited Gordon Martin (Forest Service) to come to the November RPAC meeting.
6. **Member's reports:**
 - a. Chris Lizza – attended the Eastern Sierra Land Trust dinner that celebrated the lives of Genny Smith and Jan Simis. Has received comments from the public about the lack of dispersed camping locally, especially with nearby closed campgrounds. Fire risk and sanitation/health issues might be addressed with signs and posters on 'Behavior in dispersed camping'?
 - b. Duncan King – Attended the recent Forest Service public meeting on the Springs Fire. Useful information and learned a lot. The new speed warning signs on southbound 395 seem to be helping but the speed display sign still does not count down below 40mph. The red flags placed at pedestrian crossings are being used and only one is missing out of the 20 so far. But vehicles still do not seem to see everyone on the crossings!
 - c. Kristie Nelson – Appreciated the flags also.
7. **Fire Safe Council:** The relative value of defensible space versus home hardening is still seen as an area where public education would be worthwhile. Lisa Cutting, Bob Gardner and Robbie DiPaulo will look into a Town Hall meeting on the topic.
8. **Lee Vining Substation update (SCE):** deferred to next meeting.
9. **Future solid waste services in Mono County:** Justin Nadler gave an overview of operations. The main site at Benton Crossing is on LADWP land and the owners have requested closure of the site by 1/1/2023. Various future options are being considered and

household waste will be transported out of state to Sparks. This could involve a transfer station at the Pumice Valley site involving county and Town of Mammoth Lakes household waste. RFPs are currently out for this process. After review these would go to the BOS where public input could be made. The RPAC wondered why Mammoth could not handle its own transfers and whether the Benton Crossing closure could not be queried with LADWP. Supervisor Gardner will look into the latter.

10. **Letter to Yosemite National Park Supervisor:** Letter deferred until after the fall meeting with Mike Reynolds (YNP)
11. **Discussion on affordable workforce housing:** Some ten years ago there was an RPAC sub-committee investigating this issue. There is still a need for subsidized and affordable housing, whether public or private, and the Mono Basin Community Plan calls for this. Should we revisit the idea of a sub-committee. Some interested board members were not present at this meeting and the item will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
12. **Regional Transportation Plan update:** Gerry Le Francois described the process involving 7-year projections that at this stage are focused on financial estimates rather than major policy changes. A Regional Transportation Planning meeting will be held in Lee Vining on Thursday 9/19 and will also involve a Tioga Inn visit.
13. **Information Items:** Gerry Le Francois – Tioga Inn application – public comments are being reviewed by the consultants – no time frame yet for next steps. Tioga Green is close to filing permits.
14. **Upcoming Agenda items:** Lee Vining substation design, Affordable workforce housing, Forest Service issues, Fire Safe Council/
15. **Adjourn to next meeting, October 9** – meeting closed at 8:21 pm.

Prepared by Duncan King (Secretary)