

Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission

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LAFCO MINUTES

October 6, 2010

(Adopted November 3, 2010)

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Tom Farnetti & Byng Hunt, Mono County; Jo Bacon & Matthew Lehman, Town of Mammoth Lakes; Earl Henderson & Hank Brown, special districts; John Ross, public member

VISITORS PRESENT: Cheryl Goode, Bridgeport PUD; John Pedersen, MCWD

STAFF PRESENT: Scott Burns, LAFCO executive officer; Gwen Plummer, senior planner; C.D. Ritter, LAFCO secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Earl Henderson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No items.

3. **MINUTES:**

MOTION: Approve minutes from June 2, 2010, as amended: Item 4, final paragraph: "Commissioner Farnetti clarified that an outside company determines the formula for **A87** tax-distribution-handling fees." (Farnetti/Ross. Ayes: 4-0. Abstain: Brown, Lehman, Hunt.)

4. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Consider adoption of R10-01 updating the Municipal Service Reviews and Spheres of Influence reports (MSR/SOI) for the Mammoth Community Water District and the Bridgeport Public Utility District.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

MCWD: The main correction on MCWD was to add paragraphs about eliminating a finance plan. MCWD's attorney found one more paragraph that was crossed out. MCWD's John Pedersen concurred with p. 24, second-to-last paragraph deletion.

Bridgeport PUD: Cheryl Goode, district manager, mentioned an area near Bridgeport reservoir. The PUD is considering amending its Sphere of Influence to eliminate that area so no one would think they could get water and sewer in that far-removed area. Scott Burns thought other issues may come up. LAFCO policies promote a minimum number of service agencies in a given area. No one knows what's going to happen in 15-20 years, but Bridgeport PUD would be at the top of the hierarchy for services. Burns mentioned recognizing limitations on reservoir subdivision, which might be cost-prohibitive. Instead of opening the door for new service districts, area already developed or planned for development should be in Bridgeport PUD's Sphere of Influence.

MOTION: Adopt R10-01 updating the Municipal Service Reviews and Spheres of Influence reports (MSR/SOI) for the Mammoth Community Water District and the Bridgeport Public Utility District. (Farnetti/Bacon. Ayes: 7-0.)

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

A. MONO LAFCO COMMISSIONERS DRAFT HANDBOOK INCLUDING FEE SCHEDULE:

Changes in state law required updating the handbook, which was modeled after Plumas County's handbook. Earl Henderson affirmed that consensus of boards of directors is needed for consolidation proposals. LAFCO may need to take the lead in pointing out to districts the benefits of sharing services and equipment; e.g., Mono City and Lee Vining and/or Paradise and Wheeler Crest.

Byng Hunt commented that it's hard to ask people to consolidate or annex. Snowcreek wants to annex into MCWD. If studies indicate it won't work, it could be denied. LAFCO has the final say. Sharing instead of overlapping services would benefit the entire county. Burns mentioned that LAFCO has no authority over mutual water districts.

Tom Farnetti noted FPDs are scattered. John Ross suggested avoiding the sledge-hammer approach. Scott Burns indicated the law has changed, and LAFCO now has two members from the Town. Also LAFCO is now subject to CEQA and must be consistent with the General Plan, Specific Plans and Circulation plans.

Burns noted that within Mammoth Lakes, mosquito abatement should be assumed by the Town. A separate district is not needed, so ultimately it should either become a subsidiary, or dissolve. Meanwhile, Mosquito Abatement might go in with Snowcreek VIII. The LAFCO approach is that FPD and MCWD should be assumed by the Town. Bridgeport PUD would have to amend its SOI for an annexation proposal.

Burns noted a timely application processing for activation of latent powers Nov. 3. The matter has already gone to Mono Supervisors as a broad plan. Communities want to respond as needs arise. An out-of-agency service agreement exists between Mammoth Mosquito Abatement and Hilton Creek.

The fee schedule appears on p. 2 of the appendix, *omitting exact fees*. LAFCO could stay with a deposit, and then if more time is needed, charge the billable hourly rate for county staff. If things picked up, LAFCO could even choose its own staff.

B. MEMBERSHIP: Scott Burns noted alternate vacancies, both public and district.

C. EVENING MEETINGS: This suggestion was offered only to accommodate Commissioner Brown's employment conflict that no longer exists.

6. INFORMATIONAL: Recruitment Committee Report for 2010 CALAFCO Board Elections was available at the meeting. Delegates must be authorized by LAFCO and attend the meeting in order to vote.

7. ADJOURN at 4:00 p.m. to next meeting: November 3, 2010. Activating latent powers.

Prepared by C.D. Ritter, LAFCO secretary