

01/17/2012

DEPARTMENT

REPORTS

ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT

MISC. INFO (COPY OF 2012

VISITOR'S GUIDE KEPT ON FILE

IN CLERK'S OFFICE)



Meb Keflezighi – 2012 Olympic Trials Marathon Winner

**Come celebrate Meb Keflezighi's
Olympic Marathon Trials VICTORY!**

Meb will represent the US Olympic Team once again in London this summer and we want to bring him home after his big trials win in Houston this past Saturday with a warm Mammoth Lakes welcome!

Tuesday January 17 (Back-up day the 18th)

The Village at Mammoth

4-6 p.m. with a ceremony at 5 p.m.
to welcome Meb home

Music from Jeffrey James & the Wanted Gang

Stay tuned to Visit Mammoth on Facebook
for any changes to the event and schedule.

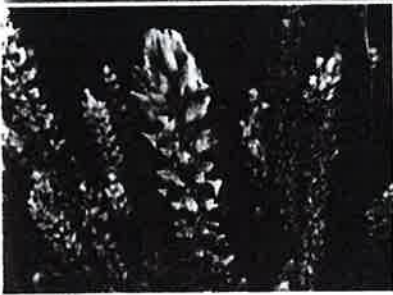


CONGRATULATIONS MEB!

NEXT STOP:
LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC MARATHON
AUGUST 12, 2012



Mammoth Lakes
CALIFORNIA



eastern sierra

2012 VISITORS GUIDE

- TOPAZ
- COLEVILLE
- WALKER
- BRIDGEPORT
- BODIE
- LEE VINING
- MONO LAKE
- JUNE LAKE
- MAMMOTH LAKES
- CROWLEY LAKE
- ROCK CREEK
- BENTON



Entire Guide on file in
clerk's office

01/17/2012

ITEM #6a

HUMAN RESOURCES

**PERSONNEL APPEAL
BOARD APPOINTMENT**

PO Box 217 532 E. Mono Lake Drive Lee Vining CA 93541
Tel. (760) 647-6473 fax (760) 647-6402 hydroesq@schat.net

January 17, 2012

Mono County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 715
Bridgeport, California 93517

Hand Delivered at 1/17/2012 Meeting of the Board

**Re: Personnel Appeal Board Appointment (Consent Agenda Item 6a) –
Conflict of Interest of Undersheriff Obenberger**

Dear Mono County Board of Supervisors:

I am the attorney for Richard Luman and Jim Kerby in two of the pending discipline matters referenced in Consent Agenda Item 6a. That agenda item recommends appointment of Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger to act as a Personnel Appeals Board Member for three pending disciplinary actions, and appointment of Clay Neely to act as the second member.

My purpose in writing is to object to the appointment of Undersheriff Ralph Obenberger as a Personnel Appeals Board Member on any of the three pending actions. Undersheriff Obenberger has a conflict of interest in this case because the incident underlying the three disciplinary actions was investigated by the Mono County Sheriff's Department. The investigation and related evidence will play an important role in these cases.

If Undersheriff Obenberger sits on the Appeals Board panels, the decisions of the Appeals Board could potentially be vacated by a reviewing court on due process and fairness grounds.

To eliminate this problem the simple solution is to select Clay Neely or some other County employee/official who does not have any connection to the alleged incidents or the investigations.

I suggest you consider whether Undersheriff Obenberger would be allowed to sit on a jury on these cases if they were in a court. I submit he would be "excused for cause" because of his relationship to the investigation of the criminal aspects of

the case, and because he is the superior in the chain of command over all of the officers involved in the criminal investigation.

My objections, and those of my clients, are not in any way personal toward Undersheriff Obenberger. Our concern is he has a conflict of interest in this particular case. If he is on the Appeals Board, my clients are being denied their right to an impartial panel.

We are also concerned that if the Appeals Board finds against the third employee (who is not my client), he will have a basis for appealing the decision against him to the courts because Undersheriff Obenberger has a conflict of interest. It is possible that any decision Undersheriff Obenberger participated in would be vacated. New appeal hearings would have to be held.

The following are a few examples of Undersheriff's Obenberger's conflict of interest in these three cases:

- A criminal investigation was performed by officers working in the chain of command beneath Undersheriff Obenberger. The names of at least four officers working beneath him are connected with the investigation and preparation of a "Misdemeanor Report" and "Supplement" – Mark Hanson, Craig Nelson, Sergeant Beard, and Lt. Robert Weber. Evidence from the investigation of the Sheriff's Department may play a significant role in the hearings.
- The "Misdemeanor Report" concludes that one of the three employees subject to discipline was the aggressor in the physical altercation. The Personnel Appeals Board will have the responsibility to rule on whether the "Misdemeanor Report" is allowed into evidence in the disciplinary actions. (Personnel Code Section 550(F)). Undersheriff Obenberger's potential bias regarding the value of the police report (and his relationship with the reporting officers, whether positive or negative) could form the basis of a subsequent appeal by any party.
- The members of the Personnel Board will be responsible for determining the "weight and credibility of testimony and evidence". (Personnel Code Section 550 (F)(6). This will include determining how much weight and credibility to give to the "Misdemeanor Report" that identifies one of the 3 employees as the aggressor in the physical altercation.
- My clients intend to call one or more investigating officers of the Sheriff's Department as witnesses in the appeal proceedings. As a Member of the Appeals Board, Undersheriff Obenberger would be called upon to determine how much weight to give the testimony of officers working under him, and to determine the credibility of their

testimony. Again, Undersheriff Obenberger has a conflict of interest in performing this task.

My clients request, for the reasons discussed above, that you do not appoint Undersheriff Obenberger as a member of the Appeals Board on these three cases.. If he is appointed, at the appeal hearings I will make objections to his participation on the record in order to preserve these objections for argument in any subsequent legal proceeding.

Thank you for considering the concerns set forth in this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Maloney Bellomo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" being the most prominent.

Kathleen Maloney Bellomo

Cc: Marshall Rudolph or other representative of Office of County Counsel
(hand-delivered at 1/17/2012 meeting of Mono County Board of Supervisors)
Jerry Frederick, Local 39 (sent by e-mail)

01/17/2012

ITEM #11B

CDD – PLANNING

**RESOLUTION RE: CLEAN
AIR PROJECT
PROGRAM**


[Home](#)
[Why CNG?](#)
[Vehicles](#)
[Refueling](#)
[Incentives](#)
[CNG 101](#)
[CNG Blog](#)
[CNG Links](#)

Drive Blue and Live Green

Convert your car or truck to CNG now
and STOP burning gasoline!

Cleaner, Safer, Cheaper, Domestic and your engine lasts longer.

CNG

CNG 101 - Natural Gas Basics

What is CNG?

It's the same gas that you use to cook and heat your homes, just compressed into cylinders. Natural gas is a mixture of hydrocarbons, predominantly methane (CH₄). As delivered through the pipeline system, it may also contain hydrocarbons such as ethane and propane and other gases such as nitrogen, helium, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, and water vapor. Natural gas has a high octane rating and excellent properties for spark-ignited internal combustion engines. It is non-toxic, non-corrosive, and non-carcinogenic. It presents no threat to soil, surface water, or groundwater.

Most natural gas is extracted from gas and oil wells. Much smaller amounts are derived from supplemental sources such as synthetic gas, landfill gas and other biogas resources.

Natural gas accounts for approximately one quarter of the energy used in the United States. Of this, about one third goes to residential and commercial uses, one third to industrial uses, and one third to electric power production. Only about one tenth of one percent is currently used for transportation fuel.

Benefits of Natural Gas as a Fuel

Natural gas vehicles produce lower emissions than vehicles running on gasoline or diesel. In addition, NGVs do not emit the particulate matter that creates smog-like haze and that causes harm to human respiratory and cardio vascular systems.

Another benefit of natural gas as a transportation fuel is that it is a domestic resource that can help the United States reduce its dependence on foreign oil. The cost of a gasoline-gallon equivalent of CNG compares favorably to that of gasoline, so driving a natural gas vehicle may save you money.

Natural gas reduces carbon monoxide, non-methane hydrocarbon and NO_x emissions. Natural gas does however increase total hydrocarbon emissions.

Fuel Definitions and Characteristics

In the utility industry, natural gas is sold in standard cubic feet, or SCF. In the automotive industry, gaseous CNG is sold in gasoline gallon-equivalents, or GGE. The DOE states that "The GGE of CNG is 123 CF ...(based on 929 Btu/CF of CNG and 114,264 Btu/Gallon of gasoline)." By mass, a GGE of NG has been defined as 5.66 pounds.

Pipeline NG is typically 95-96% methane (>88% is required for motorfuel); LNG (see below) is about 99% methane. NG's simple chemical makeup (CH₄) is easily broken down during combustion, thus it's very clean burning for domestic or vehicle use. While NG is piped into the home at <1 psi, the same gas is either compressed to 3000-3600 psi for on-board storage, or chilled to *minus 260 degrees*

Fahrenheit to become a clear cryogenic liquid (LNG) at 1/600th its gaseous volume. While LNG saves space, it requires doublewalled insulated tanks to keep it cryogenic; if not, it boils off. LNG is considered impractical for passenger cars because of tank size, but an attractive alternative for truck and bus use.

Compared to gasoline, NG contains considerably less thermal energy. At 29,000 Btu per gallon; a bi-fueled vehicle running on CNG has somewhat limited range. A dedicated NGV with cranked up compression ratios, however, can take advantage of NG's 120–130 (R+M)/2 octane rating for a considerable improvement. Natural gas is not visible, so suppliers add Mercaptan (with its familiar rotten-egg scent) to NG so it can be detected; building codes may require methane detectors if NGVs are to be stored indoors.

Infrastructure

Stationary and mobile vehicle “fast-fill” compressor stations can be set up wherever NG is available. These tend to be expensive, but overnight “timed-filling” offers a less expensive option. Only a small compressor is required for timed-filling; “at-home” filling is not uncommon. Because natural gas temperature and pressure are inter-related, fast-filling raises tank temperature and pressure, thus affecting fill capacity. By contrast, timed-filling keeps tank temperatures down so more NG can be compressed and stored for greater vehicle range. For refueling of line-haul trucks and buses, both CNG and LNG fill-sites are being established at strategic locations on certain interstate highways forming a system of “Clean Corridors.”

The Nuts and Bolts of CNG Vehicles

The outstanding difference between a dedicated gasoline auto and an NGV is the pressure at which CNG is stored on board—typically 3000 to 3600 psi. The robust cylindrical tanks required to contain such pressures take up space, add weight, and affect handling. The two or more tanks needed for gasoline-comparable range may be located between the frame rails and/or behind the rear axle. Light-duty CNG vehicles often have tanks behind the back seat or in the trunk/pickup bed. Some low-ride buses have CNG tanks on the roof. CNG tanks may be constructed of steel or aluminum and/or composite materials. Tanks are manifolded together and safety valves, regulators and other unique components ensure safety and reliable operation of the NG fuel system. On bi-fuel vehicles, the NG components parallel the normal gasoline delivery system. If the vehicle is aftermarket converted to natural gas, NFPA-52 regulations determine how, and often where, CNG components are to be installed.

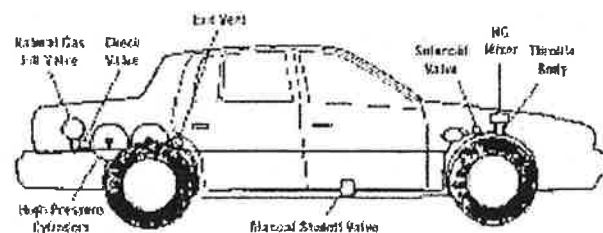
A Word on Tank Safety

Some people have anxieties over servicing (or driving) an NGV, usually over possible tank rupture and fire. These fears are understandable, but extensive tests show NGV fuel systems to be safer than gasoline systems.

Very few tank-related incidents have occurred. Just like SCUBA tanks, however, CNG tanks must be handled properly and be periodically inspected, tested and replaced. Tanks are robust and are rated well above working pressures, are equipped with pressure relief devices (PRDs), and are vented to the outside.

The NG Fuel System

On-board CNG tanks are filled from a fast-fill, or a time-fill compressor station. A standardized quick-connect fill-valve (with breakaway provision) is located at the normal gasoline cap location (or possibly in the grill or under the hood), and feeds CNG to the on-board tanks. Each tank has its own pressure relief device and



01/17/2012

ITEM #11C

CDD – PLANNING

INYO-MONO

INTEGRATED REGIONAL

WATER MGMT.

**Draft Agenda
Inyo-Mono Regional Water Management Group
Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 25, 2012
9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Bishop Paiute Tribe Community Center
Bishop, CA**

Call-in option:
1-866-862-2138
passcode: 1678718

Please RSVP by emailing Janet Hatfield (janet@inyomonowater.org) by Friday January 20, 2012 by 9:00 am whether you will be *attending in person or via phone*.

***Notice:** If you will be calling in to the meeting and you are an MOU signatory, please send your call-in address to Janet Hatfield (janet@inyomonowater.org) by 9:00 am Sunday, January 22, 2012 . You will also need to **post the meeting notice and agenda at your location by that time.**

Call-in locations:

1. Inyo County Water Department
135 South Jackson St.
Independence, CA 93514
2. USFS/BLM Interagency Offices
351 Pacu Ln
Bishop, CA 93514

If you require special accommodations to participate in this meeting in person or by phone, please contact Janet Hatfield (janet@inyomonowater.org ; 760-387-2747) 72 hours prior to the meeting.

RWVG Meeting Process

The public will be offered the opportunity to comment on each agenda item prior to any action on the item by the membership. The public will also be offered the opportunity to address the membership on any matter pertaining to IRWMP business. Agenda items indicated as "Action" require that members undertake activities subsequent to the meeting. Agenda items indicated as "Decision" are items where the membership will make a decision on the item at the meeting. This agenda can also be viewed in the Calendar section of www.inyomonowater.org.

All decisions of the RWVG are made by consensus as defined in Article I of the Inyo-Mono Regional Water Management Group Planning and Implementation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). After a motion is made by a Member, there is opportunity for discussion, and then RWVG Members are asked to vote. Members may approve a decision (thumbs up), vote that they can live with a decision while not completely approving of it (thumbs sideways), or disapprove of a decision which withholds consensus (thumbs down). A Member may also abstain from voting, which will be interpreted as no opposition to the action. If there are no Members voting thumbs down, the decision is passed by consensus. The decision is then recorded in the meeting notes.

11c

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Public Comment period**
3. **Round 1 Planning Grant**
 - a. Report on Planning Grant first reporting and invoicing period
 - b. Planning Grant task status report
 - c. Proposed schedule of final tasks
 - d. Work plan for revisiting Phase I Goals, Objectives, and Resource Management Strategies
 - a. Survey data report findings
 - b. Next Steps
4. **Round 2 Planning Grant**
 - a. Summary of timeline of events
 - b. Explanation of the evaluation process from Round 2 Project Evaluation Working Committee
 - c. Fiscal Agent status
 - a. California Trout Scope of Services
 - b. Grant administration expense
 - c. Standardized fiscal agent SOS
 - d. Next Steps in proposal preparation (deadline March 9)

DECISION ITEM:

1. Approval of ranked Round 2 Planning Grant project list as recommended for submission into the Round 2 Planning Grant Proposal. The rankings preferences, as approved by the Group, shall serve as the order in which grant money shall be distributed, except as DWR may require changes. In the case of such DWR requirements, the order of the rankings shall continue to be the basis of grant funds distribution priorities, insofar as they are within the DWR requirements.

5. Re-visitation of project prioritization process in preparation for Round 2 Implementation

- a. Proposed schedule for Round 2 Implementation
- b. Lessons Learned: Comments and Suggestions Summary
- c. Criteria Framework development process proposed schedule
- d. Next Steps: Admin. Committee

6. Organizational Structure

- a. Summary of research findings
- b. Next steps

7. DAC Grant

- a. Initial tasks
 - i. Introducing Heather Crall
 - ii. Data gathering
 - iii. DAC outreach training
 - iv. DAC outreach strategy
- b. Future schedule

8. Implementation Grant Update

- a. Letter of Agreement/Contract with the RWMG
- b. Status of subcontract with project proponents
- c. Update from Central Sierra

d. Update from Program Office

9. General Updates

10. Announcements

11. Process Check

12. Review November 16, 2012 RWMG meeting notes

DECISION ITEM(s):

1. Approve November 16, 2011 RWMG meeting notes.
2. Approve January 11, 2012, RWMG meeting notes.

13. Review of action items, decision items, and recommendations from today's meeting

14. Next Meeting Dates (Also available at www.inyomonowater.org)

a. Next RWMG meeting:

- Wednesday, February 22, 2012 Suite Z Mammoth Lakes, CA
- Wednesday, April 25, 2012
- Wednesday, May 23, 2012

Evaluator	7		6		5		4		3		2		1	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
1 MMMCWD	44	6	50.5	7	39	4	40	5	26	1	34.5	2	36.5	3
2 ESUSD	62	7	54	6	52.5	5	51.5	4	39	3	28.5	2	27	1
3 ESLT	69.5	7	52	5	55.5	6	50.5	4	45.5	3	45.5	3	44	2
4 Mono County	37.5	6	40.5	7	34.5	4	23	3	35	5	16	2	16	2
5 Cal Trout	68	7	54	6	53.75	5	44.5	4	43	3	33	2	27	1
6 OVIWC	68.5	7	61.5	6	54	5	53.5	4	44	3	43	2	39	1
7 MCWD	60.5	7	28.5	2	50	6	45	5	29	3	32	4	26	1
8 INYO CO	64.66	7	60.46	6	54.39	5	49.98	3	53.09	4	43.69	1	47.62	2
9 Sierra Club	69.5	7	60.5	5	55.5	4	47.5	3	65	6	43.5	2	42	1
10 TOML	64.25	7	56	6	42.25	1	48.75	5	36.5	4	29.3	2	35.5	3
11 LPPSR	55	7	52.5	4	42.9	3	38.2	2	30.8	1	54.7	6	53.8	5
12 CSRCD*	4	4	7	7	6	5	5	5	3	3	2	2	1	1
13 Wheeler Crest CSD*	7	7	6	6	5	5	4	4	1	1	2	2	3	3
14 Mono Co RCD*	4	4	6	6	7	7	5	5	3	3	2	2	1	1
Combined Scores	678.41	90	589.46	79	552.29	65	506.43	56	453.89	43	409.69	34	399.42	27
* Scores denoted with astericks elected to not use matrix.														
Total Ask	\$250,712		\$75,000		\$67,800		\$170,250		\$73,788		#####		\$63,565	
Match requirement	\$83,571		\$25,000		\$22,600		\$56,750		\$24,596		\$46,212		\$21,188	
Total Project Cost	\$334,283		\$100,000		\$90,400		\$227,000		\$98,384		\$184,848		\$84,753	
Combined N=11	663.4	75.0	570.5	60.0	534.3	48.0	492.4	42.0	446.9	36.0	403.7	28.0	394.4	22.0
Combined N=14	678.4	90.0	589.5	79.0	552.3	65.0	506.4	56.0	453.9	43.0	409.7	34.0	399.4	27.0
Stats														
N= 11														
Average	60.3	6.8	51.9	5.5	48.6	4.4	44.8	3.8	40.6	3.3	36.7	2.5	35.9	2.0
Min	37.5	6.0	28.5	2.0	34.5	1.0	23.0	2.0	26.0	1.0	16.0	1.0	16.0	1.0
Max	69.5	7.0	61.5	7.0	55.5	6.0	53.5	5.0	65.0	6.0	54.7	6.0	53.8	5.0
N= 14														

Project
7= Highest rank

Program Office

Oak Creek stream channel stabilization technical study

West Walker River Restoration Plan

Mammoth Lakes Stormwater Management Plan

Inyo/Mono Watersheds Invasive Plant Inventory Project

Laws, Independence, and Lone Pine Leak Detection & Condition Assessment Project

Sewer Master Plan for CSA-2, Aspendell

01/17/2012

ITEM #13A

COUNTY COUNSEL

GRAND JURY REPORT



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF MONO**

P.O. BOX 715, BRIDGEPORT, CALIFORNIA 93517
(760) 932-5538 • FAX (760) 932-5531

Lynda Roberts
Clerk of the Board
lroberts@mono.ca.gov

Linda Romero
Assistant Clerk of the Board
lromero@mono.ca.gov

January 17, 2012

Honorable Judge Stanley Eller
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
100 Thompsons Way
P.O. Box 1037
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546

Re: Response to the Mono County 2010 - 2011 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Eller:

Please consider the following responses to the 2010 – 2011 Mono County Grand Jury Report and place this document on file as the Mono County Board of Supervisor's response to the Grand Jury Report.

Responses to the findings and recommendations:

**Sheriff's Department
Complaint #10-01**

Note: As you presumably know, the Sheriff has already responded to this portion of the report pursuant to Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05(c), and the Board appreciates the Sheriff's response. It appears that a response by this Board is neither required nor arguably even authorized by section 933.05(c), because the report pertains solely to personnel matters over which the Board lacks decisionmaking authority.

**Public Works Department
Complaints #10—04**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1) a. Enhance communications, employee recognition.
The recommendation has been implemented. Public Works is continuing to go through a restructuring, which should enhance communication opportunities

(and improve customer service, among other things). The County implemented an employee recognition program several years ago, which it continues to utilize.

b. Involve supervisory staff on various levels.

The recommendation has been implemented. Supervisory staff are involved in various levels of the operation, including budget preparation.

c. Periodic in-house training regarding purchasing and payroll.

The recommendation has been implemented. As part of the restructuring mentioned above, accounting staff has been placed under the Finance Department, which has provided them with training.

d. Tioga Pass opening.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County has long provided support to the National Parks Service to get Tioga Pass open as early as possible.

e. Hire an in-house design professional.

The recommendation requires further analysis. County Administration will review and consider the recommendation, including funding issues, during the next six months.

(2) a. Review timecard process.

The recommendation will be implemented. County Administration and the Finance Department are currently evaluating software for timecard processing (for all employees), which should streamline the process for time efficiency.

b. Convey accomplishments.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County endeavors to publicize the accomplishments of the Department.

Child Welfare Services Complaints #10—05

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

(1) Search for additional CWS staff.

The recommendation has been implemented. The Department of Social Services continues to have a vacancy, but the Board has approved broadening the recruitment to Social Workers III. This will allow the Department to increase the potential applicant pool. It additionally and critically, will provide an opportunity to have an employee transfer into the position from another county. It is believed this would greatly help address case load and staffing issues. Additionally, the Department of Social Services has hired a Program Manager specifically for Services and a Vocational Trainee for Child Protective Services. Both of these

new positions should aid in balancing the work of Social Workers. Finally, the Department of Social Services is working on cross training all Social Workers.

(2) Search for new foster homes.

The recommendation has been implemented. Department of Social Services has recently completed a Foster Parent State Orientation, the first step in certifying foster care homes. It appears from such there is on additional family that is now in the process of being certified as a foster home. Mono County is working with the State to conduct such Orientations on a regular 6 month basis. Mono County Department of Social Services is additionally working to keep this issue visible to the public, in hope to encourage recruitment. An example of such is a one page article that recently ran in a special section of the Mammoth Times addressing the need for Foster Parents. Finally, Mono County is investigating the possibility performing the licensing for foster homes in lieu of the State.

**Right-Of-Way Codes
Complaint #10-07**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1)
 - a. Complainant's existing mailbox.
The recommendation has been implemented. The agreement was signed by all parties and recorded.
 - b. Code enforcement consistency.
The recommendation has been implemented.
 - c. Staff knowledge.
The recommendation has been implemented. Numerous discussions have taken place with staff to reiterate mailbox requirements and other right-of-way issues.
 - d. Informational handout.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
 - e. Communication training.
The recommendation has been implemented and will be implemented with additional training in the coming months.
- (2)
 - a. County Code enhancement.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
 - b. Code development.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.

c. Informational handout.

The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.

d. Mailing of correspondence.

The recommendation has been implemented.

e. Coordination with Postal Service.

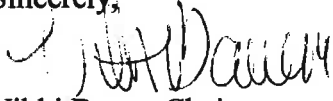
The recommendation will be implemented within the next six months.

f. Website enhancement.

The recommendation will be implemented. Mono County is presently working on a new improved website. It is a lengthy and costly project and is being accomplished when funds are available.

We thank the members of the grand jury for their public service.

Sincerely,



Vikki Bauer, Chair
Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF MONO**

P.O. BOX 715, BRIDGEPORT, CALIFORNIA 93517
(760) 932-5538 • FAX (760) 932-5531

*Lynda Roberts
Clerk of the Board
lroberts@mono.ca.gov*

*Linda Romero
Assistant Clerk of the Board
lromero@mono.ca.gov*

January 17, 2012

Honorable Judge Stanley Eller
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
100 Thompsons Way
P.O. Box 1037
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546

Re: Response to the Mono County 2010 - 2011 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Eller:

Please consider the following responses to the 2010 – 2011 Mono County Grand Jury Report and place this document on file as the Mono County Board of Supervisor's response to the Grand Jury Report.

Responses to the findings and recommendations:

**Sheriff's Department
Complaint #10-01**

Note: As you presumably know, the Sheriff has already responded to this portion of the report pursuant to Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05(c), and the Board appreciates the Sheriff's response. The Board would be more than willing to respond as well, but it appears that such a response is neither required nor arguably even authorized by section 933.05(c), because the report pertains solely to personnel matters over which the Board lacks decisionmaking authority.

**Public Works Department
Complaints #10—04**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1) a. Enhance communications, employee recognition.
The recommendation has been implemented. Public Works is continuing to go through a restructuring, which should enhance communication opportunities

(and improve customer service, among other things). The County implemented an employee recognition program several years ago, which it continues to utilize.

b. Involve supervisory staff on various levels.

The recommendation has been implemented. Supervisory staff are involved in various levels of the operation, including budget preparation.

c. Periodic in-house training regarding purchasing and payroll.

The recommendation has been implemented. As part of the restructuring mentioned above, accounting staff has been placed under the Finance Department, which has provided them with training.

d. Tioga Pass opening.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County has long provided support to the National Parks Service to get Tioga Pass open as early as possible.

e. Hire an in-house design professional.

The recommendation requires further analysis. County Administration will review and consider the recommendation, including funding issues, during the next six months.

(2) a. Review timecard process.

The recommendation will be implemented. County Administration and the Finance Department are currently evaluating software for timecard processing (for all employees), which should streamline the process for time efficiency.

b. Convey accomplishments.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County endeavors to publicize the accomplishments of the Department.

Child Welfare Services Complaints #10—05

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

(1) Search for additional CWS staff.

The recommendation has been implemented. The Department of Social Services continues to have a vacancy, but the Board has approved broadening the recruitment to Social Workers III. This will allow the Department to increase the potential applicant pool. It additionally and critically, will provide an opportunity to have an employee transfer into the position from another county. It is believed this would greatly help address case load and staffing issues. Additionally, the Department of Social Services has hired a Program Manager specifically for Services and a Vocational Trainee for Child Protective Services. Both of these

new positions should aid in balancing the work of Social Workers. Finally, the Department of Social Services is working on cross training all Social Workers.

(2) Search for new foster homes.

The recommendation has been implemented. Department of Social Services has recently completed a Foster Parent State Orientation, the first step in certifying foster care homes. It appears from such there is on additional family that is now in the process of being certified as a foster home. Mono County is working with the State to conduct such Orientations on a regular 6 month basis. Mono County Department of Social Services is additionally working to keep this issue visible to the public, in hope to encourage recruitment. An example of such is a one page article that recently ran in a special section of the Mammoth Times addressing the need for Foster Parents. Finally, Mono County is investigating the possibility performing the licensing for foster homes in lieu of the State.

**Right-Of-Way Codes
Complaint #10-07**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1)
 - a. Complainant's existing mailbox.
The recommendation has been implemented. The agreement was signed by all parties and recorded.
 - b. Code enforcement consistency.
The recommendation has been implemented.
 - c. Staff knowledge.
The recommendation has been implemented. Numerous discussions have taken place with staff to reiterate mailbox requirements and other right-of-way issues.
 - d. Informational handout.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
 - e. Communication training.
The recommendation has been implemented and will be implemented with additional training in the coming months.
- (2)
 - a. County Code enhancement.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
 - b. Code development.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.

- c. Informational handout.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
- d. Mailing of correspondence.
The recommendation has been implemented.
- e. Coordination with Postal Service.
The recommendation will be implemented within the next six months.
- f. Website enhancement.
The recommendation will be implemented. Mono County is presently working on a new improved website. It is a lengthy and costly project and is being accomplished when funds are available.

Incidentally, the Board noted that this year's report was delivered strictly electronically; whereas, in past years, the courts provided bound hard copies for each Board member, which was greatly appreciated. We understand budgets are tight, and such electronic delivery was presumably intended as a cost-saving measure. We also recognize that the County could print out and create its own hard copies. But we would prefer and request, as a courtesy, that in future years the courts return to providing the County with a set of pre-printed hard copies for distribution to Board members and other key officials.

Sincerely,

Vikki Bauer, Chair
Board of Supervisors