



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: The First,  
Second, And Third Tuesday  
of each month

Regular Meeting

April 19, 2011

Mammoth Lakes BOS  
Meeting Room, 3rd Fl. Sierra  
Center Mall, 452 Old  
Mammoth Rd., Mammoth  
Lakes, CA 93546

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Supervisor Hazard, Chair

Pledge of Allegiance led by Brian Muir, Finance Director

**OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No one spoke.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

**Supervisor Bauer**

1. Has been working with YARTS and ESTA funding.
2. Gull Lake and June Lake are clear of ice, and the back of the loop is open.
3. In June, will attend two classes at CSAC that should help with labor negotiations.

**Supervisor Hansen**

1. Attended new supervisor training in Sacramento.
2. Last Friday, met with a Twin Lakes business owner.
3. Visited three hydroelectric plants. Grant Lake is really full and could present problems when run-off starts.
4. Attended the Fisheries Commission meeting on Monday.

**Supervisor Hazard**

1. April 14: Attended the Planning Commission meeting. The Commission denied the application for cell phone service in Crowley Lake.
2. April 15: Met with several OES providers at the Mammoth Fire Station to address a concern about not being fully prepared for a real disaster in terms of the possible influx of press and family members; these people would need support services. The meeting generated ideas.
3. Yesterday attended a meeting with Ormat regarding geothermal energy.
4. Participated in a conference call with RCRC and California Emergency Medical Services regarding AB 1245, which would impose rigid requirements on volunteers, such as background checks and fingerprinting. All participants in the meeting are opposed to AB 1245 and RCRC has provided a letter of opposition.
5. Due to a time conflict, Supervisor Johnston will attend the upcoming meeting of the Collaborative Planning Team.

**Supervisor Hunt**

1. Last Wednesday attended the Recstrats workshop in Mammoth. Hopefully this process will generate ideas for the County.
2. Yesterday attended the Casa Diablo scoping group meeting.

**Supervisor Johnston**

1. Attended the last new supervisor training last week.
2. Attended a state association meeting.
3. Asked when the DIF update would be agendized, and asked about purchase of new vehicles without Board approval.
  - a. David Wilbrecht, CAO: Will ask Mary Booher to follow-up on the DIF agenda item.
  - b. Brian Muir, Finance Department: The Board approved vehicle purchases as part of the budget process. Supervisor Bauer: The Board gives approval during the budget process to move forward with budgeted items. David Wilbrecht, CAO: This is a policy question the Board can reconsider.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

1)

**CAO Report regarding Board Assignments (David Wilbrecht)**

Receive brief oral report by County Administrative Officer (CAO) regarding his activities.

**David Wilbrecht**

1. Working on the child services MOU, and the lease agreements for social services and mental health are in progress.
2. Met with Ormat yesterday; working with the group to keep the project moving forward.
3. The deed for the Benton Senior Center is in progress.
4. Regarding the land exchange parcel, Mammoth Hospital plans to ask about purchasing land from the Town.
5. An item will come to the Board on the May 17<sup>th</sup> agenda regarding final recommendations for the Community Development Department and the Public Works Department.
6. Met with someone from Symons Ambulance; they are interested in talking with the County about potential service delivery.
7. Expressed appreciation for the Board's thoughtfulness about considering position vacancies that need to be filled. Regarding the County Counsel's office, attorneys are performing some of the staff work since the support position is only half time; there may be more of a cost savings by making the position full time.
  - a. Supervisor Johnston asked for information about the County's reserve and contingency funds.
8. Regarding the transition to the Town Manager position, he will work through the third meeting in May.
  - a. Supervisor Hazard: 1) Would like an updated map of the exchange parcel/hospital land. 2) Needs a copy of the Mono County organizational chart in order to better review department vacancies. 3) Asked the CAO, Finance Director, and County Counsel to monitor Board requests that impact staff time so the Board can review and discuss these requests.

2)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**No minutes to approve.**

Closed Session: 9:03 a.m.

Break: 10:33 a.m.

Reconvened: 10:37 a.m.

Lunch/Return to Closed Session: 12:00 Noon  
Break: 1:05 p.m.  
Reconvened: 1:19 p.m.  
Adjourned: 4:39 p.m.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

**Closed Session 9:03 a.m.—The Board had nothing to report from Closed Session.**  
**Closed Session 12:00 Noon—The Board had nothing to report from Closed Session.**

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- 3a) Closed Session--Human Resources - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Dave Wilbrecht, Marshall Rudolph, Brian Muir, and Jim Arkens. Employee Organization(s): Mono County Sheriff's Officers Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association), Local 39--majority representative of Mono County Public Employees (MCPE) and Deputy Probation Officers Unit (DPOU), Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association (PARA), Mono County Public Safety Officers Association (PSO), and Mono County Sheriff Department's Management Association (SO Mgmt). Unrepresented employees: All.
- 3b) Closed Session--County Counsel - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.
- 3c) Closed Session--County Counsel - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS. Government Code section 54956.8. Property: Conway Ranch. Agency negotiators: Marshall Rudolph, Dan Lyster, Dave Wilbrecht, and Brian Muir. Negotiating parties: Mono County and Inland Aquaculture Group, LLC. Under negotiation: price and terms for a proposed amendment to IAG's existing license to use the Property.
- 3d) Closed Session--County Counsel - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: one.
- 3e) Closed Session--CAO - PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS/EMERGING ISSUES**

**Julie Tiede**, Social Services: Update about two vacant positions needing to be filled. These are not new positions and the salary is budgeted. Both positions are necessary for the benefit of those served by the program. Board asked to have this item agendaized.

**Scott Burns**, Community Development Department: Regarding the LTC alternate appointments, he anticipates bringing recommendations to the Board soon.

**Marshall Rudolph**, County Counsel: The staff support person in his office has taken another position, thus leaving the position vacant. He previously used a temp service before hiring this employee, and

asked the Board if he could follow the same procedure. The Board agreed to support their previous decision to keep the position filled—first through a temp service, and then by agendizing the recruitment request.

**Brian Muir**, Finance Director: 1) The HR portion of the accounting system has changed from an employee based system to a position based system. He acknowledged Stacey Westerlund's efforts in making this transition; she did an excellent job. 2) A member of the Finance Department has been selected to fill a vacancy in the Sheriff's Office. The Finance Department now has a need to recruit for the position. The Board asked for this item to be agendized.

Note: Regarding the above-mentioned vacancies, the Board agreed to allow recruiting to begin; however, no job offers are authorized until these positions are agendized for a Board discussion.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

#### **FINANCE**

4a) **Annual Identity Theft Prevention Policy Report** - Receive written report as required by the Identity Theft Prevention Policy (ITPP) of the County of Mono.

**M11-76** **Action:** Receive written report.  
**Bauer moved and Hunt Seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

#### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

Additional Departments: Social Services

5a) **IMAAA Advisory Council Recommendations** - Recommend appointment of Virginia Warner and Mary Booher to the Inyo Mono Area Agency on Aging (IMAAA) Advisory Council.

**M11-77** **Action:** Appoint Virginia Warner and Mary Booher to the Inyo Mono Area Agency on Aging (IMAAA) Advisory Council.  
**Bauer moved and Hunt Seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

5b) **Sub-recipient Agreement with Mammoth Lakes Housing for 2010 CDBG grant** - Proposed sub-recipient agreement with Mammoth Lakes Housing for the Administration of the 2010 CDBG Grant.

**M11-78** **Action:** Approve County entry into proposed contract and authorize Dave Wilbrecht to execute said contract on behalf of the County.  
**Bauer moved and Hunt Seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

6a) **WIC Contract Amendment 10-10286 A-1** - Proposed contract amendment with the California Department of Public Health, California WIC Program pertaining to the Mono County Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program.

**M11-79** **Action:** Approve County entry into proposed contract amendment and authorize the Board Chair to execute said contract on behalf of the County.  
**Bauer moved and Hunt Seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (INFORMATIONAL)

All items listed are available for review and are located in the Office of the Clerk of the Board

CLERK OF THE BOARD

7a) No Correspondence  
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**COUNTY COUNSEL**

8) **Support for AB 1152 Chesbro: Indirect groundwater monitoring under SB7x6** (Stacey Simon): Letter of support for AB 1152 (Chesbro) which would allow for "indirect" groundwater monitoring for certain undeveloped groundwater basins and/or basins over which a monitoring entity lacks jurisdiction under the California State Groundwater Monitoring Program (SB7x6).

**M11-80** **Action:** Authorize Chair to sign letter, as revised, supporting AB 1152 (Chesbro).

**Bauer moved and Hunt seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Stacey Simon, County Counsel's Office: Distributed a copy of the proposed Assembly Bill.

- RCRC has been working to fix the groundwater monitoring program for rural counties; the program was enacted in 2009 as SB6.
- The requirement for local monitoring is not tailored to small jurisdictions due to lack of infrastructure and land ownership by entities such as the federal government; AB1152 will present a compromise.
- Reviewed the proposed bill regarding the alternate groundwater monitoring program; DWR would make the final decision about basin qualifications, and would have the ability to submit alternate reports.
- Rural counties support the proposed bill since it is more realistic; the State Assmblly will consider the bill on April 26th.

- Answers to questions: 1) The County will conduct the groundwater monitoring. 2) The Board previously had multiple workshops to discuss this issue and find a solution.
- The previous letter from the Board addressed the issue of cost.
  - The Board asked Simon to revise the proposed letter to reiterate the Board's earlier position about cost.

Additional Departments: Economic Development

8a) **Extension of CRF Permission Agreement and Resolution** (Marshall Rudolph) - Proposed Agreement and Second Amendment to Conway Ranch Foundation Permission Agreement and proposed Resolution Extending the Expiration Date of Resolution R09-17, Pertaining to Certain Activities of the Conway Ranch Foundation on the Conway Ranch Property.

**M11-81**  
**R11-23** **Action:** Approve County entry into Agreement and Second Amendment to Conway Ranch Foundation Permission Agreement and authorize the County Administrator to sign said Agreement and Second Amendment. Adopt Resolution R11-23, Extending the Expiration Date of Resolution R09-17, Pertaining to Certain Activities of the Conway Ranch Foundation on the Conway Ranch Property.

**Hunt moved and Hansen seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Marshall Rudolph, County Counsel: This agreement represents a relationship with Inland Aquaculture Group for fish rearing, and with Conway Ranch Foundation (a private, nonprofit) for public use of property, with proceeds benefitting the property. The proposed agreement will extend the status quo relationship for another year.

Supervisor Bauer: Would like this land to be as productive as possible.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Additional Departments: Code Compliance, Building

9a) **Batatian Deed Restriction Creating a "No-Building Zone" to Satisfy Grading Violation** (Kelly Garcia) - Receive staff report regarding GP09-03 issued for site restoration to satisfy a grading violation on a 10 acre parcel (APN 019-090-009-000) in Virginia Lakes.

**M11-82** **Action:** Approve and authorize Chair to sign Deed Restriction Regarding Building Rights (Batatian Deed Restriction).

**Bauer moved and Hansen seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Kelly Garcia, Public Works: Asked the Board to approve this agenda item and authorize the Chair's signature on the deed restriction; the property is located in Virginia Lakes. A grading violation came to light in 2008. The owner created a large pond and fill for buildings, which was unpermitted. The proposed action is a remediation plan, and the owner has agreed to the deed restriction so no structure could be placed on the fill area in the future unless it is found to be structurally sound. Also, the owner was using his well to fill the pond with indication that he was going to divert water from Virginia Creek; the area has been re-vegetated.

Nick Criss, Code Compliance: They are still working on an outstanding violation regarding the housing structure.

Supervisor Johnston: Wants to have a satisfactory re-vegetation plan.

- 9b) **Contract Award for the Owens Gorge Road Rehabilitation Project** (Kelly Garcia) - Receive staff report concerning bids received in response to solicitation for bids, bid protests received (if any), and responsibility of the apparent low bidder. Consider and potentially authorize the Public Works Director to enter into and administer an agreement for the work. Provide any desired direction to staff.

**M11-83** **Action:** Based on staff report concerning bids received in response to solicitation for bids and responsibility of the apparent low bidder: 1) identify Qualcon Contractors Inc. as responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid; 2) award contract to Qualcon Contractors Inc. for Rehabilitation of Owens Gorge Road, including the base bid and alternates A and B, in an amount not to exceed \$1,424,512.00; 3) authorize the Public Works Director, in consultation with County Counsel, to administer that contract, including making minor amendments to said contract from time to time as the Public Works Director may deem necessary, and authority to approve and issue change orders to the contract in accordance with Public Contract Code §20142, in a cumulative amount not to exceed \$83,725.60, provided such amendments do not substantially alter the scope of work and are approved as to form and legality by County Counsel.

**Hunt moved and Hansen seconded**

**Vote: 4 Yes; 0 No (Hazard recused himself)**

Supervisor Hazard recused himself and left the meeting room since this property is on his street. Supervisor Bauer, Vice Chair, conducted this portion of the meeting. After the item was discussed and voted on, Supervisor Hazard returned to the meeting.

Kelly Garcia, Public Works: This project will be funded by the State Transportation Improvement Program; the Board approved the project on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Public Works received four bids that were opened on April 12<sup>th</sup>; the tabulation results are included with the staff report. Qualcon is the lowest responsible bidder. Garcia asked the Board to approve entry into the contract. Regarding issues pertaining to the cycling community, the road will be designed for slope stability and will include curbside structures. Commissioner Armstrong (Local Transportation Commission) reviewed the plans and understands that meetings with stakeholders will be held to discuss share-the-road signs. Garcia will follow-up.

- 9c) **Public Hearing regarding Solid Waste Gate Fees; Operational Changes to Solid Waste Facilities** (Matt Carter) - Public hearing regarding potential operational changes and an increase to fees charged at solid waste facilities in Mono County.

**R11-24** **Action:** Adopt Resolution R11-24, "A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors to Increase Certain Fees for County Solid Waste Facility Services", with the following modification: Item K in Exhibit B is eliminated.

**Johnston moved and Bauer seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

**M11-84**

**Action:** Approve operational changes at Mono County solid waste facilities by 1) closing the Benton Crossing Landfill on Sundays and on all County holidays; 2) changing operations at the Pumice Valley and Walker transfer stations to two days per week; 3) allowing closures of the Bridgeport transfer station to be determined by operational management in order to accommodate the waste stream, particularly in the summer.

**Johnston moved and Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Matt Carter, Public Works: This is a public hearing to consider gate fee increases and changes to operations. Overview:

- Declining revenues in 2009 necessitated an increase in the tip fee.
- Shortfalls in the solid waste fund by 2010 required a reduction in costs, an increase in revenues, or both.
- A consultant reviewed operations and expenses, and recommended increasing the tip fee up to \$100 per ton.
- Staff worked with the Solid Waste Task Force to provide recommendations.
- Public Works recently presented various options to the Board.
- Item K in Exhibit B of the resolution refers to sludge; this should be eliminated from the fee schedule since it is now handled by contract.
- The impact to the average user will be about \$2 per month.
- In FY 2010, the Board authorized \$1.2 million from reserve funds to stabilize the situation; another \$800,000 will be required in FY 2011 unless the Board takes action to reduce costs and/or increase fees.
- The proposed change will begin to resolve the deficit in May. Operational changes would take effect July 1.
- The potential savings of \$23,000 to keep the Benton Crossing Landfill open on holidays is a meet and confer issue with the union.
- The proposed revisions will provide a net contingency of \$80,451.
- Carter is tracking the situation monthly.

Stacey Simon, County Counsel's Office: Included in the revenue projection is a Board contribution of \$288,490; this will be in the form of waiving repayment of prior loans.

11:25 a.m. Supervisor Hazard opened the public hearing.

**Public Comments**

- Bob Peters, Bridgeport, outlined several concerns: 1) Notice to the public was inadequate since most people don't read The Sheet or Mammoth Times; people in the north need to be informed via direct mailings, and through the RPAC. 2) Peters' written comments were not acknowledged as being received. 3) No attempt was made to take this issue to the RPAC, or survey businesses. 4) The Mammoth Lakes representatives on the Solid Waste Task Force stopped attending the meetings. 5) The public should have the opportunity to review the consultant's recommendations, the Task Force recommendations, and the range of alternatives proposed to Board before the Board takes action. 6) The tipping fee may change to \$100/ton in the near future. 7) The Board supported the deficit with general fund money. 8) The proposed solution has not changed from what was presented last year. 9) Last week the Board made a decision about charging \$68.50/ton and changing operations. He encouraged the Board not to approve these changes until the public has meaningful involvement.

11:30 a.m. After calling for additional public comment, Supervisor Hazard closed the hearing.

**Board Comments**

- Supervisor Bauer: The \$80,000 per month deficit is a problem, and the fee increase will help stop the fiscal drain. This issue has been taken to the public. The Board should not micro-manage the Public Works Department, but should allow the department to determine where it can save money; the department should let the Board know if they need to open the landfill and transfer stations in addition to days not specified.
- Supervisor Hansen: Agreed that the public was not adequately informed; he met with a business owner in Twin Lakes who knew nothing about this issue. The Bridgeport transfer station needs to be open more than two days a week; closure should be considered when it is time to renew the contract. Progress has been made and the Board has made other decisions that he supports.
- Supervisor Hunt: This is a dynamic operation that is bound to change as the waste streams change. A decision today won't be the ultimate answer since the situation may be different a year from now. A minimal fee increase is mandatory to help control costs, but long-term issues still need to be addressed. Today the Board is considering a solution to the immediate financial problem. He supports the proposal, but remains open to special cases pertaining to the Bridgeport transfer station.
- Supervisor Johnston: This issue has two parts: 1) stop the fiscal problem, and 2) continue working on a long-term solution with the stakeholders. Long-term issues cannot be solved today.
- Supervisor Hazard: Meetings have been held in Bridgeport, and some people have provided input. The proposed cost to individuals is reasonable considering the current situation. The use of general fund money to support the program is unacceptable; the solid waste fund should pay for itself. The Board needs to move forward; he believes citizens do understand the need to stop this problem and he supports action today with continued discussion about future needs. Regarding the Bridgeport transfer station, the cost to keep it open more than two days is minimal.

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**LUNCH**

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**OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

- Fred Stump, Crowley Lake resident: Addressed the Board about concerns with Planning Commission appointments; the Long Valley RPAC was not notified about the recent opening on the Planning Commission. He believes the local RPACs should be notified when a seat opens on the Planning Commission so they have an opportunity to apply. There has not been a member appointed from the Tri-Valley area. In the future, he would like the Supervisors to solicit letters of interest before making recommendations.

**FINANCE**

10a)

**Mono County Cost Allocation Plan** (Brian Muir) - Presentation by Brian Muir regarding the County's cost allocation plan (A-87).

**Action:** None (informational only).

Brian Muir, Finance Director: The Board has made a number of decisions related to the cost plan, so it is important to have a clear understanding about it. Reviewed the presentation

included in the Board packet:

- The plan is legally required.
- Internal costs of doing business are apportioned to pertinent departments based on a department's use of the allowable cost (i.e. services provided by the IT Department).
- Ten components in the County's current plan: building use, administrative officer, finance department, county counsel, employee benefits, insurance, building maintenance, South County administration, information technology, and central services.
- Departments are charged based on the plan from two years earlier. Some departments are mandated to be billed at the proposed costs.
- Some grants limit the amount of indirect costs that can be charged, so the General Fund takes a loss because of the cap.
- The Finance Department is required to present accurate financial information. The A87 Plan shows the costs associated with operating the various County departments. Billing indirect costs allows the County to recover them in many cases, such as including the costs in a grant. Indirect costs are also part of fee calculations.
- This plan does not limit the Board's ability to allocate funds. This is an accounting function that allows the Board (and the public) to see the costs of departmental operations.
- Cost plans among counties are very similar. Plans are approved by the State Controller's Office.
- Once insurance is billed differently, the costs billed to departments will go down.

Supervisor Johnston: Believes the cost allocation plan is only a requirement in certain instances, such as including overhead in grants. Plus, these internal costs impact fees paid by the public. This plan makes it difficult for the general public to understand the budget. However, he supported the idea of creating the plan in house. This would be a good discussion at budget time.

- Muir: The costs are very real, but the Board has the ability to decide the amount of fees and does not have to include the overhead costs. The County is mandated to use a plan to allocate overhead costs when it receives federal money. When general fund departments are billed, the money charged stays within the general fund. Will review the details of these costs with anyone who is interested.

Supervisor Hazard: Most grants have a provision for administrative costs, and reimbursements from grants are actual dollars. But within the County, the dollar amounts are not "real" dollars coming in. Expressed concern that programs are cut in certain departments due to the cost allocation. Agreed that the costs should be shown but not charged to departments. Would like to see a 3-5 year comparison.

- Muir: The plan does not limit the Board's ability to allocate funds to departments. The Board can choose to cover the cost from the General Fund, but this plan allows the Board to see the actual costs to run the departments. This is a way of distributing costs based on use.

David Wilbrecht, CAO: The budget contains direct and indirect costs (revenue in and expenses out). The plan discloses costs that may not otherwise show up in a direct line item, and allows for full disclosure of the costs to operate the various departments. The A-87 costs can then be reviewed to see where resources are being used. Suggested the budget document could include an A-87 section in order to provide more detail.

10b)

**Treasury Investment Pool (Brian Muir) - Presentation by Brian Muir, Finance Director, regarding Mono County Treasury Investment Pool.**

**Action: None (informational only).**

Brian Muir, Finance Director: Reviewed the presentation included in the board packet.

- Discussed the value of the treasury pool.
- Reviewed investment strategies.
- Outlined a graph comparing the pool over time.
- Showed a list of maturities at the end of December 2010.
- Reviewed a chart showing the breakdown of investments.
- Reviewed the Quarterly Yield Comparison graph.
- Reviewed the outlook for the debt market.
- Provided an investment strategy for the next 12 months. Reminded the Board that the County cannot invest in precious metals or common stocks.

Supervisor Johnston: Expressed concern about having a lot of money being invested and monitored by the Finance Director. Believes the County should have an investment oversight committee, and would like staff to find out what other counties do. Suggested agendaizing this for a future meeting.

- Muir: The Board can choose to whom they delegate the investment responsibility. Muir's strategy is very safe and secure, and he does not know of other entities in California that invest via committee. The quarterly report is sent to members of the pool and is posted on the website, and outside auditors review reports annually. Muir works with the deputy treasurer on investments and monitors investments daily.
- Marshall Rudolph, County Counsel: Mono County previously had an oversight committee, which was required by the state at one time but later became optional. A committee would not tell the treasurer how to invest, but would only review the investment policy and make recommendations.

Supervisor Hazard: Believes the state provides enough policy to ensure oversight. He is comfortable with the current arrangement.

Supervisor Bauer: Supports the current arrangement. The Board must be careful about how staff time is used, and new tasks take time.

Supervisor Hunt: Believes the Supervisors have enough oversight under the current arrangement, and he is comfortable with it.

A majority of the Board did not support Supervisor Johnston's request to have staff spend time researching this issue. The Board supported having the CAO send an email to other counties to find out what they do.

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

11a)

**Request for Support of Conway Ranch Fish Hatchery Project** (Cheri Bromberger) - Consider request from the June Lake Chamber of Commerce for continued County support of Conway Ranch fish-rearing. Supervisor Bauer sponsored this agenda item.

**Action: None.**

Cheri Bromberger, President of the June Lake Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber supports efforts on Conway Ranch and wanted to present their letter in person. Bromberger read the letter included in the Board packet. Fishing is important economically to the June Lake area, and Conway Ranch provides high-quality fish for the lakes. The June Lake Advocates also provided a letter that Ms. Bromberger read; she then read an amended letter that was approved recently by the Chamber. Ms. Bromberger asked the Board to support the working fish hatchery

on Conway Ranch.

Paul McCann, June Lake resident: Supports Conway Ranch and the Tim Alpers trout program. He concurred with the letters presented. Fishing is a significant portion of the local economy, and the program provides a long-term sustainable solution to economic issues. He asked the Board to meet with the necessary parties to make the hatchery project work.

Supervisor Bauer: Income generated by the fishing industry is important to the County. The Board does support the Conway Ranch and works with them regularly. When the County purchased Conway Ranch, the Board at that time was committed to not spending General Fund money, and subsequent Boards have retained that philosophy. The County gets fish in lieu of rent from Alpers and the County also purchases fish. The new pipe diversion on Conway Ranch will eliminate the problem of fish kill on the Ranch.

Dan Lyster, Economic Development: Full allotments (same as last year) are expected to be provided by Fish and Game this year. AB7 set aside a certain amount of fishing license fees for hatcheries, so pursuant to that bill, there may be an increase in the allotment. He will let Fish and Game know the Board would like an update about various issues. The Department of Fish and Wildlife Services wants to continue participating with the Lahontan cutthroat trout program. A lot of people are coming to Mono County because fishing is not too great in other parts of California. Lyster is currently sorting through issues concerning future expansion on Conway Ranch.

- Marshall Rudolph, County Counsel: The property is heavily restricted because it was purchased with grant funds since the Board at that time did not want to use General Fund money for this venture.

Lyster invited residents of June Lake to submit recommendations for the Fisheries Commission.

Supervisor Johnston: Fishing is an important industry and there is a great deal of support throughout the County. Long term he would like to see the creation of aquaculture jobs.

Supervisor Hansen: The Fisheries Commission spends a lot of time talking about issues concerning the Conway Ranch, and the Commission is working through problems one by one. In addition to monetary support, the County also contributes a lot of staff time.

## **SHERIFF CORONER**

12a) **Extra Help Deputy/Retired Annuitant Position** (Sheriff Richard C. Scholl) - Consider authorizing the Sheriff to hire up to three "Extra Help/Annuitant Deputy Sheriffs". These employees will be used in various assignments such as Boating Enforcement, Bailiff's, and Inmate Transportation on an "as needed" basis.

**M11-85 Action:** Authorize the Sheriff to hire up to three "Extra Help/Annuitant Deputy Sheriffs".

**Bauer moved and Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff: Asked the Board to support this request. Hiring retired deputy sheriffs is a cost-savings measure in the long run since the department can use these retired officers as needed and eliminate the costs of overtime and benefits. There is a cost for the initial hiring (about \$1,000 per person for the background check and cost for a uniform), but afterwards there is no cost unless their services are used. Also, there are grants and state funds that can be used to pay the costs. Annuitants (retirees) have the knowledge base, the training, and are willing to work on an as-needed basis. If necessary people hired will be trained for a

specific function. Obenberger pointed out that the court is considering having bailiffs onsite daily, so these retired employees could perform that duty, which is a mandated function. The DSA does not have a problem with this program.

Supervisor Hunt: Reiterated that these people are extremely qualified. Considering potential state cutbacks, Hunt acknowledged the department's efforts to become more efficient.

Supervisor Hansen: Supports the request; this is a great resource.

Supervisor Hazard: Supports the program, but wants a highly trained person to act as boating officer and conduct the investigations. Suggested the Board agendaize an item to discuss hiring freezes and their policy to review recent vacancies.

Supervisor Bauer: Agreed that this action will save money.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Additional Departments: Community Development

13a)

**Lee Vining Streets Rehabilitation STIP Project Approval** (Mary Ellen Halpin) - Proposed resolution "A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Approving, and Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Lee Vining Streets Rehabilitation Project."

**M11-86**  
**R11-25**

**Action:** 1. Consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Lee Vining Streets Rehabilitation Project together with any comments received during the public review process. 2. Find on the basis of the whole record that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the County's independent judgment and analysis. 3. Approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on Resolution No. 11-25, "A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Approving, and Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Lee Vining Streets Rehabilitation Project."

**Hansen moved and Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Mary Ellen Halpin, Public Works: This is a road overlay project in Lee Vining that includes sidewalks and gutters. Public Works needs to proceed at this time since the Caltrans allocation process has changed, including the requirement for a higher level of environmental documentation. Approval will allow the project to go before the California Transportation Commission (CTC) in June. This project will increase the protection of areas in Lee Vining.

Supervisor Johnston: Asked if issues raised in two letters have been addressed.

- Scott Burns, Community Development: Staff members have solutions that address the issues, so there will be further refinements as the project progresses.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - PLANNING DIVISION**

14a)

**Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management** (Tony Dublino) - Presentation by Tony Dublino regarding the status and progress of the Inyo-Mono Integrated Water Management Group.

No Motion

**Action:** Direct staff to create language for the MOU regarding a reduced quorum for emergency meetings, and present this at the upcoming IRWM meeting.

Tony Dublino, Community Development: Provided an update about the IRWM group.

- The Board received a copy of the final agenda for the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- The group will be making a decision on the MOU, the policy regarding allocation of funds, and a planning grant, which was awarded about a month ago.
- The MOU changed slightly from what the Board reviewed last month. It now includes a provision for member withdrawal and specifies that no signatory has a financial obligation to the group. Mono County previously implied these two conditions. Also, changes to the regular meetings are formally established, and organizational structure of the group is delineated.
- IRWM wants to approve the MOU on April 27 so they can obtain signatures.

Stacey Simon, County Counsel's Office: Referred to the concept in the MOU of allowing for a reduced quorum to make decisions at emergency meetings. The language lacks specificity, but she believes this could easily be resolved at a future time. Or the Board could decide now to request more specific language prior to approving the MOU. She pointed out that the dates in the first whereas need to be updated. This MOU is not agendized today for Board approval, but just Board direction.

- Dublino: Today the Board can approve the MOU as is, approve it with changes, or not approve it. If the Board feels changes need to be made, he will go back to IRWM and tell them.

Supervisor Hunt: Agrees that the parameters for emergency meetings and a reduced quorum need to be better defined.

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

15a)

**Federal and State Budgets** (Board Members) - The Board of Supervisors may discuss the Federal budget and the California State budget and potential impacts to Mono County.

**Action:** None.

The Board had no updates.

ADJOURN: 4:39 p.m.

ATTEST:

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DUANE "HAP" HAZARD  
CHAIR

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LYNDA ROBERTS  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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