



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

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

Regular Meeting

County Courthouse,  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

August 2, 2011

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Hunt

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

**No one spoke.**

Closed Session: 9:05 a.m.

Break: 10:36 a.m.

Reconvened: 10:42 a.m.

Lunch: 12:52 p.m.

Reconvened: 1:31 p.m.

Break: 2:56 p.m.

Reconvened: 3:04 p.m.

Adjourned: 4:33 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**The Board had nothing to report from Closed Session.**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- 1a) 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.
- 1b) Closed Session--Human Resources - CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): 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.
- 1c) Closed Session--CAO - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**M11-179** A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 5, 2011.  
**Hunt moved; Hansen seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

**M11-180** B. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 12, 2011.  
**Hansen moved; Hunt seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

**M11-181** C. Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 19, 2011, as corrected.  
**Hansen moved; Bauer seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

- Supervisor Bauer: Correction to comments under Item #8a (redistricting), 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point, "...there are flaws – you could have four or even five from Mammoth on the Board." Insert or the unincorporated County after Mammoth.

**M11-182** D. Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting held July 19, 2011.  
**Hunt moved; Hansen seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

**M11-183** E. Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting held July 21, 2011.  
**Bauer moved; Johnston seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

3) **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

**Supervisor Bauer**

1. NACo update: Sent the Board an email with information about how to access the NACo website. Attended a transportation committee meeting. It is unclear how funding issues will be resolved. Bauer was appointed as vice chair to the rural action caucus of NACo and will help represent rural contingencies.
2. Attended the County picnic in Bridgeport.
3. Attended a YARTS meeting. YARTS will move to a 6-member board. They are making progress with Fresno's participation, and talked about the value of ESTA joining. YARTS will continue daily trips to Yosemite through September 11, and thereafter will operate on weekends for the remainder of September.
4. Attended the Mammoth lodging meeting.
5. Met with Jim Arkens about an issue in Lee Vining that impacted June Lake. The issues were resolved; Kelly Garcia did a great job negotiating.
6. Camped in Mammoth over the weekend and rode on the Mammoth Bike Path system.
7. AB 1245 regarding the emergency response system could cause an issue with emergencies handled by the ski patrol. Bauer agendized a discussion for August 9<sup>th</sup>.
8. SRA AB29X regarding fire interests is moving forward; RCRC and CSAC are informed about fire interests in Mono County. Bauer will provide updates during Board Reports.
9. Bauer may attend the Ted Gaines event this Friday.
10. Regarding a prior Board discussion concerning the Airport Road, medical transports travel on this road in order to access air transport and the bumps are affecting critical patients.
11. The Mount Andrea legislation is through the committee; no one anticipates objections from the Department of the Interior.

**Supervisor Hansen**

1. July 21: Attended the Bridgeport RPAC meeting and talked about amendments to the General Plan; also discussed the Marine Base.
2. July 25: Attended the YARTS meeting.
3. July 26: Attended the Film Commission meeting with Supervisor Hunt. Some bad

information has been published about the closing of Mono Lake, which has discouraged people from visiting.

4. July 27: Attended the sexual harassment training.
5. July 30: Attended the June Lake music festival; this event has grown.

#### **Supervisor Hazard**

1. July 2: Attended DSA negotiations.
2. July 21: Attended the Special Meeting of the Board, the County picnic, and participated in radio show on KMMT addressing the kind of world we are leaving for our children.
3. July 24: Attended Sally Deperro's memorial service.
4. July 24: Attended the RPAC meeting in Crowley; met the new CHP commander.
5. July 27: Attended the sexual harassment training.
6. July 28: Attended the Collaborative Planning Team meeting.
7. Two new veteran appreciation signs have been installed on Highways 6 and 120.
8. July 28: Attended the Tri-valley Groundwater Management meeting. There is concern that wells to be monitored are only on County property.
9. August 1: Attended the Mono County LDTAC meeting.
10. Attended a wildfire briefing in Lone Pine. The Forest Service provided an update about the policy of allowing wild fires to burn; smoke from a wildfire west of Lone Pine has drifted as far north as Carson City.
11. Sent a letter to CalTrans from Supervisor District 2 regarding poor quality road rehabilitation work from Tom's Place to Crooked Creek.
12. Hazard has agendaized an item for August 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss how agenda items are scheduled. A good practice could be to have potential agenda items come through Board Reports before being scheduled.
13. In 2009, the Board took action to have the 395 corridor designated as a motorcycle corridor. Hazard asked Mary Booher, through the LTC, to provide an update about the designation.
14. Received a letter from Ken Salazar, Department of the Interior, asking counties and agencies to identify the "crown jewels" of WSAs in order to move forward with wilderness designations. Hazard believes this is a biased approach and does not fully resolve the issue of WSA release. He would like to schedule this item for a future agenda.
15. Rich Boccia of MUSD asked Hazard to help participate in a program this year for Veteran's Day to honor veterans in Mono County. They would like to bring veterans together for a breakfast in order to thank them for their service.
16. Reviewed legislative items: 1) AB 1245 regarding emergency medical services is problematic; it has been amended and eliminates the need for discussion at the county level. 2) Senator Gaines is trying to overturn AB29X regarding state resource responsibility areas; RCRC and CSAC are representing counties on this issue. 3) AB 210 regarding exclusive operating areas for paramedics would have a negative impact to Mono County; Hazard is working with RCRC and CSAC on this issue.

#### **Supervisor Hunt**

1. July 20: Attended the Eastside Biomass Committee workshop. Future projects include conducting a feasibility study, considering a co-generation electricity project, considering the sustainability of resources, and marketing.
2. July 26: Attended the Mono County Tourism subcommittee meeting. Talked about developing a strategic plan and goals for the recreational base in Mono County. Tourism will develop a vision based on the Recstrats project from Mammoth. The committee will meet monthly.
3. July 27: Attended the Combined Mental Health and Drug/Alcohol Advisory Board meeting. There are no budget problems at this time.
4. Toured the new solar panel project at the Mammoth Community Water District. Hunt encouraged the other Board Members to take a tour.
5. Attended Shakespeare in the Park and the Village Fest in Mammoth.
6. August 1: Took a personal tour of the Valentine Reserve in Mammoth. All 567 acres

are still in their natural state.

**Supervisor Johnston**

1. Attended a tour of the new solar project at Mammoth Community Water District; it is very impressive. Johnston would like the Board to take a tour during lunch as part of the August 16 meeting.
  - o Supervisor Hazard would like the tour to be at the end of the day.
2. Attended the County picnic in Bridgeport; it was well attended.
3. Attended the DSA negotiations.

4)

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments (Jim Arkens)

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

**Jim Arkens**

1. Worked with MCPE to finalize the MOU for their vote today.
2. The Board Room now has air conditioning; Arkens thanked staff for their hard work.
3. Worked on capital improvements issues.
4. Worked on budget issues; departments have been asked to adjust their budgets downward in order to reach a balanced budget.
5. Met with the Assessor and Union to meet-and-confer about potential changes; they have some tentative agreements with the Union.
6. Issues involving the Lee Vining tree project have been resolved.
7. The County picnic in Mammoth is scheduled for this coming Thursday; the Bridgeport picnic was a big success.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS/EMERGING ISSUES**

**Ralph Obenberger, Undersheriff**

- The Sheriff's Office received a grant award with \$45,000 more than anticipated; the money can be used for emergency preparedness training for the Sheriff's Office and other County staff. He suggested Department Heads and Board Members could attend the training.

**Rose Glazier, Finance**

- Presented the quarterly investment report as of June 30, 2011. Investments are still getting 1.358% interest yield and earned over \$1 million in interest.
  - o Supervisor Johnston would like this report to be part of the board packet in the future.

**Jody Henning, Assessor**

- 1) Met with the Union to discuss positions in her office. Will bring a request to the Board on August 9th asking for permission to recruit for a vacant position. 2) Will be meeting this month with appraisers to discuss the Mammoth Mountain appeal in an effort to resolve the matter. 3) Regarding the geothermal assessment appeal, Ormat acquired 50% of the interest and they are appealing the value; will meet with them to discuss the issue.

**Dan Lyster, Economic Development**

- Provided an update about the Conway Ranch easement and plans to move forward.

**Jeff Walters, Public Works**

- Due to significant amounts of rain over the weekend, some areas experienced drainage problems; Districts 3, 4, and 5 had issues.

**Scott Burns, Community Development**

- 1) Caltrans awarded a grant for the Bridgeport main street revitalization plan. 2) California PUC approved Verizon's request pertaining to existing overhead lines, with the requirement that Verizon extend service to Swall Meadows and Crowley within 18 months.

## 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.)

### COUNTY COUNSEL

#### **Additional Departments: Public Works- Roads**

- 5a) MOU with LVFPD for snow removal - Proposed memorandum of understanding with the Long Valley Fire Protection District Governing the County's Provision of Snow-Removal Services in the vicinity of the District's Long Valley Fire Station.

**M11-184** **Action:** Approve County entry into proposed memorandum of understanding with Long Valley Fire Protection District for snow removal and authorize the Board Chair to execute said MOU on behalf of the County.  
**Bauer moved; Hunt seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

#### **Additional Departments: CSA#2**

- 5b) Agreement with Norm Powell re CSA#2 - New Agreement with Norm Powell dba Valley TV & Communication for the maintenance of translator sites within County Service Area #2.

**M11-185** **Action:** Approve Agreement with Norm Powell dba Valley TV & Communication for the maintenance of translator sites within County Service Area #2, and authorize the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.  
**Bauer moved; Hunt seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

#### **Additional Departments: CSA#1**

- 5c) Amendment to contract with Norm Powell (CSA#1) - Agreement and Second Amendment to Agreement with Norm Powell dba Valley TV & Communication for the maintenance of translator sites within County Service Area #1.

**M11-186** **Action:** Approve Agreement and Second Amendment to Agreement with Norm Powell dba Valley TV & Communication for the maintenance of translator sites within County Service Area #1, and authorize the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.  
**Bauer moved; Hunt seconded**  
**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - PLANNING DIVISION

- 6a) June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee Appointments (Courtney Weiche) - Appointment of Patti Heinrich as a member of the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) as recommended by Supervisor Bauer.

**M11-187** **Action:** Appoint Patti Heinrich to the June Lake CAC, to fill a vacancy; term of appointment will expire December 31, 2012.  
**Bauer moved; Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- 7a) Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) - Appointments to the Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) Board of Directors. This agenda item was requested by Supervisor Hazard.

**M11-188** **Action:** Appoint Carolyn Balliet to serve as a public representative for northern Mono County on the IMACA Board of Directors. Amend the previous appointment of Marlo Preis to specify her representation of southern Mono County.

**Bauer moved; 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

- 8a) BLM Letter regarding Bodie Hills Upland Vegetation Restoration Project Field Trip - Correspondence from Bernadette Lovato, Bishop Field Manager for BLM, inviting members of the public and agencies who have commented on or shown an interest in the Bodie Hills Upland Vegetation Restoration Project proposal to a field trip on August 1, 2011.
- 8b) Mono Basin Historical Society Update - Letter from the Mono Basin Historical Society dated July 17, 2011, with an update on museum operations, as required as part of the Agreement for the provision of tourism promotion and historical preservation services.
- 8c) Notifications from the Antelope Valley Fire Protection District - Notifications from the AVFPD regarding new budget information and the appointment of Tom Steward as a replacement to Dick Petterson, term expiring 12/31/11. This is sent to the Board for informational purposes only.
- 8d) Informational Letters Regarding California State Video Franchise - Letter from Suddenlink State of California Public Utilities Commission, dated June 29, 2011, regarding California State Video Franchise Application.
- Supervisor Hazard: County policies need to be taken into consideration; this issue should be agendized in the future. Marshall Rudolph, County Counsel: His office is reviewing this matter.
- 8e) Allan Randall Faulk, Jr. Application for Alcoholic and Beverage License(s) - The Mono County Board of Supervisors was copied on an application for Alcoholic Beverage License(s) submitted by Allan Randall Faulk, Jr. on July 8, 2011. This is informational only.

**The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.**

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## COUNTY COUNSEL

9a) Redistricting Public Hearing I (John-Carl Vallejo) - Public hearing regarding Redistricting Alternatives.

**M11-189** **Action:** Direct staff to draft an ordinance for redistricting scenario B with the changes as presented; agendize a public hearing and the initial reading of the ordinance for August 9, 2011, and agendize a public hearing and the second reading of the ordinance for August 16, 2011.

**Bauer moved; Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 3 Yes; 2 No (Hansen and Johnston)**

John Vallejo, Asst. County Counsel: This is the first of the required public hearings. The Board will need two readings of the ordinance, which could be done on August 9 and August 16 along with additional public hearings if the Board so chooses. Regarding the boundary adjustments in Mammoth, the subcommittee spent hours trying to make them work.

Nate Greenberg, Information Technology: Gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding boundary adjustments and issues raised at the last Board meeting:

- The goal is to maintain logical boundaries; he showed the minor adjustments needed to Option B in order to meet the goal.
- Reviewed a series of maps outlining boundary adjustments that affected no people or very few people (i.e. 2-3 people) in the unincorporated part of the County. In Mammoth, 34 people shifted but neighborhood cohesiveness was maintained. One boundary in Mammoth was splitting a condo complex and needed to be addressed.
- Boundary adjustments in Mammoth (Sierra Valley Sites) were needed in order to equalize the population and maintain neighborhoods of interest. It was very difficult to find a logical boundary while maintaining the required population. The district as defined now is close to the threshold so redefining it too much will upset the balance.

### Board Discussion

- In the unincorporated portion of the County, the Board was comfortable with redrawing boundaries along roads as presented by Greenberg.
- Supervisors Hunt, Hazard, and Bauer agreed to accept the subcommittee's work pertaining to the Sierra Valley Sites in Mammoth; Supervisors Hansen and Johnston wanted more discussion. The proposed swap in Sierra Valley Sites was acceptable to the majority of the Board.
  - Redistricting Committee Member Bob Peters pointed out that the subcommittee members were all from Mammoth, and had public comment in mind when they met with Nate Greenberg and John Vallejo to resolve problems.
- Supervisor Hansen: Dissatisfied with the three options presented; 7 of the 10 committee members live in Mammoth or are affiliated with Mammoth. Will not vote for an option that splits District 4.
- Supervisor Hunt: Also uncomfortable with Option B and how it impacts District 4 by including part of Mammoth.
- Supervisor Bauer: Believes splitting the unincorporated portion of the County is different than splitting areas within the Town since County and Town responsibilities are different. Splitting June Lake is not practical and there has been a positive reaction to rejoining the Mono Basin with June Lake. District 3 currently has split neighborhoods and it has not caused any problems
- Supervisor Johnston: Option B has a flaw since the main street of Mammoth would be part of District 4 with Walker and Bridgeport; he would rather consider Option B2 that was supported by nearly half of the committee. This solves the problem of splitting off the Town's main street, which is not rational. Three-fifths of the population live in Mammoth and should be represented by people from Mammoth.
- Supervisor Hazard: The system is not perfect, and the Board will need to compromise.

The Board elected to have a committee work on redistricting and the three alternatives they presented meet the Board's criteria. He did not want additional adjustments to the boundaries other than the minor adjustments reviewed by Greenberg.

Public hearing opened at 11:52 a.m.

- Fred Stump: Supports Option B as described. Factors in Crowley and Tom's Place bind these communities to Mammoth, i.e. recreation, the school district, and the hospital district.
- Steve Marti, Twin Lakes: Does not like any of the options but supports B as the most realistic.
- Tim Fesko: Option B is the best compromise of the three options. He understands the problem with splitting Mammoth, but Lee Vining and Mono City have more in common with June Lake.
- Bob Peters: None of the options is perfect, but B provides the best balance. The committee was forced to go south in order to balance the populations in Districts 4 and 3, or they would have been required to split the Tri-valley and June Lake. Mammoth had to be split into 3 areas anyway because of population. The Mammoth subcommittee did quality work to consider alternatives and he supports the changes.
- Steve Noble, Bridgeport: Can support alternative B as the best balance; he has no issues with part of Mammoth being included in District 4. Everyone is part of Mono County.
- Jan Huggans: Does not like any of the options. This is a difficult issue and it is hard to absorb so much information in a short period of time.
- Ed Inwood, Bridgeport: Has concern about future problems and how supervisors will solve them; expects that more problems will occur in the unincorporated part of the County. Option B is the best compromise.
- Hank Cole, Bridgeport: Has concern that North County won't be as well represented as it is today. There is no perfect solution to the problem.

Public hearing closed at 12:06 p.m.

Board Comments

- Supervisor Hunt: Constituents lobbied heavily for Option B2 or Option A, believing that growth in Mammoth and south will continue to increase and they want to work through the County to benefit the majority of residents. However, the issue requires compromise and he does not want June Lake or Lee Vining to be split. Perhaps Option B as proposed will provide a connection within the County.
- Supervisor Hansen: Would like to review Option B2 at another meeting. Does not want to be forced to represent a part of the County that is so far away; District 4 will change drastically. Should have one more meeting before presenting the ordinance.
- Supervisor Johnston: Compromise is good and the Board could develop a B-type concept, but he does not want to split the main street of Mammoth in order to reunite Lee Vining and June Lake. Would like to reconsider Option B2.
- Supervisor Bauer: Reiterated that services provided by the Town and County are different so having the main street of Mammoth in District 4 is irrelevant since the County has no planning jurisdiction in Mammoth nor does the County provide public works services. Constituents in the Town and unincorporated part of the County interact on water, federal, or social services issues. Bauer believes it will be beneficial to Mammoth residents to have someone in the north of the County representing these issues. She supports Option B as presented today.
- Supervisor Hazard: The flaw with Option A is the size of the district it would create—it would be too big to manage well. Because of growth Mammoth may one day have three supervisors, but the Tri-valley population is increasing too. The north part of the County lost 400 people, and this loss required pushing into Mammoth to recoup people; hopefully the population in the north will grow again in 10 years. Option C could potentially create unbalanced representation from either Mammoth or the

unincorporated County; Option B is the best compromise. The Board should consider the best interests of the County.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 10a) Monthly Agenda Item for Tourism & Film Commission (Alicia Vennos / Tourism Commissioners) - Pursuant to Minute Order # M11-152, the Mono County Tourism & Film Commission representative(s) and/or the Economic Development Manager will appear before the Board of Supervisors at the first meeting of each month to convey and discuss information and strategies relevant to tourism and economic development.

**Action: None**

Alicia Vennos, Economic Development: Set up a large display containing photos of Mono County and Mammoth Lakes. She then described the cooperative partnership with Mammoth Lakes Tourism and how this benefits Mono County:

- California travel trends show an increase in May visits from last year, due mainly to international travel. Driving traffic is down due to gas prices, but airline traffic has increased.
- With this year's challenges (late start to the summer season and economics), Mono County needed to work closely with a partner. Mammoth Lakes Tourism wants to help drive tourism to the region as a whole, and has a lot of funding; they recognize the value of the entire County. MLT also wants to grow the shoulder seasons.
- Partnering and cooperative advertising has maximized the County's funding: 1) Mono County was included in expensive publications that reached new destination markets. 2) Mono County is getting the benefit of national/international publications for a reasonable amount of money. 3) Mono County is also included in Mammoth visitor guides and on their website; PR includes promoting Mono Lake, Bodie, and other County destinations. 4) Mono County has been able to attend additional trade shows. 5) Mono County was invited to participate in the Eastern Sierra Fishing coalition steering committee; lakes throughout the County can participate in a fishing derby and receive airtime on a television show.

Danna Stroud, Tourism Commission: This monthly agenda item will keep the Board abreast of what is happening; it is important for the Board to receive information regularly.

Supervisor Bauer: Bauer is impressed with the County's collaboration with Mammoth Lakes Tourism, and Mammoth Lodging is supportive of County participation with their group.

- Stroud: The County is able to move forward because of past efforts to establish a relationship.

Supervisor Hazard: Reported in Board Reports last month that he was impressed with advertising efforts and the good use of County funding.

Supervisor Hansen: Supports these efforts.

Ed Inwood, citizen: Reiterated the importance of fishing along the Walker River systems in order to justify need to maintain water levels; otherwise, the County may lose water to Nevada.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- 11a) CUPA Electronic Reporting Grant Agreement (Louis Molina) - Approval of "California Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Electronic Reporting Grant Agreement.

**M11-190**      **Action:** Approve the CUPA Electronic Reporting Grant Agreement and authorize Louis Molina, Environmental Health Director, to sign and implement the grant pursuant to the grant agreement.

**Hunt moved; Hansen seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Louis Molina, Environmental Health: This agenda item pertains to a grant for purchase of software that will allow electronic reporting of hazardous materials, which will meet state requirements. The software will upgrade the entire system, including invoicing. The company providing the upgrade is from the East Bay area and serves 75% of the market for environmental health reporting; they are knowledgeable and have the product to meet state requirements. The Environmental Health Department currently has a contract with them for lower level software.

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LUNCH

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

**No one spoke.**

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

12a)      Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority Discussion (Matt Carter) - Board discussion regarding the County and Town entering into a Joint Powers Authority for the operation of the solid waste program.

**No Motion**      **Action:** Direct staff to move forward with utmost care and keep the Board updated.

Matt Carter, Public Works: In October of 2010, staff started working on long-term solutions to solid waste issues. Since 75% of the waste comes from Mammoth Lakes, they generate 75% of the revenues, and the Town wants a JPA in order to participate in developing long-term solutions to problems. The sample JPA presented addresses the decision-making process and provides for Town representation.

Jim Arkens, CAO: Wants the County to be prepared when the time comes to move forward, and he wants to give the Board ample time to review a JPA.

Supervisor Johnston: Suggested delaying the JPA at this time due to the Town's financial condition and the lawsuit; the existing system currently works.

Supervisors Bauer and Hunt: Support moving forward with the process in order to be prepared for future talks.

Supervisor Hazard: Wants to ensure a JPA addresses issues such as dispute resolution, impact to contracts with haulers, and solutions to long-term problems like closing of the Benton Crossing Landfill. All options need to be addressed when the County enters talks with the Town. Suggested that staff continue working on this but proceed cautiously.

12b)      Crowley Lake Road Shop Roof Replacement (Kelly Garcia) - Reject bids received for the Crowley Lake Road Shop Roof Replacement, direct that the project be re-advertised, allocate \$30,000 in additional funding, and authorize

the County Administrative Officer to execute and administer an agreement with the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

- M11-191**      **Action:** 1. Acknowledge receipt of bids from RASP Construction and Graham Prewett, Inc., for the Crowley Lake Road Shop Roof Replacement. Find the bids as non-responsive and reject both of them. 2. Direct that bids for the Crowley Lake Road Shop Roof Replacement be re-solicited and re-advertised. 3. Allocate an additional \$30,000 from contingency to cover anticipated additional costs associated with the roof replacement at the Crowley Lake Road Shop. 4. Authorize the County Administrative Officer (in consultation with County Counsel) to execute and administer an agreement with the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for the roof replacement at the Crowley Lake Road Shop. This authorization shall include making minor amendments to said agreement from time to time as the Public Works Director may deem necessary, provided such amendments do not substantially alter the scope of work or budget and are approved as to form and legality by County Counsel.

**Hunt moved; Johnston seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Kelly Garcia, Public Works: Public Works received two bids for this project—one was late and the other had no bid bond. Also, it has been determined that additional work and more expensive insulation are required which will cost an additional \$30,000. Public Works will put the project out to bid for 10 days.

- 12c)      Mower Replacement - Facilities Division of Public Works (Joe Blanchard) - The Facilities Division is having significant mechanical issues with two lawn mowers and needs to replace them.

- M11-192**      **Action:** Authorize the Facilities Division of Public Works to purchase two commercial-grade lawnmowers in an amount not to exceed \$26,000.

**Hansen moved; Hunt seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Joe Blanchard, Public Works: The replacement of mowers has been deferred for the last two years. Recently, three of the five mowers were in the repair shop at same time. Quotes for two mowers ranged from \$25,000-\$29,000.

- 12d)      Contract Award - Engineering and Traffic Survey Services (Jeff Walters) - Consider and potentially approve County entry into proposed contract with Omni-Means pertaining to engineering and traffic survey services, and authorize County Administrative Officer to execute said contract on behalf of the County. Receive staff report. Provide any desired direction to staff.

- M11-193**      **Action:** Authorize the County Administrative Officer (in consultation with County Counsel) to execute and administer agreement with Omni-Means (Roseville, CA) for a not-to-exceed budget of \$75,000 for engineering and traffic survey services associated with various County roads. This authorization shall include making minor amendments to said agreement from time to time as the CAO may deem necessary, provided such amendments do not substantially alter the scope of work or budget and are approved as to form and legality by County Counsel.

**Johnston moved; Bauer seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Jeff Walters, Public Works: Five consultants responded to a Request for Qualifications; Omni-Means is the most experienced company. Traffic surveys need to be done every five years in order to verify that speed limits are correct; Public Works will prioritize roads based on need. Counties are required to have enforceable speed limits posted on white signs. The cost for the survey will be funded from the road budget with up to \$50,000 reimbursed from LTC.

Supervisor Hazard: Roads need to be surveyed fairly in the areas where communities perceive speeding problems.

- Walters: Segments within the same road can be surveyed independently. This is the reason for hiring an experienced company.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Additional Departments: CAO/Public Health**

13a) CAO/HR - Mental Health Director contract (Jim Arkens) - Proposed contract with Ann Gimpel pertaining to part-time employment as Mental Health Director.

**R11-51** **Action:** Approve Resolution #R11-51 approving an employment agreement with Ann Gimpel and prescribing the compensation, appointment, and conditions of said employment, and authorize the County Board Chairperson to execute said contract on behalf of the County.

**Hunt moved; Bauer seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Jim Arkens, CAO/HR Director: The proposed contract would retain Ann Gimpel as Mental Health Director during the recruiting process; Gimpel will work two days a week between Wednesday and Friday. The Human Resources Department has started the recruitment process.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - PLANNING DIVISION**

14a) Program Supplement Agreement for National Scenic Byway Grant Hwy 395 Corridor Management Plan (Heather deBethizy, Assistant Planner; Gerry LeFrancois, Principal Planner) - Proposed resolution # R11-\_\_\_\_, "A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Approving Program Supplement Agreement No. 016-N to Administering Agency-State Agreement No. 09-5947R for the National Scenic Byway Grant--Highway 395 Corridor Management Plan Project".

**R11-52** **Action:** Adopt Resolution #R11-52, "A resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors approving Program Supplement Agreement No. 016-N to Administering Agency-State Agreement No. 09-5947R for the National Scenic Byway Grant--Highway 395 Corridor Management Plan Project."

**Hunt moved; Hansen seconded**

**Vote: 5 Yes; 0 No**

Heather deBethizy: Adoption of the resolution will authorize release of federal funds and allow for execution of the agreement. The project excludes communities that opted out of the current state designation, however, the byway funding does not exclude projects, such as restrooms and visitor's centers that are in these communities.

## 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

Supervisor Bauer: Federal legislation pertaining to the debt ceiling has passed.

- 15b) Resolution of the Bridgeport RPAC regarding Wilderness Study Areas in the Bodie Hills (Tim Hansen) - Acknowledge and consider resolution of the Bridgeport RPAC, expressing their reasons for supporting the release of the Bodie Hills Wilderness Study Area as well as H.R. 1581, a bill that would release all Wilderness Study Areas and Inventoried Roadless Areas which have been recommended or evaluated as not suitable for wilderness by the BLM. (This item is being sponsored by Supervisor Tim Hansen.)

**Action:** Acknowledge receipt of the Bridgeport RPAC resolution, and pledge to include local residents in public dialogue and any future planning for the Bodie Hills, per FLPMA coordination rules.

**Hansen moved; no second**

**Motion Failed**

Supervisor Hazard, Chair, asked Supervisor Hansen to conduct this portion of the meeting.

Supervisor Hansen: Received a resolution from the Bridgeport RPAC concerning the Bodie Hills WSA; the local community supports release of the WSA. Neither mining nor development are mentioned in the resolution. Action is taking place at the federal level with HR 1581; local residents want to support release of the Bodie Hills WSA.

### Board Comments

- **Supervisor Hunt:** The Board has heard this issue many times over the years. He is against the release of the WSA and opposes HR 1581, which takes local consideration out of the picture.
- **Supervisor Bauer:** Plans to abstain from the discussion; she has not seen the text of HR 1581 and it was not included in the agenda item.
- **Supervisor Johnston:** Withheld comments pending public input.
- **Supervisor Hazard:** When this issue was before the Board last April or May, he believed there was a 4-6 week window during which time something could be done at the federal level. As a result of that meeting, he believed this was a dead issue. The RPAC and/or Supervisor of District 4 can send a letter of support, but he will not vote in favor of that action. HR 1581 is a nationally implied release of WSAs and he cannot support releases in other states.
- Supervisor Hansen: Believed no decision was made previously by the Board; HR 1581 releases land not suitable for wilderness.

### Public Comment

- **Jan Huggans**, Vice Chair of the Bridgeport RPAC: The Bridgeport community believes their voice has not been adequately heard by all Board Members. Release of the WSA is important to the financial future of Bridgeport. Huggans provided an example about a road the water district needs in order to access their tank; the request was denied since the road is in a WSA.
- **Deborah Lurie**, Bridgeport: Bodie Hills' greatest value is for recreation. A lot of people in Bridgeport don't like the idea of dust, noise, and light pollution that could occur with

large-scale mining (some residents are hesitant to speak publically). There might be more than 50% in town who don't want large-scale mining. She would like a boon to the economy by declaring Bodie Hills a national monument, which would attract more tourism.

- **Rosemary Willamon**, Bridgeport: Opposed release of the WSA; previous mining exploration has not been an economic boon. She would like this issue to be permanently resolved.
- **Jeff Hunnewell**, Bridgeport: Mostly in favor of release since the Bodie Hills were previously used for mining and he doesn't see it as a wilderness area. The BLM has agreed that this area does not have potential for a wilderness designation. Plus he is concerned about the potential for fire in the area that would impact sage grouse habitat since fires in wilderness areas can't be put out. The area needs to be protected but not with a wilderness designation.
- **Elizabeth Tenney**, Mammoth Lakes: Concern with the impact of modern-day mining (excavating equipment, open pit, cyanide heat bleach). When the value of gold increases dramatically, this makes exploration worthwhile, but at the expense of the environment. Mining is boom and bust, and Mono County is about tourism.
- **Maria Polite**, visitor: This is her 7<sup>th</sup> visit to Mono County this year. She urged the Board not to support this request.
- **Georgette Thiete**, visitor: She has been visiting Mono County for 25 years because of the open spaces and scenic vistas. She urged the Board to oppose the request.
- **Sydney Quinn**, Big Pine: Opposes release of the WSA, but uses specified in the RPAC's resolution (multiple use) should be protected. The area needs to be protected in some way but not with a wilderness designation.
- **Sally Miller**, Wilderness Society: Read a statement asking the Board not to release the WSA or support HR 1581. The Wilderness Society generated about 3,000 letters opposing release. People come to Mono County for recreation, and release will open the area to mining. Roads are currently open in this area and there is no plan for a wilderness designation; mining is an exclusive use and will decrease public use. The opinions of all tax-paying citizens need to be considered along with the RPAC resolution. There are still a lot of questions about how to manage the Bode Hills, and all options need to be considered. HR 1581 is extreme legislation. Miller asked the Board to not support release but work on a stakeholder proposal.
- **Sharon Clark**, Mammoth: This issue has already been debated. HR 1581 is a bludgeon, and endorsing it flies in the face of good government. Mono County citizens know how to work together for the good of public lands. She does not want the federal government to take charge.
- **Drew Foster**, Lee Vining: Release of the WSA would open the land to mining. Having grown up in Southern California, he values the open spaces of Mono County that are still free and accessible, including the WSA which is open to multiple use. Large-scale mining will change the current use. There is no reason to release the WSA except to open it to large development. The Board needs to protect open spaces that are dwindling.
- **Malcolm Clark**, Mono County resident: Urged the Board to reject the proposed actions; it is time to move forward and not rehash the same issue. This is not a decision to be made by those living closest to the Bodie Hills since BLM and National Forest lands belong to all Americans. Nothing new has happened since the previous Board meeting. There is a range of protected statuses available, and the future of Bodie Hills should be determined by collaborative process; good planning takes time. HR 1581 bypasses local planning.
- **Lisa Cutting**, Mono Lake Committee: Opposes the release, which would open the area to mining. Part of the WSA is in the Mono Basin. Mono County is a Mecca for tourism, and residents have made it clear they want an open process to consider all aspects of the issue. Does not support one-size-fits-all legislation (HR 1581). WSA releases made many years ago have opened areas in Mono County to wind energy development. Asked the Board to reject the resolution.

- **Mike Boone**, Coleville: Mining is part of this issue even though it is not mentioned in the resolution. Opposes release of the WSA and HR 1581, which is over-reaching national legislation that impacts numerous states. He asked the Board to protect wild lands in Mono County.
- **Kirk Hartstrom**, Bridgeport: Grew up in Bridgeport and supports the free enterprise of private citizens. Supports release of the WSA.
- **Bob Peters**, Bridgeport: Supports the RPAC resolution; mining was not the intent of the RPAC. Read a synopsis of HR 1581. If the Board doesn't decide what to do with WSAs, the County will not have local control; if locals want control, the WSA needs to be released. Supports this bill or some variation of it. Would like Mono County to retain control over the process.
- **Duncan King**: Visited Mono County for 23 years and is now a resident. Provided an international perspective by presenting a petition signed by people from all around the world opposing HR 1581 and the release of the WSA—203 responses so far from 28 different countries. Along with signatures, several people added personal comments about the value of the Bodie Hills.
- **Lynne Bolton**, Lee Vining: Believes this is about gold mining and an effort to promote mining. Development is more controlled by keeping Bodie Hills under the WSA status. She has heard some talk about strip mining.
- **Steve McLaughlin**, Big Pine: There are alternatives to a wilderness designation; the best release strategies need to be discussed. HR 1581 does not address alternative designations.
- **Stacey Corless**, Mammoth Lakes/Friends of the Inyo: Showed a photograph of the Bodie lands. FOI is leading hikes into Bodie Hills and she encouraged people to visit to see for themselves how wild and spectacular this place is. She offered to take the Board on a tour. Urged the Board not to support the request.

#### Board Comments

- **Supervisor Bauer**: Federal issues have come before the Board on many occasions, and the Board did not weigh in because the issues are not within their jurisdiction.
- **Supervisor Johnston**: Will be taking his grandchildren to Yellowstone this week; without federal government support, these kinds of places would not have been protected. Believes Bodie Hills should be preserved in some way and he can support keeping it designated as a WSA. Does not believe release will help Bridgeport economically. The Board should take action to oppose HR 1581. Acknowledged the RPAC's effort and Supervisor Hansen's reason for bringing the issue forward. The Board has learned today that there is a huge body that is concerned about this issue.
- **Supervisor Hazard**: Believes the window of opportunity to resolve this at the federal level this year has passed, but believes the issue can be reconsidered locally. All WSAs should have stakeholder meetings in order to find local solutions; citizens need to work collectively to find local support, and then promote a solution in Washington. Cannot support HR 1581 because it would dictate to local entities in other states; nor can he support Secretary Salazar's request since it only addresses wilderness designations and not releases. A team needs to come together and work on this issue. Supports Supervisor Hansen and the RPAC if they choose to write letters of support on behalf of District 4. Suggested agendaing HR 1581 and the Salazar letter to consider opposing them.
- **Supervisor Hunt**: Referred to an article published in the San Francisco Chronicle written by Tiffany & Co. in favor of preservation of Bodie Hills. Has concern about opening the door to gold mining in Bodie, which could lead to gold mining in other parts of Mono County. Local citizens must define who we are and who we want to be in the future; right now Mono County is tourist based and is known for its open space. Regarding the Salazar letter, Hunt would rather see a piecemeal process with areas evaluated on specific needs. The key to Bodie Hills is to consider the best designation for the area. Opposed the RPAC resolution and believes the Board should oppose HR 1581. Bodie Hills, along with other lands, are "owned" by people across the country.

- **Supervisor Hansen:** The BLM has a role in the WSAs, not local jurisdictions. The WSA was not intended to be permanent; this issue involves both private and local concerns. The Board needs to take action.

ADJOURN: 4:33 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Sally Deperro, Sunny Slopes.

ATTEST:

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DUANE "HAP" HAZARD  
CHAIR

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LYNDA ROBERTS  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

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