

Mono County Local Transportation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.
(Approved February 8, 2021)

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Jennifer Kreitz, John Peters, Rhonda Duggan

TOWN COMMISSIONERS: John Wentworth, Bill Sauser, Jennifer Burrows

COUNTY STAFF: Gerry LeFrancois, Wendy Sugimura, Megan Mahaffey, Bentley Regehr, Michael Draper, Tony Dublino, Chad Senior, Becky Peratt

TOWN STAFF: Haislip Hayes, Dan Holler

CALTRANS: Dennee Alcala, Austin West, Mark Heckman

ESTA: Phil Moores

YARTS: Christine Chavez

Inyo County LTC: John Pinckney

Public: Fred Stump, Sandy Hogan

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vice-Chair Jennifer Kreitz called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Commissioner Duggan led the pledge of allegiance.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment
3. **MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of minutes from December 14, 2020 meeting
 - **Motion:** Approve the minutes from the December 14, 2020 LTC meeting as amended.
 - *Peters/Wentworth. Ayes: Wentworth, Duggan, Peters, Kreitz. Abstain: Burrows. Absent: Sauser*
4. **LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**
 - A. Elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for 2021
 - **Motion:** Nominate Supervisor and Vice-Chair Jennifer Kreitz as Chair.
 - *Peters/Wentworth. Ayes: Wentworth, Duggan, Burrows, Peters, Kreitz. Absent: Sauser*
 - **Motion:** Nominate Councilman and Commissioner John Wentworth as Vice-Chair.
 - *Peters/Duggan. Ayes: Wentworth, Peters, Duggan, Burrows, Kreitz. Absent: Sauser*
 - B. Welcome to new Commissioners Supervisor Rhonda Duggan, Councilman Bill Sauser, and Jennifer Burrows
 - Introductions and welcome by Vice-Chair Wentworth and Chair Kreitz
 - **Commissioner Bill Sauser joined the meeting at 9:13 a.m. due to a conflict with a previously scheduled meeting.
 - C. Resolution for outgoing Commissioner Sandy Hogan
 - **Motion:** Approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Commissioner Hogan's service on the LTC.
 - *Wentworth/Peters. Ayes: Wentworth, Duggan, Sauser, Peters, Burrows, Kreitz*

COMMISSIONERS

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- D. Consider Minute Order 21-01 supporting the rescission of SR-120 Freeway agreements between the State and Mono County
- Presentation by Gerry LeFrancois and Bentley Regehr recommending rescission of the 1961 and 1964 freeway agreements for Hwy 120 up to Tioga Pass. The Board of Supervisors will be taking this up next week.
 - Austin West from Caltrans added that Caltrans is in support of this action and will submit this action to the CTC once the Board of Supervisors weighs in.
 - **Motion:** Move to approve Minute Order 21-01 as presented.
 - *Wentworth/Peters. Ayes: Wentworth, Duggan, Peters, Sauser, Burrows, Kreitz*

5. CALTRANS

A. Activities in Mono County and pertinent statewide information

- Austin West, Mark Heckman and Denee Alcalá from Caltrans provided briefings.
 - Chair Kreitz requested meeting information for the January 27 meeting be sent to commissioners.
 - Vice-Chair Wentworth requested an update on how the Governor's proposed budget could impact District 9 programs.

6. TRANSIT

A. ESTA Update - verbal update (*Phil Moores*)

- Phil Moores presented on issues and projects pertaining to ESTA. Discussion followed.
- Commissioner Wentworth discussed the need to be proactive regarding next summer's opening at Reds Meadow, requested an update on the state's proposed budget in order to advocate for ESTA to get their fair share, and suggested ESTA look into the Opportunity Zone in Bishop.
- Chair Kreitz inquired whether it would be possible for Inyo LTC Executive Director or representative to update the commission on the airport, and get that on the agenda for a future meeting.
- Further discussed Covid vaccinations and the need to ensure that front-line workers in a tourism-based economy are vaccinated in preparation for spring and summer tourism.
- Commissioner Wentworth brought up the Innovative Finance for National Forest Grant Program and the role that public transportation plays in campground re-development, and requested numbers from ESTA.

B. YARTS Update – verbal update (*Christine Chavez*)

- Christine Chavez presented on issues and projects pertaining to YARTS. Discussion followed.
- Chair Kreitz noted that staff has information on last year's LTF allocation discussion and requested that staff discuss with Christine. If there is any formal action that the LTC needs to take or if more deliberation on days of service or moving days around is needed, it can be brought back at a future meeting.
- Commissioner Wentworth requested a future update on where drivers would stay in Mammoth if they need to stay overnight, an update on plans for YARTS drivers to be vaccinated, and an update on challenges regarding electrification and charging infrastructure. Christine Chavez responded that the challenges with electrification include not owning property on which infrastructure can be installed, YARTS does not have money for installation of infrastructure, and also does not have money for charging units.

Break – 10:45 to 10:52

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7. ADMINISTRATION

- A.** Review and confirm Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funding for Mono County projects (*Chad Senior*)
- Discussed replacement of guardrail railing destroyed in MVF. Discussion followed.
 - Commissioner Peters inquired whether funds spent could be reimbursed through potential litigation regarding the fire and whether timing could impact that.
 - **Motion:** Authorize spending RSTP Federal Exchange Program for FY 2019-20 in the amount of \$39,356.25 for the Emergency Eastside Lane Guardrail Replacement Project.
 - *Peters/Wentworth. Ayes: Wentworth, Duggan, Sauser, Burrows, Peters, Kreitz*

8. QUARTERLY UPDATES

- A.** Town of Mammoth Lakes – verbal update (*Haslip Hayes*)
- Discussed upcoming Town projects. Discussion followed.
- B.** Mono County (*Chad Senior*)
- Discussed upcoming Mono County projects. Discussion followed.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

No items

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Burrows: No report
- Commissioner Sauser: No report
- Commissioner Wentworth: Discussed revised Covid orders issued by the town, the O&D study going out to the ESSRP, and The Parcel and Walk, Bike, Ride.
- Commissioner Duggan: Discussed the change in fishing regulations as of March 1 and the need for communication, education and one message about them – where to fish, how to fish and when you can do it. People were parking in areas not available for parking, etc. This impacts transportation with the things that people assume they can do.
- Commissioner Peters: Discussed state budget issues and provided an update on the Mountain View Fire recovery process.
- Chair Kreitz: Discussed Tioga Inn project status, recruitment of a Mono County Housing Coordinator, an item in the state budget, and requested that Commissioner Wentworth provide an update to the LTC on congestion issues in the Lakes Basin. Commissioner Wentworth referred back to Walk, Bike, Ride and requested to agendize this for a future agenda; Chair Kreitz agreed.

11. INFORMATIONAL

- A.** Caltrans upcoming grant workshops
- Mark Heckman discussed upcoming workshops in January.

12. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- A.** Region-wide GIS tools to integrate recreational use data from trail counts, vehicle counts, etc.
- B.** MOU projects and status
- C.** Continuing update on Tioga Pass coordination for 2021
- D.** Commission review of 2021/22 Overall Work Program

13. ADJOURN to February 8, 2021

Prepared by Becky Peratt, LTC clerk

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