

**Mono Basin RPAC**  
**Regional Planning Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2013, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center**

**Members present:** Steve Connett, Lisa Cutting, Zane Davis, Alex Flores, Chris Lizza, Mark Logan, Ilene Mandelbaum, Bartshe Miller, and Lucy Parker. **Absent:** Katie Bellomo.

**Public Attendees and Presenters:** Ed Armenta, Tim Alpers, Tim Banta, April Barron, Wayne Beaver, Heather deBethizy, Randy DesBaillets, Drew Foster, Nate Greenberg, Tim Hansen, Garret Higerd, Jim Kerby, Rhea Kerby, Duncan King, Ellen King, Dave Marquart, Paul McFarland, Rick Noles, Kristin Reese, Dana Stroud, Sarah Tomsy, Robert Wesolowski, and Nancy Williard.

1. **Call to order:** 6:35 pm
2. **Public comment:** a) Nancy Williard – Read a written statement representing the Committee for a Viable June Lake. This group is trying to address the June Mountain closure and the impacts on the community of June Lake. b) Garret Higerd – Mono County Public Works is moving forward with the Lee Vining Street Project which will re-pave all the streets in Lee Vining. A sidewalk will be installed that will connect the community center with the Mono Cone. Lee Vining revegetation project is still happening and the area is lower in height.
3. **Minutes: January 9, 2013.** Motion to approve – Chris Lizza; second – Zane Davis. Approved unanimously.
4. **Supervisor's report:**
  - a. Tim Alpers – Wants to bring some member of Mono County staff to each RPAC meeting. Lots of upper level management changes within the County right now. People in acting roles: Jeff Walters – Public Works; Lynda Salcido – County Health; Marshall Rudolph – Risk Manager; Jo Blanchard – Facilities Manager; Roberta Reed – Financial Officer. There are three applicants for the open seat on the RPAC. Tim will make a decision by the end of March. Tim is part of the Peer Resort trip to Vermont to look at other small ski area operations. Results of the trip will be presented to the public.
5. **Chairman's report:** Nothing
6. **Member's reports:**
  - a. Ilene Mandelbaum: Nothing to report.
  - b. Alex Flores: Nothing to report.
  - c. Chris Lizza: Nothing to report. No Planning Commission meeting this month.
  - d. Lisa Cutting: Nothing to report.
  - e. Zane Davis: Nothing to report.
  - f. Mark Logan: Nothing to report.
  - g. Steve Connett: Nothing to report.
7. **Election of officers for 2013. Nominees are:** Bartshe Miller – Chair; Lucy Parker – Vice Chair; and Lisa Cutting – Secretary. The RPAC members voted unanimously for the slate of officers (with Miller, Parker, and Cutting abstaining from their respective voting).
8. **Discussion about Mono Basin Scenic Visitor Center operation (Ed Armenta, USFS).** Gave a brief history of the Inyo's declining budget and the need to reduce services, especially at the Mono Basin Visitor Center. Almost had to close the Visitor center. Deeper cuts could be coming in this budget year. The USFS and ESIA (Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association) are looking to partner to collaboratively manage the Visitor Center. The Inyo is also working with the Regional office on this joint venture. It is likely that there will be a one-year temporary permit issued to ESIA for this summer. If successful then a five-year permit will be issued. There will still be USFS presence

but ESIA would be in charge of the Visitor Center operations. There will be public informational meetings scheduled for February 19 (Bishop) and 20 (Lee Vining) and March 5 (Lee Vining) and 7 (Mammoth Lakes).

9. **Mono Craters Restoration Project (April Barron, Sarah Tomsy, USFS).** Explained not closing any additional roads but some areas need active restoration work. The Inyo is seeking comment and input on this project. Comments due by March 8<sup>th</sup>. This will not be the last opportunity to resolve Travel management issues. The Inyo is trying to take public input into consideration as they continue to implement the Travel Management Plan that was approved in 2009.
10. **Lee Vining Community Center subcommittee update (Bellomo, Cutting, Mandelbaum).** Ilene gave the latest update on the status of the Community Center landscaping. Multiple requests for meetings and additional information from the county has yielded nothing. The committee has now submitted a letter to the Supervisors to solicit help in resolving the issues.
11. **Lee Vining and Mono City Special Fire Districts discussion (Lizza).** The two districts are exploring merging into one fire district. Each district has issues that could be alleviated through a merger making the one fire district a stronger unit. This is just at the conceptual stage and the leadership members on both districts are just beginning to discuss and explore options. Updates to the RPAC will be provided as information is collected.
12. **Review and approve 2013 RPAC Work Plan (Mono County staff).** Heather walked us through the 2013 work plan and explained changes that had been made. Motion to approve the draft 2013 Mono Basin RPAC Work Plan (moving the undergrounding of electrical wires under item #2) was made by Chris Lizza; second by Steve Connett. Unanimously approved.
13. **Information items: (Planning)**
  - a. Report of development activities in the Mono Basin – The NPS will be holding a Tuolumne Planning meeting in Mammoth on February 23 at 9 am to discuss the Tuolumne River Plan and get public input.
  - b. Other – The Mono Yosemite Trails meeting has been changed to March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 at the Lee Vining Community Center.
14. **Schedule next meeting:** Wednesday, March 13, 2013.
15. **Adjourn:** 8:15 pm.