



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

Special Meeting

MEETING LOCATION
Mammoth Lakes BOS
Meeting Room, 3rd Fl.
Sierra Center Mall,
Suite 307, 452 Old
Mammoth Rd.,
Mammoth Lakes, CA
93546

March 2, 2015

9:00 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Fesko.

*Supervisors Present: Alpers, Corless, Fesko, Johnston and Stump.
Supervisors Absent: None.*

*Break: 10:36 a.m.
Reconvene: 10:48 a.m.
Adjourn: 11:58 a.m.*

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Fesko.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Kevin Smith (President, Paramedic Association):

- Here to ask for additional reserves.
- Chairman Fesko mentioned that Kevin will have chance to speak as part of the special agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

0a) Mid-Year Budget Review (Jim Leddy) - Mid-year budget review. To view all of the mid-year budget documentation (too large to attach to the agenda), please visit link below (a copy is available for review in the clerk's office):

http://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/auditor_-_controller/page/3777/2014-15_mid-year_budget_web.pdf

Action: Approve line-item budget changes as amended in the attached worksheet (4/5ths vote required); and form Blue Ribbon Committee in regards to EMS Program as suggested.

Alpers moved; Corless seconded

Vote: 4 yes; 1 no: Johnston

Action: Adopt the updated County Allocation List.

Johnston moved; Alpers seconded

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no

The following discussion is meant to be a summary of the meeting discussion; the clerk's office has audio from this meeting available if anyone wishes to listen to the meeting in full detail.

Jim Leddy:

- Went over where we are with the budget and how today's agenda will proceed.
- Overall budget compared to last year is stronger.
- Mentioned the February 6th fire and how it has impacted budget.

POWERPOINT

- FY 2014-15
- Full time equivalents
- Midyear Tracking FY 2014-15 (Revenues and Expenses)
- Budget to Budget FY 2014-15
- Reserves Status – at policy minimum (reserves are for emergencies)
- Contingency Requests – most likely the focus of today's conversation (might be something semi-unexpected to address)
- Preparing for 2015-16 (July 1st)
- Adoption of Requested Actions

Chairman Fesko:

- Would like to hear from Public Works and EMS first on their contingency requests.

Garrett Higerd (Public Works Corrective Plan):

- He went down his list of shortfalls in Public Works budget.
- There are areas that cost cutting could occur instead of the board approving \$90,185.92. (Grader/plow blades, Contract Striping, Reclamation Plans, Environmental Plans, Premix and Mono City Emergency Access Road – Supplies = corrective road action plan).

Leslie Chapman:

- Gave some additional explanation about the road budget and the requested contingency requests/or corrective action plan.
- Public Works is asking for a little over \$90,000 instead of over \$200,000.
- The Board can either use the savings to cover this year's budget or next year's budget.

Lynda Salcido (Public Health):

- Introduced the EMS Corrective Action Plan – a lot of work has gone into this.

Rob De Forrest (EMS Corrective Action Plan):

- Gave introduction/overview to the EMS Corrective Plan.
- He remains astounded at the lack of understanding by the Board about the EMS program.
- The Board needs to decide on a general fund contribution they can live with so that the EMS Program can continue doing their jobs.
- Strongly stands behind the creation of a Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee.

Supervisor Stump:

- The flier distributed referred to general fund contribution and expenditures.
- Went over his suggestions/implementations to the EMS program from previous years.
- Offended that the flier didn't mention all the savings realized previously; no one has given more support to the EMS program than he has.

- He finds it offensive that his implementations from previous years weren't mentioned. This has become a stumbling block for him in this conversation.
- Brought up how Tri-Valley receives no services from EMS program.
- He has a dollar figure he's willing to contribute; he wants to protect the services, but he doesn't think getting the public all wound up with misinformation is appropriate.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kevin Smith (President, Paramedic Association):

- Feels that the Paramedic Program is headed in the right direction with increasing revenues and decreasing costs.
- Spoke of additional savings – in addition to the A-87 and Prop 172 savings mentioned by Supervisor Stump.
- Brown-outs will only create a reduced level of service; it's not likely to help the budget in the short run.
- Believes that reserve funding is the solution.

Mike Curti (Fire Chief, Antelope Valley):

- He's more concerned with five-year plan, not so much the midyear budget plan/discussion.
- Biggest problem he sees is that this board (as well as boards from past years) are not promoting tax base/home building in County.
- Discussion of how brown-outs would affect fire district if the fire district ended up having to run calls.

Judi Curti:

- She's here on her day off; on her own time. Feels we need our Medic program active.
- What does Mammoth pay for all the medic service being provided to them? Doesn't understand why they aren't paying?
- We need to start growing so that we actually have services left in North County.
- Supervisor Stump: mentioned that Mammoth generates 69% revenues. Discussion of ERAF funds.

John Alameda:

- He's a medic, but here speaking on his own behalf.
- The thought of brown-outs have hit him hard. He'd rather take a hit than have his partners/co-workers be laid off.
- He'd rather ditch MOU, address wages and benefits figures directly; deal in good faith on both sides, come away with solid program while maintaining program.

Rose Murray:

- Speaking as a realtor and a resident.
- Discussed the signed petitions in favor of not losing any paramedic services.

Local teacher (no name):

- It's extremely frightening to think of having a community with so many kids and elderly people having no medics.

Brian Bullock (Paramedic Captain):

- Trying to figure out what they can do; they haven't had time to show everything they have done on paper.
- Need time to cover concessions; they have ideas, trying to get there.
- Feels they can make it by next year.

Jim DeGraffenreid (medic):

- Went over expenses that have been saved.
- They are just trying to bridge the gap of the next four months.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

Supervisor Corless:

- Thanked everyone that spoke thus far.

- We need to focus on moving forward; she has no interest over quibbling over which areas need the most medic services.
- She's not interested in gutting this program. Interested in forming an ad-hoc committee moving forward; needs to be fully formed and organized.
- Interested in learning more about how the program works; it's very complex.
- Interested in funding the contingency request – open as to what level this should occur at.
- She's heard from constituents about how important EMS is.
- She's also interested in keeping government transparency item (Granicus). Feels there is a disconnect between employees/residents and the board. Feels that Granicus is also extremely important.

Supervisor Alpers:

- This is very complicated; thanked Rob for addressing the Board.
- Would be surprised if Rob hadn't been nervous; shows he cares.
- Our job is to provide services. If we don't get this right, we're going to continue down this path. This needs to be a team effort.
- Was also upset about incomplete EMS memo that went out.
- He has a hunch that this can be figured out and that it can be solved in-house.
- He's most concerned about what we do long term

Supervisor Johnston:

- EMS services have been on the radar for as long as he's been on the board.
- There have been a number of positive changes in the program.
- In his opinion, the problem comes down to a situation where the negotiation portion by the medics wasn't achieved. Therefore, triggers are now eminent.
- All organizations in county have taken cuts in pay, EMS has not. Appreciates Alameda's suggestion – possibly taking a cut in pay.
- Suggested maybe moving forward with some contingency to get through next four months.
- Town of Mammoth Lakes basically supports the EMS program.
- Time we all got on same page; everyone needs to step up. He's tired of waiting for something to improve.

Supervisor Stump:

- When he goes to community meetings, his constituents don't want services cut, but also don't want to pay for services they don't receive.

Supervisor Fesko:

- Thanked everyone for coming to meeting.
- He's been an advocate/critic of entire EMS program for a long time.
- Regarding flier that went out – while not technically inaccurate, feels the verbiage of it was intentionally misleading; does no good to stir the pot.
- Health and Safety, above everything else, has to be number one.
- This program is currently not working and the numbers show it; the triggers are happening.
- Does not support cutting the program at all – not so much because of medics, but because of his priority to health and safety.

Sheriff Braun:

- Medic 7 in Bridgeport is the lifeline for the jail; it's the only 24-hour medical treatment for inmates in custody.
- The jail must have a constant presence; something for Board to consider.

General Information:

- Each Supervisor gave their ideas on how contingencies should be funded.
- Leslie Chapman added these amounts to spreadsheet which will be made part of the permanent record both in the minutes and online.
- An audio copy of this meeting is available in the clerk's office.

**INFORMATION CONTAINED IN FINAL CONTINGENCY WORKSHEET
(recommended amounts followed by board approved amounts in bold):**

Unanticipated Necessities

County Counsel (Legal Contingencies): \$72,000 **\$72,000**

Operating Transfers (Child Support 12/13 mandated repayment): \$81,782 **\$81,782**

BOS/Clerk-Recorder (Assessment appeals deposit refunds): \$5,800 **\$5,800**

Carryover from Original Budget

General Contributions to Non-Profits (Contributions to community non-profit organizations): \$40,000 **\$0**

Information Services (Government Transparency Suite Software): \$8,000 **\$8,000**

Community Development (Temporary Intern): \$11,238 **\$0**

Budget Shortfalls

Road Department (Net Loss SRS funding): \$90,186 **\$90,186**

Emergency Medical Services (Budgeted for Concessions – No immediate savings):
\$110,374 **\$225,374**

New Requests

Fish Enhancement – Fish Commission Report (Supplement reduction in NFWF stocking): \$25,000 **\$0**

Round Fire unreimbursed expenses (Round Fire Unreimbursed Expenses): \$50,000
\$0 (all to reserves)

Final Comments:

Supervisor Stump:

- What triggers a fiscal emergency?
- Marshall: spoke about Government Code; it covers fire and the other categories are narrow.

Supervisor Fesko:

- Mostly concerned with leaving NO contingency fund for the next four months.
- Believes EMS folks are intelligent and that they are reading the writing on the wall here. He cannot support the current EMS program in the future if in 6 months, or 1 year, or 3 years, we are doing this all over again!

Supervisor Johnston:

- Board is sending the message that's it is ok to over-expend your budget; if that happens, the Board will just take it from contingency. And there will be \$0 contingency left.
- Yet, at the same time, the board is choosing to not fund children's and community programs.

Supervisor Alpers:

- Constituents will need to be involved in the Blue Ribbon Committee for EMS.

ADJOURNMENT 11:58 a.m.

ATTEST

TIMOTHY E. FESKO
CHAIRMAN

SHANNON KENDALL
ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE BOARD

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