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## Media Advisory

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Mono County Budget Town Hall Workshops Start May 5th

Six meetings will be held throughout the County to strengthen public participation

**Mono County, Calif. - April 15, 2014 -** The Mono County Board of Supervisors adopted the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 budget calendar. The Budget Town Hall meetings for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 are scheduled to begin May 5<sup>th</sup> and will conclude May 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the second year these meeting are being held to strengthen public participation in the Mono County budget development process. These meetings are in addition to the required public hearing process. They are for the public to learn about budget issues and provide input in shaping County priorities.

Mono County Board of Supervisor Chairman Larry K. Johnson commented, "The Board is committed to providing a variety of opportunities for public feedback in the budget development process. These public meetings create a great opportunity for the public to be involved and get a better understanding of the challenges facing our organization, as well as, provide community priorities into our budget making process."

The meetings will follow the same format in each community and are being held at night to enable greater participation. The format will include:

- 1. Welcome and opening comments from district County Supervisor(s);
- 2. Overview of County budget including process and timeline;
- 3. Discussion of economic factors that will affect the 2014-2015 overall budget;
- 4. Open discussion forum to provide feedback, ask questions and make budget suggestions for Board consideration;
- 5. Wrap up and discussion of next steps.

Prior to the town hall meetings, county budget information will be posted at: www.monocounty.ca.gov

## **Mono County Budget Process Timeline**

May 5th - 27th - All of the Budget Town Hall meetings will occur from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

- Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>
   Mammoth Lakes
   3rd Floor of the Sierra Center Mall
   452 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 307
   Mammoth Lakes
- Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>
   Lee Vining Community Center
   296 Mattly Avenue,
   Lee Vining
- Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>
   Antelope Valley Community Center
   442 Mule Deer Road,
   Walker
- Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>
   Bridgeport Memorial Hall
   73 North School Street,
   Bridgeport
- Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>
   Crowley Lake Community Center
   58 Pearson Road,
   Crowley Lake
- Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>
   Benton Community Center
   58869 Highway 120,
   Benton

June 16th, 17th, and 19th - Board of Supervisors public budget hearings.

June 19th - Mono County Board of Supervisors Meeting - Adoption of the 2014-2015 County Budget

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Mono County offers a rural setting with the most spectacular landscapes in the state. Situated between the crest of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the California/Nevada border, Mono County has a land area of 3,090 square miles, or just over 2 million acres, 94% of which is publicly owned. Much of this land is contained in the Inyo and Toiyabe National Forests. As a result, Mono County is home to vast scenic and recreational resources, and has unsurpassed access to wilderness and adventure.

The county is home to, and named after Mono Lake, which is a large high-desert saline lake. Also located in the county is the historic gold rush town of Bodie, which during its heyday in the late 1800's was home to as many as 7,000 people, and is today maintained as a State Historic Park for the public to come and enjoy. The county seat is proudly located in Bridgeport. Scenic Highway 395 weaves its way north-south through the heart of the county, effectively dividing the steep mountains to the west from the vast desert valley to the east. As it provides access to Yosemite National Park via Lee Vining, it passes beneath towering peaks, and past broad desert expanses.