

Mono Basin RPAC

4/12/23

2. Table this item

3. No public comment

4. 2/8/2023 Minutes: Lisa moved to approve the minutes, Elin seconded—passed unanimously

5. Unmet Transit Needs, Phil Morris, ESTA

Checking in on unmet transit needs. Let him or Wendy know if anything comes up.

6. SCE Update, Matt Paraolo

Shared a thank you note from Mono City, the first he received on the job. The most challenging thing about the outages [in the winter] was poor communication from SCE which hampered the ability to communicate. There as an IT bug that caused the miscommunication. Expressed gratitude for Chris, the County, Cal Trans, Sheriffs, EMS, and the resiliency of customers. Got lots of questions about backup generators and batteries. Customers are eligible for rebates on generators. The Fire Station [in Mono City] was a resource, the Tesla battery was useful, and they conducted wellness checks. Encourages taking advantage of programs.

2. AB 361: Motion by Jake, Lisa seconded—passed unanimously

7. County Emergency Operations Updates

a. Emergency Management, Chris Mokracek: appreciates help from the community, requested Federal disaster assistance, inspectors are coming. CAL OES and FEMA are coming next week. Will post and share about what assistance will be available. There were food and water drops, loaders and extra equipment because of the State Declaration of Emergency. Now pushing for individual aid. Pivoting to runoff planning all across County. Requested 20 thousand sandbags from OES which was granted. Met with Douglass and Lyon County who are planning for downstream impacts 60-90-day flood event in Western Nevada.

Wendy Grasseschi, Fire wise Communities will support wildland mitigation with grants for brush removal and biomass site to put cleared timber and brush.

b. Public Works, Paul Roten: roads facilities were cut off for much of the season. Eric Eilts helped out though, hoping to get him training and better equipment. Lee Vining got lucky because all guys were stuck in Lee Vining and helped. Challenges were over the top and will plan with Chris for the future. It is a huge benefit that summer melt is not causing a huge runoff. The team is working relentlessly to help.

Cal Trans: a rep will come in May.

8. Standing Reports and Updates

a. Inyo National Forest Updates: Inyo and Mono Forest – facilities damage, there were a couple roof collapses. Hope to open Lee Vining Ranger Station next week. Analysis of closures—Aspen and Deadman campgrounds may be pre-emptively closed in June Lake campgrounds will be closed to mid-May. It will be a late-opener season for the forest. Road closures due to damage are expected. Looks like will be able to fully staff the visitor center in Lee Vining and be open seven days a week. Wild horses are at South Tufa; it will be an issue for a while. Working on short- and long-term solutions. The short term is not quick, a joint BLM environmental analysis likely will take most of the year. The long-term plan is to understand what need for the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Management Plan which will take several years. NEPA needs to be initiated which will be late this year or next year. The Visitor Center is estimated to open the 3rd week of May.

b. Supervisor Gardner: is organizing a volunteer crew for sandbagging help in June Lake. County Housing Workshop: needs to get going on some things, looked at vacant properties. Needs 10-20 units on the property next to the Community Center in Lee Vining. Budget season is soon. The County is in a unique situation with Federal funds and is in a good place to look at equipment needs—plows, rotor, and other snow removal equipment. There is a ½ million for project home key with Mammoth Lakes Housing, intends to support. Behavioral Health is providing some funds for the Parcel with State funds run through the County.

c. Chairperson, Elin: So many people to thank, could name everyone in Mono City, all helped in some way—Fire Departments, Paul McFarland in Lee Vining. 2/15 a State Water Board meeting about Mono Lake—hundreds of participants 48 of 50 spoke in support of raising Mono Lake. 1,600 comment letters, most in support. The Mono Lake Committee asked to hold an official meeting about the amount of Department of Water and Power diversions, need 12 cubic feet to raise lake. Most runoff will stay here—expected 4 feet lake rise this year.

d. Members, Jake: been through the thick of it all and is out the other end. Mono County Libraries is holding Earth Day events, cool events happening. Mountain lion killed neighbor's dog, Sheriff shot it, but wonders what happened—never got a report.

Lisa: all the thank yous! All came together! Group Me helped us become better neighbors.

Molly: Health & Safety Fair and Kindergarten Round Up Monday 1-1:30 and 1:30-2:00.

e. Fire Safe Council, Elin: Last meeting cancelled, Tuesday May 9th 7pm on Zoom. Let Elin know if interested.

g. Bear Committee, Margaret Eisler: bears out and about now that it is spring. Cabin break ins at Twin Lakes, footprints in campgrounds. Be bear-aware. Bear on compound breaking in nightly, report to California Fish and Wildlife.

9. Upcoming agenda items: Cal Trans about rehab, support for elderly proper owners

10. Next meeting: May 10th in-person at 6:30