

**Mono Basin RPAC
Regional Planning Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 6:30 pm, Lee Vining Community Center**

Members present: Duncan King, Bartshe Miller, Paul McFarland, Chris Lizza, Zane Davis, Ilene Mandelbaum, and Lisa Cutting.

Public Attendees and Presenters: Scott Burns, Tim Alpers, Bob Gardner, Jake Suppa, Tony Dublino, Tim Hansen, Dave Marquart, Gary Walecke, Lynn Boulton, Maya Kasberg and Steve Hamlin.

1. **Call to Order:** 6:37 pm.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Review Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2015 were approved. Chris Lizza proposed, Lisa Cutting seconded. The vote was unanimous with Bartshe Miller abstaining.
4. **Supervisor's Report:** Tim Alpers reported that the county will assist the National Park Service in opening 120 E, Tioga Pass, but no date is yet known for this. YARTS is extending service into north Mono County as far as Walker and Coleville.
5. **Chairman's Report:** Paul reported that a more formal group is looking into the issue of high speed connectivity in the Mono Basin – Ilene and Duncan volunteered to assist. The Lee Vining cleanup day is 4/23, starting at 8am. Hazardous waste collection will be open from 7am-noon
6. **Member's reports:**
 - a. Chris Lizza: Caltrans is almost to the park gate on 120E – the Park Service is due to start clearing on 4/18. The Planning Committee workshop on TROD is looking at the use of use permits for one bedroom transient rentals.
 - b. Bartshe Miller: Bartshe had been asked by a resident to inquire why the dumpsters are locked by the county park
 - c. Ilene Mandelbaum: Would like to know when the lower gate is to be opened on 120E – skiers like the access and fishing opener is coming up soon. Also can we have a regular update by the county on the progress on faster internet access in Lee Vining?
 - d. Duncan King: Nothing to report.
 - e. Margy Verba: Absent.
 - f. Lisa Cutting: The Mono Lake Committee is waiting on runoff forecasts for the basin – it is possible that DWP may not be allowed any water exports this year.
 - g. Zane Davis: Nothing to report.
7. **Conway Ranch Strategic Facilities Plan:** Tony Dublino circulated the draft April 2016 plan – 2 workshops have been held, in Lee Vining and Bridgeport, and he drew attention to Appendix D, the list of projects as prioritized at the meetings. He specifically asked the RPAC how it wanted to be involved in the process leading up to the reports submission to the BOS in mid-May. The consensus was that more time was needed to review the document and that individual members should contact Tony directly. Issues raised during the meeting included adding a list of previously published documents relating to the Conway easement and how the draft goals relate to those documents, adding resource inventories, explore the weed control issues with the ESLT and other management groups, prioritize safety and maintenance issues, add a reference to the comments list that Jake Suppa is adding to the website, what is the process for review or amendment in the future (possibly a 5 yearly review?), what is the place of this document in the context of all the previous documents and meetings, isn't the best weed control sheep grazing, how does the State of California's habitat connectivity mandates fit into all this – shouldn't we be consistent with State plans, what about

historic buildings, ditches, drought and other Mono Basin water needs, and we need to do our part to help wildlife. County spending priorities are not an issue as the use of the General Fund is not allowed for Conway Ranch.

8. **Sustainable Agriculture Planning:** Jake Suppa presented his sustainable agricultural land strategy planning process during which he will inventory agriculture lands, evaluate which are the most productive and critically threatened, develop appropriate strategies, programs and actions to ensure their long term protection and also reduce greenhouse gas emissions supported by AB32 in the CA Climate Solutions Act of 2006 by carbon sequestration. This is supported by a grant of up to \$100k and ESLT sub-contracts and the inventory will lead to County Agricultural policies.
9. **Mono Lake Park Restrooms:** Scott Burns reported that a crew is currently at work on maintenance washing, priming and painting and upgrades including re-siding, roofing, decking, and plumbing within a budget of \$7,500.
10. **Bylaw revision:** Ilene Mandelbaum proposed and Bartshe Miller seconded that a clean version of the Bylaws with the current officers names appended should be adopted. Passed unanimously.
11. **Lee Vining Public Utility District (PUD) Emergency Water Supply:** Paul McFarland gave the recent history of the current Lee Vining water supply, only one spring with a 0.5 cfs water right. After four years of drought the tanks were dropping last summer. California requires any public water supply system to have two secure sources, and since April 2015 the PUD has been looking at options to meet regulatory requirements that meet the following criteria – a source that is on already disturbed land, has a convenient power source, and is close to existing water lines. The best solution identified is upslope of, and behind the Forest Service station on 120E. It is below the DWP intake, on Forest Service land and an application has been submitted to drill a test well for a groundwater characterization study. The PUD is trying to generate community support for this and the RPAC agreed that the Vice-Chair would send a letter of support from the RPAC to the Forest Service.
12. **Information items and provide direction to staff (Planning):** Scott Burns reported he had lost two staff recently, a building official to Mammoth Lakes and Brent Calloway to the Agricultural Commission. The Alternative Fuel Stations paper from the RPAC has been discussed at the Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce. The mountain pass opening process has been discussed at the BOS meeting. The Tioga Inn project will require water quantity testing.
13. **Upcoming agenda items:** Caltrans bike and pedestrian planning; quarterly INF report; Alternative fuels charging station; Rockfall project; Conway Ranch; Mono Basin WiFi provision.
14. **Adjourn: 8:37 Next meeting Wednesday, May 11, 2016**