



EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MINUTES

Friday – August 11, 2017

Bishop City Council Chambers – 8:30 a.m.

301 West Line Street

Bishop, California

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Board Members

City of Bishop Councilmember Joe Peci

City of Bishop Councilmember Karen Schwartz – Chair

Inyo County Supervisor Jeff Griffiths

Inyo County Supervisor Mark Tillemans

Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless

Mono County Supervisor Larry Johnston

Mono-County Supervisor Bob Gardner – Alternate Board Member

Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Shields Richardson

Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember John Wentworth – Vice Chair

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schwartz called the meeting of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments to order at 8:34 a.m. in the Bishop City Council Chambers.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Schwartz.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Member Peci, Alternate Board Member Gardner, Board Member Richardson, and Chair Schwartz

Alternate Mono County Board Member Bob Gardner was present in Board Member Johnston's absence.

Board Member Corless joined the meeting at 8:37 a.m.

Absent: Board Members Griffiths, Tillemans, Johnston, and Vice Chair Wentworth

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda. When recognized by the Chair, please state your name and address for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Under California law the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board may briefly respond to comments or questions from members of the public. Therefore, the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Board will listen to all public comment but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

No public comments were made.

5. PRESENTATION - AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN BISHOP – Presented by City of Bishop City Administrator Jim Tatum.

City of Bishop City Administrator Jim Tatum reviewed this item with the ESCOG Board. After Mr. Tatum answered all of the Board member's questions, the Board briefly discussed the current work being done to address affordable housing in Mammoth Lakes. The Town of Mammoth Lakes is working on a housing plan which the Board would like to see added to a future meeting agenda for discussion. Board Member Richardson also mentioned that Cerro Coso College and Mammoth Hospital are also working on a housing development in Mammoth.

No public comments were made.

6. APPROVE ESCOG MINUTES FOR JUNE 16, 2017 (Action) - Board consideration to approve the ESCOG June 16, 2017 Minutes.

Chair Schwartz asked that this item be pulled at this time and be brought to the next scheduled meeting in order to have a quorum of Board Members that were present at that meeting to approve the June 16, 2017 minutes.

7. INYO-MONO BROADBAND CONSORTIUM ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE (Discussion) – Presented by Mono County & Town of Mammoth Lakes Information Technology Director/GIS Coordinator Nate Greenberg and Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Council Chair Ron Day.

Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium (IMBC) Advisory Council Chair Ron Day and Information Technology Director/GIS Coordinator Nate Greenberg presented the Board with an update on the work progress being made by the IMBC Advisory Council. Mr. Day and Mr. Greenberg spoke to the development of IMBC Advisory Council's by-laws, as well as the IMBC's website, interactive service level map, and regional brand. Mr. Greenberg also brought up the fact that since IMBC Advisory Council is in its infancy, and are making decisions on how to proceed with the items they have been tasked to do, it is appropriate to ask the ESCOG Board as to how they would like for the Advisory Council to proceed on moving forward with items that are under their current scope of work. After a brief discussion, the Board came to a consensus that the Advisory Council should give an update to the ESCOG Board at their regularly scheduled

meetings in order to address any concerns the ESCOG Board may have on the direction that the Advisory Council is taking action on to complete their scope of work that the ESCOG Board has charged them with. After answering all of the Board's questions, the Board thanked Mr. Day, Mr. Greenberg, and the other volunteer Advisory Council Members for attending.

No public comments were made.

8. REVIEW OF REGIONAL MARIJUANA POLICIES (Discussion) – Continue discussions from each member agency on status and planning for regulation of marijuana cultivation and sales.

Town of Mammoth Lakes Assistant Planner Nolan Bobroff presented the Board with a review of the Town of Mammoth Lakes workshop on proposed cannabis regulations held on August 9, 2017. The workshop allowed their Planning Commission and the public to provide early input on the proposed Town of Mammoth Lakes cannabis regulations. The proposed regulations included: 1. Limits on the number of cannabis retailers, cultivators, and manufacturers; 2. Limitations on the zones that cannabis commercial uses are permitted; 3. Buffers from schools, day care centers, and youth centers; 4. Implementation of related taxes and an annual cannabis permit renewal fee; 5. Prohibition of outdoor cannabis grows; 6. Regulations pertaining to personal cannabis use; and 7. Application and operational standards. Further discussions will be held at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Planning Commission meeting in September.

County of Mono Assistant County Administrative Officer Tony Dublino spoke to cannabis regulations in Mono County. Mono County Planning Commission will be discussing this topic at their next meeting scheduled for August 17, 2017 and a workshop is scheduled with the Mono County Board of Supervisors on September 19, 2017. It is understood that the County does not have the opportunity to impose a tax until November 2018. However, they would like to have their ordinance addressing cannabis regulation in place by November 2017 in order to have it effective by January 1, 2018. If Mono County fails to have an ordinance in place, they will continue with the moratorium that is in place currently.

Chair Schwartz announced that the City of Bishop just adopted their ordinance (on July 24, 2017) entitled, "Medical Marijuana Dispensaries" and adding Title 17, Chapter 79 entitled, "Marijuana Cultivation and Marijuana-Related Businesses" which banned marijuana cultivation and businesses. The City does allow deliveries within the city limits with a license to do so and a limit on the number of medical marijuana plants allowed to be grown for personal use with restrictions.

County of Inyo County Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio provided the Board with a written statement on the status of Inyo County's marijuana policies. The written communication stated that, "Based on input garnered during 13 community outreach meetings earlier this year, discussion at Board of Supervisor meetings, and guidance from the County's consultant, HdL, the working group (comprised of the Planning Director, Inyo-Mono Ag Commissioner, Public Works Director, County Counsel, Assistant County Counsel, and the County Administrative Officer) is nearing completion of a draft land use ordinance. The

working group is scheduled to meet the week of August 28, 2017 to finalize its internal working draft.” In summary, once the resulting comments have been considered and incorporated, the draft ordinance(s) will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for further discussion and input, along with a schedule for additional community presentations and stakeholder engagement, before initiating the codification process later this fall.

After further discussion, the Board came to a consensus to create a shared matrix that outlines cannabis regulations set by each ESCOG member agency. The Board agreed that this would be a great tool for each member agency to view and help monitor and evaluate cannabis regulations in their region.

No public comments were made.

9. SHORT-TERM RENTAL ROBOTS (Discussion) – All Jurisdictions.

The Board discussed short-term rentals and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) in their region. The City of Bishop shared their proposed ordinance addressing short-term rental of residential property that will be under consideration to adopt at their August 14, 2017 City Council meeting. After sharing what each member agency is experiencing in each of their short-term rental markets, the Board came to a consensus to create another shared matrix that outlines short-term rental regulations and TOT rates set by each ESCOG member agency. The Board agreed that this tool would be very useful for each member agency to continue to develop and evaluate short-term rental regulations and TOT rates in their region.

The Board also discussed the use of “robots” (software) to address the regulation of short-term rentals that are operating illegally and if use of such software would be useful or not in each of their respective agencies.

No public comments were made.

10. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT (OR AERIAL) VEHICLE (UAV)/DRONE POLICIES IN REGION (Discussion) - Inyo County.

Chair Schwartz asked that this item be pulled at this time and be brought to the next scheduled meeting since there was no Inyo County representative present to lead this discussion.

11. REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CONVERSATIONS UPDATE (Discussion) – Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Board Member Corless reported that an initial meeting facilitated by City of Berkley Economic Development Office representative Liz Redmond-Cleveland to discuss regional economic development was held in early July 2017. This meeting included a representative from each member agency’s Board/Council and staff members. The meeting resulted in a matrix outlining several economic development topics. After further discussion, the Board came to a consensus to continue these meetings on an ad-hoc basis with the same participants in order to develop a list of regional economic development priorities and to carefully

appoint staff resources to address these priorities in an efficient, non-redundant, manner going forward. No public comments were made.

12. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

City of Bishop Interim City Clerk Robin Picken reviewed the list of upcoming agenda items for the Board's review:

- A presentation on affordable housing from the Town of Mammoth Lakes
- Approve the ESCOG Board Minutes from June 16, 2017
- Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Council Update
- Unmanned aircraft (or aerial) vehicle (UAV)/drone policies in region
- Regional economic development with matrix
- Board Member Reports
- Economic development priority list
- Airport update
- Regional marijuana/cannabis policies with matrix (and invite local tribe members to join future meetings on this topic)
- Short-term rental regulations with matrix
- Policy on attendance at future meetings
- Place approved matrices on the ESCOG website
- Discuss smoke from local fires in the Area and its effects to the region

It was agreed that Chair Schwartz and Board Member Corless will attend future IMBC Advisory Council meetings. Staff will notify Inyo County representatives that one of them is also invited to attend future IMBC Advisory Council meetings.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Friday, October 20, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Regular Meeting in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers located at 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes, California.

Chair Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m. to the ESCOG meeting scheduled for Friday, October 20, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers.

