



EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MINUTES

Friday – October 20, 2017
Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers – 8:30 a.m.
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z
Mammoth Lakes, California

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Board Members

City of Bishop Councilmember Joe Peksi

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 8:45 a.m. in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Griffiths.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Members Peksi, Griffiths, Tillemans, Corless, Alternate Board Member Gardner, Vice Chair Wentworth, and Chair Schwartz

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

Absent: Board Members Johnston, Richardson

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. INYO-MONO BROADBAND CONSORTIUM (IMBC) ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATES – IMBC Advisory Council Chair Ron Day and IMBC Advisory Council Member Christie Osborne.

IMBC Advisory Council Chair Ron Day and IMBC Advisory Council Member Christie Osborne made presentations updating the Board on IMBC Website Development and Regional Branding Program. No public comments were made.

6. ESCOG Joint Powers Authority – All Jurisdictions.

Vice Chair Wentworth and Alternate Board Member Gardner reviewed this item with the Board. After a discussion of ESCOG's authority and identification of future needs, the Board came to a consensus to appoint Chair Schwartz, Vice Chair Wentworth, Alternate Board Member Gardner and Board Member Griffiths to further research the formation of an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Joint Powers Authority. Vice-Chair Wentworth agreed to take the lead of this sub-committee.

Public comments were made by:

County of Mono County Administrative Officer Leslie Chapman spoke to her concerns on 1. Lack of resources that the County of Mono has available to assist the ESCOG currently and if it becomes a Joint Powers Authority; 2. Taking action from two Mono County Board of Supervisors without approval from the entire Mono County Board of Supervisors; and 3. Administration of ESCOG Joint Powers Authority. Town of Mammoth Lakes Town Manager expressed similar concerns. No further public comments were made.

7. RELIABLE REGIONAL AIR SERVICE – Town of Mammoth Lakes and County of Inyo.

Vice Chair Wentworth and Board Member Tillemans reviewed this item with the Board. No public comments were made.

After a discussion on the Mammoth/Inyo Air Working Group (MIAWG) Sub-Committee and the need for a revision of the Air Service Sub-Committee membership, Alternate Board Member Gardner made a motion to appoint Vice Chair Wentworth and Board Members Pecs, Griffiths, and Alternate Board Member

Gardner to the Mammoth/Inyo Air Working Group Sub-Committee. Vice Chair Wentworth seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ayes: Board Members Pecs, Griffiths, Tillemans, Corless, Alternate Board Member Gardner, Vice Chair Wentworth, Chair Schwartz

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Board Members Johnston, Richardson

8. CANNABIS REGULATIONS (Discussion) – Continue discussions on regional cannabis regulations – All Jurisdictions.

Board Member Tillemans recused himself from discussion on this item due to a potential conflict of interest and left the room at 10:24 a.m.

The Board continued discussions on regional cannabis regulations. No action was taken. No public comments were made.

At the conclusion of this topic's discussions, Board Member Tillemans returned to the room at approximately 10:35 a.m.

9. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Discussion) – Review of Economic Development spending across the region – County of Mono.

The Board continued discussions on regional economic development. Alternate Board Member Gardner handed out a document he created called, "Analysis of Eastern Sierra Economic Development Related Spending" which is based on the available data found on-line in each of their respective agency's (Bishop, Mammoth Lakes Tourism, Mono County, and Inyo County) budgets and financial statements. After further discussion, it was suggested that this preliminary data be shared with each agency's administrator for further input and to bring this item back to their next scheduled meeting for further discussion and evaluation. No action was taken. No public comments were made.

10. HOUSING (Discussion) – Continue discussions on the progress of housing across the region – All Jurisdictions.

The Board continued discussions on the progress of housing across the region to accommodate all levels of income and needs. No action was taken. No public comments were made.

11. RECREATION – All Jurisdictions.

Vice Chair Wentworth reported to the Board on his recent meetings with the U.S. Forest Service, increased focus on recreation, and an update on positions to be shared and benefited by both the County of Mono and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. No action was taken. No public comments were made.

12. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The Board asked that the following items be brought to their next meeting.

- Review of priorities for 2018
- Appoint Chair and Vice Chair for 2018
- Continue economic development discussion after meeting with agency administrators
- Continue discussions on housing and to review the Town of Mammoth Lakes Housing Action Plan, to hear from the Sierra Business Council on their “Sierra Camp,” review Mono County’s Housing Needs Assessment, and to create a housing summary report for all jurisdictions.
- Continue discussions on recreation

13. ADJOURNMENT – Friday, December 8, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Regular Meeting in the Bishop City Council Chambers located at 301 West Line Street, Bishop, California.

Chair Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m. to the ESCOG meeting scheduled for Friday, December 8, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Bishop City Council Chambers.

Minutes approved at the April 12, 2019 Board Meeting.