

COUNTY OF INYO NATURAL RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2013 MEETING

MEMBERS:

DAVID GERMAN (VICE-CHAIR)
DOUG THOMPSON
RANDI PRITCHARD
DANA JEFFRIES
WALTER SHARER (CHAIR)

Inyo County Planning Department
Post Office Drawer L
Independence, CA 93526
(760) 878-0263
(760) 872-0382 FAX
inyoplanning@inyocounty.us

ALTERNATES:

JAEL HOFFMAN
VACANT

STAFF:

JOSHUA HART, AICP
NOLAN BOBROFF

PLANNING DIRECTOR
PLANNING STAFF

The Inyo County Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) met on Thursday, June 6, 2013, at the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Building, 224 North Edwards, Independence, CA 93526 and at a satellite location at the Department of Fish & Wildlife, 407 W. Line Street, Bishop, CA 93514.

David German, Vice-Chair opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL – Members in attendance: David German, Doug Thompson, Randi Pritchard, Dana Jeffries, Walter Sharer and Alternate Jael Hoffman.

Also present was Josh Hart, Planning Director; Nolan Bobroff, Planning Staff; and Courtney Smith, Transportation Planner.

ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- The pledge of Allegiance was led by Josh Hart.

ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – This was the opportunity for anyone in the audience to address the Committee on any related subject that was not scheduled on the Agenda.

There was no one from the public wishing to comment on any items not on the Agenda.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Approval of Minutes from March 7, 2013.

MOTION: Moved by Jael Hoffman to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Randi Pritchard.

The Motion passed 3-0; Dana Jeffries and Doug Thompson abstained and Walt Sharer had not yet arrived,

ITEM 5: **TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN** – Staff will provide a primer on the Travel Management Plan Sub-Part B. This plan was completed for the Inyo National Forest for lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service. For more information on the Travel Management Plan see: <http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php?project=17479>.

Courtney Smith, Transportation Planner gave a summary of the Travel Management Plan (TMP) and discussed the next steps for the TMP. Mr. Smith informed the Committee that there is an upcoming meeting at the Forest Supervisors Office in Bishop on Thursday, June 14, 2013 at 6 p.m. regarding the TMP.

Randi Pritchard inquired whether there are any staff members qualified to do economic analysis with regards to the impacts that the TMP will have on the County. Josh Hart responded that staff does have limited experience performing economic analysis and that the County does have the ability to utilize consultants to perform this work. Dave German commented that it would be helpful to narrow the information down to specific geographical areas in order to gain a better understanding of the impacts from the TMP. Mr. German also asked how the Committee will be able to provide additional input for the TMP and Mr. Hart responded that he intends to invite Forest Service staff to a future NRAC meeting.

ITEM 6: **INYO NATIONAL FOREST PLAN UPDATE/REVISION** – The County is working with the Inyo National Forest on it update to the Inyo National Forest Plan. Topic Papers were recently released regarding the Plan Update/Revision, and input from the NRAC is being requested for the Board of Supervisors’ consideration. For more information regarding the Forest Plan Update see: <http://inyoplanning.org/InyoNationalForest.htm>

Josh Hart, Planning Director gave a presentation on the Forest Plan Update. Mr. Hart commented that it is likely that the public comment period will be extended until possibly September 1, 2013. If the public comment period is extended then it is likely that this item will be re-visited in the future.

The Committee provided comments which were incorporated into correspondence with the Board of Supervisors. Areas of concern included socioeconomic impacts, information overload, and a need for more public outreach.

Staff provided the NRAC members with a summary of the topic papers that was prepared by the Forest Service.

ITEM 7: **GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING CODE UPDATE** – The Committee will receive a presentation from staff regarding the General Plan and Zoning Code Update. The draft General Plan and Zoning Code is available on the Inyo County Planning Website at: <http://inyoplanning.org/GPandZoningUpdates.htm>

Josh Hart, Planning Director provided a summary of the changes and additions to the General Plan and Zoning Code. Mr. Hart also commented that the County will be proceeding with a Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment and an update of the Housing element in the near future.

The Committee had concerns primarily on how the proposed changes to Code Enforcement would be applied in a fair and consistent manner.

ITEM 8: OTHER UPDATES FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND PLANNING STAFF

Josh Hart provided the following information:

- Possible topics for future meetings includes: (1) water resources presented by the Inyo County Water Director and (2) an update on the Adventure Trails
- The remote location seemed to work ok. Another possible location would be the Superintendent of Schools office in Bishop.

ITEM 9: SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING – The Committee discussed meeting in early August.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Prepared by:

Nolan Bobroff
Staff to
Natural Resource Advisory Committee