EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MINUTES

Friday – February 17, 2017
Mammoth Lakes Council Chambers
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes, California
Teleconference Location:
Bishop Council Chambers, 301 West Line Street, Bishop, California

ESCOG Board Members
City of Bishop Councilmember Joe Pecsi
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
Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember Shields Richardson
Town of Mammoth Lakes Councilmember John Wentworth – Vice Chair

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
   Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Board Members introduced themselves.

   Call to Order:
   Chair Corless called the meeting of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments to order at 8:39 a.m. in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers.

   Roll Call:
   Present: Board Member Johnston, Richardson, Wentworth, Griffiths, Chair Corless; Teleconferencing from Bishop Council Chambers were Board Member Pecsi and Vice Chair Schwartz.

   Board Member Griffiths joined the meeting at 8:41 a.m. in the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers.

   Absent and Excused: – Board Member Tillemans

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Richardson.

At 8:41 a.m. Board Member Griffiths entered the Mammoth Lakes Town Council Chambers to join the meeting already in progress.

2. 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.

   Public comments were made by:
   Pam Bold of the High Sierra Energy Foundation spoke to the Board regarding the High Sierra Energy Initiative and their upcoming programs. She hopes to come back to the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments at their April 21, 2017 for further program updates.

   No further public comments were made.

3. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS FOR 2017
   Chair Corless reviewed this item with the Board.

   No public comments were made.

   Board Member Johnston made a motion to appoint Vice Chair Schwartz as Chair for 2017. Board Member Pecsi seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

   Ayes: Board Members Johnston, Richardson, Wentworth, Griffiths, Pecsi, Vice Chair Schwartz, and Chair Corless
   Noes: None
   Abstain: None
   Absent: Board Member Tillemans

   Newly appointed Chair Schwartz conducted the nomination of Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Vice Chair for 2017.

   No public comments were made.

Board Member Corless made a motion to appoint Board Member Wentworth as Vice Chair for 2017. Board Member Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ayes: Board Members Johnston, Richardson, Wentworth, Griffiths, Pecsi, Corless, and Chair Schwartz
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Board Member Tillemans

4. INYO-MONO BROADBAND CONSORTIUM ORGANIZATION
Bishop City Administrator Jim Tatum reviewed the City of Bishop's role as fiscal agent for California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grant with the Board.

Mono County and Town of Mammoth Lakes Information Technology Director and GIS Coordinator Nate Greenberg reviewed the Year 1 and Quarter 1 Work Plan Items with the Board.

Inyo County Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio reviewed the formation of the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Board with the Board.

No public comments were made.

After a detailed discussion, the Board asked to bring this item back to their next regularly scheduled meeting on April 21, 2017 in order to take action on making appointments to the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium's subcommittee to authorize payments from grant funds and to address other financial matters, to approve a meeting schedule, and to make appointments to the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Committee.

Newly appointed Vice Chair Wentworth made a motion to approve the first quarter work plan as presented, approve a subcommittee to authorize payments from grant funds and to address other financial matters, and to direct the four jurisdictions to proceed with a nominating process for the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium's various councils. Board Member Corless seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ayes: Board Members Corless, Johnston, Richardson, Griffiths, Pecsi, Vice Chair Wentworth, and Chair Schwartz
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Board Member Tillemans

5. REGIONAL AIR SERVICE UPDATE
Town of Mammoth Lakes Town Manager Dan Holler reviewed this item with the Board. He briefly reported on current airport operations, new Jet Suite X charter service, and work tasked to Mammoth Lakes Tourism on gathering further information on air service. Unfortunately, due to extreme weather conditions no meetings have been held to gather any further updates to report at this time. Inyo County Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio also reported that until they are able

to sit down and meet, they will not have any more updates for the Board until further information is gathered. In closing, the Board discussed reliable regional air service and requested that staff provide the Board with a copy of the monthly air service report sent out through Mammoth Lakes Tourism. No public comments were made.

6. ESCOG MANAGEMENT

Board Member Corless reviewed this item with the Board. The Board discussed setting up a central depository for all documents related to the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments going forward. It was agreed that setting up a central depository through a website specific to the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments would be beneficial to the public, Board Members and staff. The City of Bishop agreed to come back with information on a website for the Board's consideration at their next scheduled meeting.

No public comments were made.

Vice Chair Wentworth made a motion to have the City of Bishop bring back at their next regularly scheduled meeting recommendations for the establishment of an appropriate scaled website for the storing and management of the operational documents associated with ESCOG and to have the capacity to do notifications to the public about ESCOG meetings. Board Member Pecsi seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ayes: Board Members Corless, Johnston, Richardson, Griffiths, Pecsi, Vice Chair Wentworth, and Chair Schwartz
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Board Member Tillemans

7. ESCOG SUPPORT FOR THE OUTDOOR REC ACT

Board Member Wentworth reviewed this item with the Board. He explained that even though the act has been passed, a letter of support is to express appreciation and support for this act.

No public comments were made.

A motion was made by Board Member Corless to have a letter of support similar to what the Town of Mammoth Lakes has sent written by Board Member Wentworth on behalf of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments and approve the Chair to sign the letter on their behalf. Board Member Griffiths seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ayes: Board Members Corless, Johnston, Richardson, Griffiths, Pecsi, Vice Chair Wentworth, and Chair Schwartz
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Board Member Tillemans

8. CANNABIS REGULATION DISCUSSION
Chair Schwartz introduced this item to the Board and reviewed the direction that the City of Bishop City Council has taken on this issue. The Board asked that a copy of the draft ordinance that is being proposed to the City of Bishop Planning Commission be sent to them for their information.

Mono County Planning Department Michael Draper, who is currently working on the topic of cannabis for the County of Mono, addressed the Board to answer any questions they may have on this item. He reviewed the process in which the County of Mono has taken on addressing this item.

After further discussion, the Board asked Board Member Griffiths to send a copy of Inyo County's marijuana policy review and process to the rest of the Board for their information. The Board then agreed to bring this item back for a review of all jurisdictions and to discuss its regional effects at their regularly scheduled meeting in August (August 11, 2017).

No public comments were made.

9. APPROVE DECEMBER 16, 2016 MEETING MINUTES
Chair Schwartz introduced this item to the Board.

No public comments were made.

A motion was made by Board Member Griffiths to approve the minutes as presented. Vice Chair Wentworth seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Ayes: Board Members Richardson, Griffiths, Pecsi, and Vice Chair Wentworth
Noes: None
Abstain: Board Members Corless, Johnston, and Chair Schwartz
Absent: Board Member Tillemans

10. BOARD MEMBER AND STAFF REPORTS
Board Members reported on upcoming and past meetings, and announced current events in each of their jurisdictions.

11. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – APRIL 21, 2017
The Board agreed that the following items be added to the next scheduled meeting agenda:

- Appoint Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Committee.
- Appoint Finance Ad-Hoc Committee for the Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium Advisory Committee.
- ESCOG website.
- Discuss Regional Economic Development Authority.
- Note: Continue discussions on Proposition 64 and Marijuana Regulation at the August 11, 2017 ESCOG meeting.

No further requests were made for future agendas items.

Adjournment:
Chair Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m. to the ESCOG meeting scheduled for Friday, April 21, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Bishop City Council Chambers.

Karen Schwartz, Chair

Approved: 4/21/2017