
**PLUMAS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Meeting of August 18, 2011

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mark Dotta, *Commissioner* (District 1)

Larry Williams, *Commissioner* (District 4)

Betsy Schramel, *Chair* (District 2)

John Olofson, *Vice Chair* (District 5)

Richard Rydell, *Commissioner* (District 3)



I. CALL TO ORDER

The Plumas County Planning Commission (*the Commission*) convenes in a meeting on August 18, 2011, at 10:02 a.m. in the Planning and Building Services Conference Room, Quincy, CA; Chair Betsy Schramel presiding.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Schramel, Olofson, Williams, & Rydell

Commissioners Absent: Dotta

County Supervisors, County Staff, and General Plan Update Consultants Attending:

Terry Swofford, Plumas County Supervisor
Brian Morris, General Manager-Flood Control & Water Conservation
Randy Wilson, Planning Director
Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner
Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary

IV. CONSENT ITEMS:

A. ITEMS TO BE CONTINUED OR WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA

Schramel calls for a motion to approve the agenda for August 18, 2011. The motion is made by Olofson, Rydell seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schramel calls for a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2011. The Motion is made by Olofson, Williams seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS / COMMENTS

Comment made by Schramel pertaining to *Item VII* is included in that item note.

Rydell mentions he is leading a workshop in Chester concerning mandated electronic medical record keeping. Rydell explains that Seneca Hospital (affiliated with Renown in Reno) is implementing this technology. Rydell expresses hope that other county hospitals will do the same.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY – No comments

VII. EASTERN PLUMAS MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

Schramel comments (during *Item V*) how impressed she is with the *Eastern Plumas Municipal Service Review*, and she wishes such information had been made available previously. Open discussion touches on the following points:

- MSRs take a look at the response times for services;
- MSRs are required every 5 years;
- MSRs clarify County and State responsibilities;
- Eastern Plumas MSR took 6 months to prepare;
- Public Hearing on the Eastern Plumas MSR will be October;
- Planning Commission comments on the Eastern Plumas MSR are due at the September 15th meeting.

This item is continued to the September 1, 2011, Planning Commission meeting.

VIII. OPEN RANGE DESIGNATIONS – Staff Presentation and Discussion

Herrin refers to a handout she has provided titled: *County Code Chapter 6, Section 9-6.01, "Open range areas declared*, and explains that there are two areas in Plumas County designated as open range (Bucks Lake, Last Chance). Herrin briefly explains some of the responsibilities of property owners and livestock owners in an open range setting. Brian Morris suggests policy language in the General Plan, especially dealing with disclosure of responsibility. Wilson contributes that there are notations in the County Code that reference ordinances and zoning requirements. Herrin adds that this topic will be dealt with when the Planning Commission reviews the Zoning Code.

IX. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

A. CONSULTANT TEAM'S REPORT

Wilson reports that Coleen Shade is now affiliated with *Design Workshop* in a different capacity. Shade is working part-time for the firm *RO Anderson*; however, she has agreed to contract back with *Design Workshop* to finish assisting Plumas County with the General Plan update. Wilson adds that arrangements with the various sub-contractors are still in place. Wilson mentions that the loss of a point person disrupts the continuity, so he is thankful that Shade will still be involved. Wilson asks the question, "What if I was to leave? Then you would lose the continuity." Rydell comments that the Planning Commission has already been through the experience of losing a Planning Director (with Wilson's predecessor). Rydell suggests that Wilson, Shade, and Schramel meet to establish a firm commitment on the part of Shade and

Design Workshop to finish the General Plan. Schramel points out the need to have the details of the arrangement in writing. Wilson states that Shade will attend an upcoming meeting and can answer questions on this matter.

Wilson states that the revised Administrative Draft of the General Plan should be available to the Commission and the public on or before the first Planning Commission meeting in September. Discussion follows regarding the various timeline estimates, and Wilson re-enforces that in April or May, 2012, the EIR and General Plan should both be in the final stages of completion. Discussion focuses on whether the Working Groups will meet to comment on the Draft General Plan. Herrin states that the comments and suggestions from previous Working Group sessions have been carefully addressed in the draft. Wilson adds that he will ask Shade whether more Working Group sessions are feasible considering the timeline. Schramel stresses the importance of letting the Working Group members know that the Draft General Plan is now available.

B. PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY – *No comments*

C. DRAFT GENERAL PLAN GOALS & POLICIES, COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT GOALS & POLICIES, AND PLANNING AREA MAPS

1. CONTINUED REVIEW OF THE REVISED PLANNING AREA MAPS – BECKY HERRIN, SENIOR PLANNER

Herrin hands out an item titled: *Towns, Communities, Rural Places, and Master Planned Communities*. Rydell offers a suggestion to change the town listing from *Lake Almanor Peninsula / Country Club / Hamilton Branch* to *Lake Almanor Peninsula / Hamilton Branch*. Herrin indicates she will make that change. Herrin compliments Harry Reeves for his assistance with the conservation easements. Reeves expressed that he is impressed with the business-like way the General Plan update is being handled. Wilson comments that Becky Osborn, GIS Planner, has been working diligently on the General Plan map and it is nearing completion. Herrin adds that there are some graphics that need to be added prior to distribution. Schramel asks if acronyms have been defined, and Herrin answers that they are defined in each section of text.

Herrin shares advertisements pertaining to glamorous camping or “Glamping,” as Greenhorn Creek Guest Ranch calls it. Herrin adds that this form of camping has been successful in other parts of the US and the world, and now exists in Plumas County.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Wilson provides a handout and elaborates on the court case, *Concerned Citizens for Responsible Government v. West Point Fire Protection District* which deals with a small fire department in Calaveras County facing problems related to the *Super Majority* concept in Proposition 218.

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORT

Wilson provides an update concerning a recent decision by the Board of Supervisors requiring all General Fund employees to change their work schedules to four nine-hour days per week resulting in a 10% loss in their wages. Wilson adds that a starting date for this action has not been announced yet. Wilson continues listing various budget considerations by the Board (layoffs, retirements, back taxes, possible grants, etc.). Wilson adds that the Planning Department will be sharing some staff members with Public Works.

2. ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES

a.) **Zoning Administrator** – *No Report*

b.) **Current Planning** – *No report*

IX. CORRESPONDENCE - *None*

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Items suggested at this meeting:

- Clarification on the new contract scenario with Coleen Shade, *Design Workshop*, and Plumas County for the completion of the General Plan.

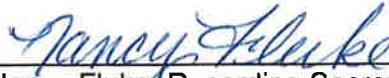
Items suggested at previous meetings:

- *Hydropower Relicensing and Climate Change.*
- *A presentation by the Fire Safe Council*
- *Jay Newman, CalFire Captain - Update on CalFire regulations.*
- *Presentation by John Benoit, Executive Officer of LAFCo (October)*
- *Continued Updates on maps*

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Schramel calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting of August 18, 2011. The motion is made by Olofson, Williams seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded. The meeting adjourns at 12:01 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is set for September 1, 2011, 10:00 a.m., in the Planning & Building Services Conference Room.


Elizabeth L. Schramel,
Betsy Schramel, Chair
Plumas County Planning Commission


Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary
Plumas County Planning Department