

Plumas County Coordinating Council

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF January 6, 2012

1. Call to Order / Roll Call - 1:04 p.m.

Present: Bob Perreault (Vice Chair), Supervisor Sherrie Thrall, Supervisor Terry Swofford, Randy Wilson, Frank Stewart

Absent: Brian Morris (Chair)

Public Attendees (*per sign-in sheet*):

Corky Lazzarino (Recreation Sierra Access Coalition), Terri Simon-Jackson (Forest Service), Al Vazquez (Forest Service), Sylvia Milligan (Recreation Outdoors Coalition & Sierra Access Coalition), John Olofson (Planning Commission), Todd Andersen, Diane Uchtyl, Donnal Nichols.

2. Public Comment Opportunity

Todd Andersen, resident of Crescent Mills, introduces himself. Mr. Andersen mentions that he is a property owner and that he has water rights associated with his property.

Sylvia Milligan states she is the chair of the Recreation Outdoors Coalition (ROC) and she is on the board for the Sierra Access Coalition (SAC). Ms. Milligan raises the subject and poses the question whether it would be appropriate for the Plumas National Forest (PNF) to possibly seek *Green Sticker Grant* funding to do a study pertaining to disbursed campsites in the PNF. Mr. Perreault suggests to Ms. Milligan that this topic is included as an agenda item for the February PCCC meeting, so it can be discussed further, and Ms. Milligan agrees to that suggestion.

3. Plumas County Coordinating Council (PCCC) Organization

Bob Perreault explains that the PCCC is an advisory committee to the Plumas County Board of Supervisors, who have the authority to appoint and remove members of the PCCC. Mr. Perreault informs the Council that PCCC Chair, Brian Morris, has resigned from his position as General Manager of the Plumas County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and has accepted a position in another county; therefore, Mr. Morris will no longer be a member of PCCC. Mr. Perreault adds that the BOS does not intend to fill Mr. Morris' position at this time. Mr. Morris' duties will be distributed among Randy Wilson, (Planning Department), Bob Perreault (Public Works Department) and Craig Settlemire (County Counsel). Mr. Perreault opens discussion and asks for suggestions of possible candidates for the Board of Supervisors to consider in filling the vacancy.

Discussion ensues and the following individuals and their qualifications are suggested:

- o John Sheehan – History working with Plumas Corporation, Quincy Library Group, Fire Safe Council, and other civic groups;
- o Craig Settlemire, Plumas County Counsel – legal expertise;

- o Greg Hagwood, Plumas County Sheriff – law enforcement expertise and knowledge of Plumas County demographics;
- o Others – People with background in such things as recreation, mining, etc; and the “worker bees” in the community.

Bob Perreault states that this matter will appear as an agenda item at an upcoming BOS meeting.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion is made by Supervisor Thrall and seconded by Mr. Perreault to adopt the meeting minutes of October 7, 2011. Motion is passed.

5. Forest Service Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

Terri Simon-Jackson provides handouts pertaining to the Community Forest Program and briefly touches on the major points. Terri explains that Earl Ford, Plumas Forest Supervisor, and Laurence Crabtree, Deputy Forest Supervisor, could not attend today. Supervisor Thrall suggests that since this is a lot of material to digest and since Mr. Ford and Mr. Crabtree couldn't be present, this topic should be carried over to the next PCCC meeting. Mr. Perreault agrees to add this item to the February 3rd agenda.

6. Forest Service Recreation Projects – Review of ongoing Forest Service Projects.

a. Lake Davis OHV trails and Jackson Creek Campground

Terri Simon-Jackson, hands out a map labeled *Lake Davis Grooming 65 Miles*. Ms. Simon-Jackson explains that Deb Bumpus, District Ranger, is *point person* for this topic; however, she is not able to attend the meeting today. Ms. Simon-Jackson relays information that the first internal meeting for Smith Peak OHV/OSV planning occurred on December 6th and that a meeting with external partners to discuss ideas was planned for January 26th. Silvia Milligan expresses her concern that she and others have not been kept in the loop on this issue as much as they would like and that confusion exists. Ms. Milligan particularly states that the map Ms. Simon-Jackson handed out is new to her and expresses concern that the trails high-lighted on the map do not extend to Lake Davis. Randy Wilson suggests that this topic is re-visited at the February PCCC meeting with a more detailed report and an opportunity for Council members and interested attendees to ask questions.

Ms. Simon-Jackson shares that additional funding to evaluate the staging areas and the Jackson Creek Campground will be requested in FY2012.

b. Snake Lake Campground equestrian addition

Ms Simon-Jackson provides a brief summary of work currently being done on this project. Dianne Uchytel, representing High Mountain Riders, counters that she has observed very little work being done since the Forest Service was given the RAC grant a year ago and that time perhaps is running out. Ms. Simon-Jackson comments that the Plumas Hot Shot crew is currently thinning and chipping 15 acres and that the road work is planned for this spring. Ms. Simon-Jackson also explains the Forest Service NEPA analysis process and timelines; but is unsure if necessary, if the RAC grant deadline can be extended.

7. Forest Service Planning Rule

a. Discussion and possible action regarding call for nominations for Federal Advisory Committee on the Forest Service Planning Rule

Bob Perreault explains that the Forest Service has circulated an official form for individuals to apply to serve on the *Federal Advisory Committee on the Forest Service Planning Rule*. Discussion leads to agreement to have this matter placed on the February 14th BOS meeting so the Supervisors can identify who would make viable candidates to serve on this committee.

b. Discussion and possible action regarding multi-county letter to Forest Service Chief regarding coordination with local governments

Bob Perreault explains that a multi-county sponsored letter regarding Forest Service coordination with local governments will be discussed at the next BOS meeting. Mr. Perreault adds that the letter essentially puts the Forest Service on notice regarding the importance of coordination to these counties.

8. Fire Wise Communities / Community Wildfire Protection Plan / Quincy Library Group Pilot Project

a. Update on Fire Wise Communities and CWPP

Randy Wilson states that he has met with Jerry Hurley of the Fire Safe Council and Becky Osborn, Plumas County GIS Planner I, to discuss Title III funding for maps. Mr. Wilson adds that Ms. Osborn is currently incorporating new data into the maps.

Frank Stewart briefly explains a handout he has provided titled, *H-F QLG Pilot Project Annual Accomplishment Measures*. Discussion follows regarding *appeals process/objection process* pertaining to CEQA.

9. Legislative Update

a. H.R. 3685 (Herger) – *To amend the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act to extend and expand the scope of the pilot forest management project required by that Act – Introduced on December 15, 2011*

Frank Stewart lists and briefly elaborates on four points in association with H.R. 3685:

- Extending the Act;
- Expanding the Act;
- Deferred Land Base;
- Group Selection.

b. H.R. 1581 (McCarthy) – *Return inventoried roadless areas to multiple use if not recommended for wilderness designation*

Terri Simon-Jackson has brought a map delineating the roadless areas on the Plumas National Forest to assist with this agenda topic and indicates that she will leave the map with the meeting clerk, Nancy Fluke.

c. H.R. 242 (Herger) – *Suspend implementation of Travel Management Rule - No report given*

d. H.R. 1458 (Herger) – *Catastrophic Wildfire Community Protection Act*

Frank Stewart reports that the bill has been introduced. Mr. Stewart adds that Boards will need to consider heading off potential lawsuits.

e. H.R. 1837 (Nunes) – *San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act* - *No report given*

f. Stewardship Contracting

Frank Stewart mentions that Congressman Herger is still putting together the bill.

g. Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization

Bob Perreault states that new proposed legislation includes a continuation of funding ramp down. Mr. Perreault adds that any success in passing new legislation will most likely occur at the last minute. Terri Simon-Jackson states that there is no reauthorization yet and that the President's 2012 budget has a proposal for reauthorization and an offer to work with Congress on the details.

h. Other bills

Frank Stewart briefly mentions the State fire fund matter is currently in a comment period.

10. Litigation Update

a. Travel Management

i. Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation v. U.S.F.S. (Eldorado National Forest) - *No report given*

ii. Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center v. U.S.F.S. (Stanislaus National Forest) - *No report given*

b. Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. California Department of Parks and Recreation, et al. (challenging EIR and funding for over-snow vehicle program)

Terri Simon-Jackson states that a lawsuit was filed in the eastern District Court of California (Snowlands v USFS), but the Forest Service has not been served yet.

Sierra Nevada Framework and Basin Project - *No report given*

11. Meetings and Other Activities – Report on past and future meetings

o Sierra Cascade Dialog #5 Session

Frank Stewart stresses the importance of Plumas County being a player in these sessions. A brief discussion takes place regarding grants and studies being done on future biomass opportunities.

12. Date and Agenda Items for Next Meeting

a. The next meeting – set for February 3

b. Future Agenda Items:

- i. PNF possibly applying for *Green Sticker Funds* to study campsite disbursements;
- ii. Continue Item 5 - Forest Service Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program;
- iii. Continue Item 6a - Lake Davis OHV trails and Jackson Creek Campground;
- iv. National Report on Sustainable Forests 2010.

13. Adjournment

Hearing no further comments, Vice Chair Perreault adjourns the meeting of January 6, 2012, at 3:21 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert Perreault", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Robert Perreault, PCCC Vice Chair