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**PLUMAS COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Meeting of September 3, 2009

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The Plumas County Planning Commission (the *Commission*) convenes in a Meeting on September 3, 2009, at 10:05 a.m. in the Plumas County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Quincy, CA; Betsy Schramel, Vice Chair, presiding. Members appointed are as follows:

1. Mark Dotta, Chair (District 1);
2. Elizabeth "Betsy" Schramel, Vice Chair (District 2);
3. Richard Rydell, Commissioner (District 3);
4. Larry Williams, Commissioner (District 4); and
5. John Olofson, Commissioner (District 5).

Staff in Attendance: Randy Wilson, Planning Director  
Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner  
Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary

Supervisors in Attendance: Ole Olsen, Terry Swofford, and Sherrie Thrall

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – By Vice Chair Schramel.

II. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG** – By Planning Commission and Attendees.

III. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Betsy Schramel, John Olofson, Larry Williams & Rich Rydell.  
**Absent:** Mark Dotta.

IV. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Planning Director Wilson asks if Agenda Item VIII-A-4 could proceed next on the agenda.

Schramel calls for a motion to approve the agenda with Wilson's request honored. Williams makes the motion, 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 July 9, 2009. Williams makes the motion, Rydell seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

Schramel calls for a motion to approve the minutes of July 23, 2009. Olofson makes the motion, Williams seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

**V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS / COMMENTS**

**A. FOLLOW-UP ON THE REQUEST FOR STAFF TO PROVIDE PLANNING COMMISSION / GENERAL PLAN UPDATE DOCUMENTATION TO CONSULTANT (Commissioner Rydell) – *Update by Staff and Discussion.***

Nancy Fluke, Clerk, provides a handout which represents an accounting of the items that have been given to Shade.

Following Item V-A, Schramel reports that she attend the Lake Front at Walker Ranch Hearing in Chester and found it very informative. Wilson announces that Feather Publishing is providing copies of the front section of all the newspapers and that this has been very helpful in giving Wilson an idea of activity in Sierra Valley/Portola, Quincy, Indian Valley, and Chester/Lake Almanor. Schramel reports that she was part of a tour of Humbug Valley which is situated west of Lake Almanor. Schramel reports that she learned from that event the importance of the Planning Commission to be aware of proposals by P.G. & E. in the areas of Walker Lake, Lake Almanor, and Humbug Valley. Schramel also mentions that the State is currently looking at water resources and perhaps Supervisor Meacher may have information he could report to the Planning Commission at some point. Other suggestions are made to have such groups as the Stewardship Council and the Plumas County Coordinating Council give reports at Planning Commission meetings in the future.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

*At this time, the public has the opportunity to address the Commission concerning any item of interest not listed on this agenda. The Commission may not discuss or take any action on any item presented during the public comment period that is not on the agenda. The Commission may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by members of the public. Upon recognition by the Chairman, please state your name, address, and subject matter. Discussion of any non-agenda items will be limited to three (3) minutes or such reasonable time as is granted by the majority of the Commission.*

Schramel opens the Public Comment Opportunity. Hearing no comments, Schramel closes the Public Comment Opportunity.

**VII. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS**

**A. CONSULTANT TEAM'S REPORT**

**a. STAKEHOLDERS**

Shade reports that interviews are still taking place.

**b. GOALS**

Shade passes out her goals handout and explains that she has created categories and placed specific goals in those categories; however, it can be revised as needed. Shade points out that some items, such as the last two

bullets under the *Economics* category, might be considered more of a strategy for meeting a goal. Rydell adds that the topic of telecommunications is much broader than just economics; for example, health and safety. Olofson reiterates his belief that telecommunications stands on its own as a goal. Olofson shifts the conversation to the issue of forest fuel removal and his dissatisfaction that nothing is seemingly being done to address this matter. Shade mentions a plan to have an all day workshop in October to address what goes into a General Plan. Wilson adds that this will be a joint workshop with the Board of Supervisors and currently he is coordinating with the Clerk of the Board to set a date. Schramel presents a handout from the Board of Supervisors that addresses goals. Simpson mentions that those are last year's goals and she does not believe there has been an update. Shade states that they are looking for a plan that will be a roadmap for the next twenty years and it needs to start with definitions of goals. Olofson asks that the term economic stability is changed to economic growth. Shade then focuses attention on the first category on her handout titled, *The Document*, and elaborates about the importance of the first item dealing with a document that is legally defensible. General discussion takes place among Commissioners, Wilson, and Shade with no major changes made to the content of that category. Moving on to the category *Process*, the time frame of two years and attempting to finish on or under budget are considered reasonable goals for the Commission. Rydell relays that he thinks the three entities, Planning Commission, Planning Department, and Consultant need to have their roles in the process identified. Shade looks at the *Represents* category and states that the last two bulleted items are covered by the first two bulleted items. Shade begins the *Economics* category and Williams asks for clarification of the first bulleted item on page 2. Rydell states that is a point he contributed and he means economic development that doesn't deplete the natural beauty and surroundings. Shade discusses differences between goals and strategies with the Commissioners and Wilson. Olofson states he would like to see strategies as a part of the goals so that strategies are not lost in the process. Shade assures Olofson that the strategies will not be lost. Shade discusses the *Resources* category and the *Agriculture* category with some discussion about pure water resources. Shade suggests that the topic is revisited later on. Rydell states he has to leave; however, he clarifies the item he contributed in the *Recreation* category because the matter of the thermal curtain at Lake Almanor is coming alive again. Rydell adds that under the *Community* category, the first bulleted item, he says *encourage both full-time and part-time residential opportunities* because he believes the part-time people add to the value of this county. Williams suggests that the wording in the *Recreation* category is reflective of recreation in the entire county and inclusive of the recreation activities that aren't related to water. The conversation returns to the first bulleted item under *Agriculture* with suggestions to possibly modify the wording *development* and *encourage*.

***Transcriber's Note:*** *The quality of this side of the tape is extremely poor and most of the dialogue is too muffled to distinguish what is being said. My notes indicate the discussion is about such things as: spheres of influence, incorporating services districts and LAFCo, fiscally sustainable development, infrastructure, rebuilding existing communities, encouraging development around existing communities, and infill. Shade moves to the category of Education with discussion focusing on modifying the wording of the two*

*bulleted items, and emphasizing quality education in every community. Miller asks if he has the approval of the Commission to put their goals on the website and Wilson suggests that something is written up and put on the next Planning Commission agenda as an official action to approve. Shade closes her presentation by reiterating the importance of transparency. Briefly the Commissioners add the following ideas for possible inclusion in their goals: waste water and sanitation, issues pertaining to fire, and the subject of justice. Wilson reports that the revised goals handout will be revisited at the next meeting.*

**B. PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY – No comments.**

**VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORT**

Wilson provides an update regarding the *Appeal/Lot Line Adjustment* item heard by the Board of Supervisors and that it will be heard by the Board again in 30 days.

**2. PMC REVIEW OF THE PLUMAS COUNTY GENERAL PLAN, AND REVIEW OF THE EXISTING GENERAL PLAN - *Continued Discussion.***

Wilson states there isn't time today to discuss this item, and adds that he would like this item continued as a standing item at the next meeting.

**3. ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES**

**a. Zoning Administrator**

Wilson provides a report on the Lake Front at Walker Ranch that occurred in Chester. Wilson states the Zoning Administrator did not certify the Final EIR at that meeting; however, another meeting will be held in Chester for the Zoning Administrator to report his final decision after reviewing more information and questions regarding water supply availability.

**b. Current Planning**

Wilson refers to the updated project list that the Commissioners received today as the most current list.

**4. PLANNING DEPARTMENT WEBSITE UPDATE**

Dennis Miller, GIS Coordinator, begins by explaining the nature of the Planning & Building website as well as what he has projected on the screen. Miller continues by explaining the following items which in some cases are responses to questions the Commissioners have asked during his presentation:

- Miller explains that he wants to get input from the Commissioners, especially concerning things like providing their Email address on the website, etc.

- Currently there is the ability to access maps interactively through various layers.
- There will be a place on the webpage specifically for the General Plan Update.
- Eventually there will be the ability to fill out forms and surveys/polls on-line.
- Eventually there will be the ability for people to make comments and view comments of others.
- There can be a section that deals with the current status of the General Plan Update.
- Agendas & minutes would be available.
- Some options could be password protected if desired.
- Links can be provided to access information pertaining to other entities (i.e., ABWAC).

Miller closes his presentation saying the website will be a work in progress.

**IX. CORRESPONDENCE – No correspondence.**

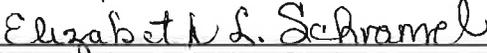
**X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Schramel – Suggests that the Economic Recovery Commission gives a presentation at a Planning commission meeting.

Transcriber's Note – Refer to suggestions made in Item V-A, the last two paragraphs.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Schramel calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion is made by Williams. Olofson seconds the motion with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded. The meeting adjourns at 1:36 P.M.

  
 Elizabeth L. Schramel  
 Betsy Schramel, Vice Chair  
 Plumas County Planning Commission (Betsy)

  
 Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary