
**PLUMAS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**
Minutes of the Meeting of July 21, 2016

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Dr. Robert Abbott, *Commissioner* (District 1)
Dr. Shauna Rossington, *Vice Chair* (District 2)

Larry Williams, *Chair* (District 4)
John Olofson, *Commissioner* (District 5)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Plumas County Planning Commission (the *Commission*) convenes in a meeting on July 21, 2016, at 10:05 a.m. in the Planning and Building Services Conference Room, Quincy, CA;

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: John Olofson, Larry Williams, Dr. Shauna Rossington
Commissioners Absent: Dr. Robert Abbott

Also in attendance (*Supervisors and staff*)

Randy Wilson, Planning Director
Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner
Supervisor Jeff Engel, District 5
County Counsel Craig Settlemire

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Several residents of Genesee express concern about potential General Plan changes.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF MAY 5, 2016, MAY 19, 2016 and JUNE 16, 2016

M/S/C to approve the minutes of May 5, 2016: Olofson/Rossington/3-0.

M/S/C to approve the minutes of June 16, 2016: Olofson/Rossington/3-0.

As Commissioner Rossington was not present at the meeting of May 19, 2016, the minutes are held for approval at the next meeting.

VI. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Wilson explains that there will be a Board of Supervisors meeting on August 16, 2016 in the Mineral Building at the Fairgrounds to revisit a temporary ban or "moratorium" on commercial medical cannabis and dispensaries in the County.

The Commission may wish to review and comment on the 2016 OPR document on Military Training and General Plans. It is available on the website, along with the video that includes Plumas County.

There will be an administrative copy of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) delivered to Wilson tomorrow. The 30-day review period will begin August 15, 2016 with adoption anticipated on September 30, 2016. The plan contains a chapter on land use. All parts of the document have been vetted publically and the process is finally reaching conclusion.

Commissioner Rossington questions if her presence is needed at the August 16th meeting. Wilson responds that her presence is not required and the meeting will be streamed live over the internet and recorded. Wilson completes his report at 10:22 am.

VII. PLANNING COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Commissioner Olofson presents a report on a two-day meeting of the State OHV (Off Highway Vehicle) Commission, which operates under the State Parks Department. On the first day, there was a tour of the trails and facilities in the Mount Hough Ranger District. The next day was a business meeting. Olofson stressed the importance of recreation to the County.

The meeting was conducted well, in Olofson's opinion. The meeting room was set up with microphones and a timer to limit comments. Each speaker submitted a public comment form, either for a non-agenda item or for an agenda item. Then, they lined up in the order of submittal in chairs. There was a portable microphone for the disabled who could not walk to the podium. Olofson submits photos of the meeting room and copies of the public comment forms.

County Counsel Craig Settlemyre comments that the Board of Supervisors has not used speaker cards for about the last five years. Under the Brown Act, the speaker is not required to identify himself or herself. This process is usually employed when there is a public meeting with a lot of speakers, for example the cannabis moratorium meeting or the meeting for the General Plan adoption.

Settlemyre goes on to explain that reports by Commissioners should be brief reports. If there is a significant issue, it should be agendized as a separate item in keeping with the Brown Act.

Commissioner Olofson feels that the Planning Department is thin and a budget needs to be approved for additional help. The Planning Commission functions are limited unlike in other counties. Olofson has distributed historical materials for the Commissioners to review at their leisure. He reads excerpts for the 1957 General Plan, a 1967 document regarding the importance of outdoor recreation in regards to forest land in the Plumas National Forest and the Lassen National Forest, as well as Lassen Volcanic National Park. He then reads from a 1965 document about winter sports facilities. Olofson and Supervisor Engel met with Barbara Drake, who is now the Deputy Forest Supervisor on the Plumas National Forest and discussed the creation of private sector jobs in the County. Olofson feels that recreation can be a source of job creation.

Olofson expresses concern with the cancellation of Planning Commission meetings, the need to update the Zoning Code, the Housing Element, and the medical marijuana ordinance. He also thinks that the Commission should be issuing the annual report on the general plan required by State law.

Settlemire explains that Government Code 65400 addresses the responsibility of the planning agency to report to the legislative body on the status of the implementation of the General Plan and whether or not the planning agency is the planning staff or the Planning Commission. The Plumas County Code establishes the Planning Commission's responsibilities. Commissioner Williams states that to report on something in litigation is difficult. Settlemire responds that although the General Plan is in litigation, the trial court ruled in the County's favor and there is no court order constraining implementation therefore, the County is in the position to implement the Plan.

Olofson goes on to state that there is a lot of interest in recreation and distributes numerous articles on recreation in the County. Settlemire explains that the agenda item is about a General Plan Update and discussion needs to tie into the plan, not discuss recreation which is not on the agenda. Olofson feels that recreation and economic development were overlooked in the update. Settlemire expresses concern with the Brown Act; economic development issues are not land use issues. Olofson reiterates that the annual report evaluates the effectiveness of the General Plan and he feels that something needs to be added to the General Plan to address recreation jobs.

Wilson explains that staff reviewed the General Plan and identified numerous policies on recreation and economics.

Settlemire states that the agenda item is extremely general, however discussion about the annual report or other topics within the General Plan fall under the item. Specifics would require another agenda item. He suggests that the Commission review recreation in the General Plan to determine if another element is needed or if the topic is adequately addressed. He suggests that the Commission could direct staff to provide a report.

Chair Williams asks for action from the Commission. Commissioner Rossington makes a motion for a discussion item relating to economic development in conjunction with recreation issues. Olofson seconds the motion. Olofson question whether the Commission or the staff would provide the review. Wilson states that staff could provide a quick review of policies. Olofson explains that he would like to see a separate element because of the importance.

Settlemire explains that in an open meeting, each Commissioner could bring comments to the meeting. He reminds the Commission that the motion on the floor needs three votes. Commissioner Rossington volunteers to serve on a committee to review the issues. Olofson stresses that he thinks public meetings on the issue are a necessity.

Settlemire explains that litigation does not prohibit entertaining changes, but that agendas under the Brown Act are necessary. Olofson asks if the rules allow the withdraw of the second. Settlemire replies that the rules do not.

M/S/ to discuss economic development in conjunction with recreation issues at a future meeting. Ayes: Rossington, Williams. Noes: Olofson. Motion is not carried.

Commissioner Olofson proposes a new motion, with the exception that the Commission conduct public hearings on the issue. Chair Williams responds that he wants staff's report first. Settlemire explains that there is a motion on the floor from Commissioner Olofson. Chair

Williams asks for a second. Commissioner Rossington states that she would like to see more research before scheduling public hearings and that she does not support the motion. The motion dies due to lack of a second.

M/S/C: Rossington/Olofson/3-0 to direct staff to research General Plan economic and recreation policies and bring back to the Commission.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion is made by Commissioner Olofson, seconded by Dr. Rossington, with a unanimous affirmative vote recorded, to adjourn the meeting of July 21, 2016, at 11:40 a.m.



Larry Williams, Chair
Plumas County Planning Commission



Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner