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**PLUMAS COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2010

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**PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS**

**Mark Dotta**, *Chair* (District 1)

**Larry Williams**, *Commissioner* (District 4)

**Betsy Schramel**, *Vice Chair* (District 2)

**John Olofson**, *Commissioner* (District 5)

**Richard Rydell**, *Commissioner* (District 3)



The **Plumas County Planning Commission** (*the Commission*) convenes in a Meeting on May 6, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. in the Planning and Building Services Conference Room, Quincy, CA; Chair Mark Dotta presiding.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Schramel, Olofson, Williams, Dotta

**Commissioners Absent:** Rydell

Supervisors/Staff/Consultants Attending:

Terry Swofford, Supervisor  
Randy Wilson, Planning Director  
Rebecca Herrin, Senior Planner  
Dennis Miller, GIS Coordinator

Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary  
Coleen Shade, Consultant Team Member  
Matt Kowta, Consultant Team Member

**IV. CONSENT ITEMS:**

**A. ITEMS TO BE CONTINUED OR WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA**

Dotta asks the Commissioners if there are any items to be continued or withdrawn from the agenda. Hearing none, Dotta calls for a motion to approve the agenda as it stands. Olofson makes the motion, Williams seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**April 1, 2010 Meeting**

Williams states *Olofson* should be corrected to read *Williams* on Page 2, Item V, Line 1.

Dotta calls for a motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2010, as corrected. Motion is made by Olofson, Williams seconds the motion, and a unanimous affirmative voice vote is recorded.

## **V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS / COMMENTS**

Olofson reports that he attended a recent meeting of the *Plumas-Sierra Citizens Alliance for Property Rights* (the *Alliance*) and that he provided a brief presentation about the status of the General Plan Update. Olofson also reports that the *Alliance* has been focusing attention on a flood plain debate in Sierra County specifically dealing with the question of where the high water line lies. Olofson adds that ultimately the Sierra County Board of Supervisors determined that the line is where the debris deposits are located. Olofson states that he extended a welcome to the *Alliance* members to attend Planning Commission meetings.

Olofson mentions hearing of a woman who is a retiree from the Washoe County School District who hopes to invest in snow grooming machines to use on Plumas County alpine skiing venues.

Olofson provides a handout concerning the *Woody Biomass Utilization Workshop* to take place May 25 & 26, 2010.

Williams opens a discussion among the Commissioners and Staff about electronic vs *snail-mail* delivery of agendas, etc., to the Commissioners. Following that discussion, it is determined that all Commissioners, with the exception of Schramel, would prefer electronic to snail-mail.

A brief discussion takes place between Schramel and Wilson about having Zoning Administrator Staff Reports on the website as well as the new State geological survey maps. Herrin and Wilson add that the Draft Regional Transportation Plan will be on the website very soon.

Dotta reports that he attended the first meeting of the Eastern Plumas Healthcare District Council. Dotta stresses that the Council deals with what the District is doing in the community and not the day-to-day operations. Dotta adds that the next meeting will take place in June, 2010.

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Dotta opens the Public Comment Opportunity.

Holly George, UC Cooperative Extension representative, provides a handout that deals with possible verbiage and definitions that can be considered for the Agriculture Element of the General Plan Update. George adds that she acquired this material from various other general plans and sources in the State.

Bill Bate introduces himself and provides general information about the *Plumas-Sierra Citizens Alliance for Property Rights* (the *Alliance*). Bate continues by enumerating specific successes the *Alliance* has had in recent court cases in opposition to *High Sierra Rural Alliance*.

Dotta asks if there are any further comments. Hearing none, Dotta closes the Public Comment Opportunity.

## **VII. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS**

### **A. CONSULTANT TEAM'S REPORT**

#### **1. STATUS ON CONSULTANT PRODUCTS**

Shade reports the following:

- The Final Briefing Report will be on the website soon;
- Wilson, Herrin, Shade & Frisch have had one meeting and will have another meeting May 17, 2010, to discuss General Plan format options to present to the Commissioners;
- The Draft General Plan will go to Staff at the end of June, 2010, and to all five Working Groups in a joint meeting on July 22, 2010;
- After the Plumas-Sierra Fair is over, larger public workshops will take place in each of the five districts to receive feedback on the Draft General Plan from citizens in the communities;

### **B. PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY**

Williams presents a concern expressed to him by Working Group members that the groups are being *schooled* but not allowed to provide input. Shade takes a moment to introduce the *economics* member of the consulting team, Matt Kowta, who she says is in attendance to listen to the concerns that are expressed. Questions and discussions are generated from Commissioners, Staff, and attendees regarding such topics as opportunity to provide input, the role of Design Workshop, grant funding, explanation of *Integrated Plans*, and General Plan Elements (*looking at vs developing*). Shade provides explanation and information.

## **VIII. PRESENTATION - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVIEW:**

John Sheehan of Plumas Corporation introduces himself and passes out the following handouts for the Commission to refer to:

- *Plumas County Economic Development Strategy 2002-2003;*
- *Plumas County Economic Indicators: 2010;*
- *Proposed Economic Coordinating Council Formation;*
- *Economic Development & Training Services Provided;* and
- *Talking Points on Economic Development Workshop.*

Sheehan also introduces affiliates, David Keller and Tracy Hunt. Sheehan begins referring to the handouts and the following are some of the main points he covered or others raised during his presentation:

- The effect of the County dropping their lobbyist;
- The task of creating a roster to share information;
- The need to set up teams to look at prospects for business and economic development in the county;
- The importance of renewable energy (i.e., biomass, ground based heat pumps);

- The importance of the Economic Recovery Committee;
- Business recruiting – utilizing local retirees with a business background;
- Economic development strategy;
- The importance of collaboration;
- The topic of market potentials;
- The goal to keep forests re-vitalized and fire-resistant.

The Commission decides to have Sheehan return at another Planning Commission meeting to cover more information pertaining to strategy.

***Transcriber's Note:*** Attached you will find various handouts provided by Sheehan. This material can also be located on the Planning and Building Services Website ([www.plumascountyplanningandbuilding.com](http://www.plumascountyplanningandbuilding.com)).

## **IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **A. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **1. PLANNING DEPARTMENT WEBSITE UPDATE**

Wilson reports that there will be a link on the website to track the Forest Planning Rule.

#### **2. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORT**

Wilson reports on the following items recently presented to, or discussed by, the Board of Supervisors:

- Boat ramp fee increase; and
- Proposed outdoor festivals at Beldentown Resort.

#### **3. ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES**

Wilson reports that the Zoning Administrator approved the Beckwourth Fire Station use permit and the project will break ground this summer.

Herrin provides a summary of past General Plan Amendments (refer to handout).

## **X. CORRESPONDENCE**

Handout: Invitation to Planning Commissioners to attend the *All About LAFCo* presentation by John Benoit, Plumas LAFCo Executive Officer on May 26, 2010.

## **XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

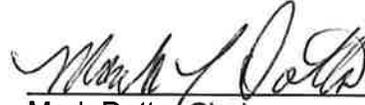
- Presentation by Mimi Hall, Director of Public Health (May 20, 2010 meeting)
- Discussion regarding John Shower's paper (to be determined at a later time)
- Presentation regarding Feather River Coordinated Resource Management (proposed for the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in June, 2010)
- Planning Commission Rules of Conduct: Absenteeism

*Future Agenda Items Continued:*

- Planning Commission Goals

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dotta calls for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion is made by Olofson, seconded by Williams, with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded to adjourn the meeting of May 6, 2010, at 12:40 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is May 20, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., in the Planning & Building Department Conference Room.



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Mark Dotta, Chair  
Plumas County Planning Commission



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Nancy Fluke, Recording Secretary