
PLUMAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of December 1, 2011

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mark Dotta, Commissioner (District 1)
Betsy Schramel, Chair (District 2)
Richard Rydell, Commissioner (District 3)

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



I. CALL TO ORDER

The Plumas County Planning Commission (*the Commission*) convenes in a meeting on December 1, 2011, at 10:00 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, Dotta, Williams & Rydell (*Rydell attends telephonically at 7310 Winding Oaks Drive, Colorado Springs, CO, a public place where other members of the public can participate in the meeting*)

Commissioners Absent: None



Also in attendance (Supervisors, Consultants, County Staff):

Randy Wilson, *Director - Planning*
Rebecca Herrin, *Senior Planner*
Heidi Wightman, *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A. **ITEMS TO BE CONTINUED OR WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA**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 December 1, 2011. Motion is made by Williams, seconded by Olofson, with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded.

B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *No minutes are available for approval.***

V. COMMISSIONER REPORTS / COMMENTS

Schramel distributes an article from the San Francisco Chronicle regarding the United Nation's global assessment of the state of the planet's land resources. The assessment found that a quarter of all land is highly degraded and warned that the trend must be reversed if the world's growing population is to be fed.

Schramel also reports that at a recent Board of Supervisor's meeting it was reported that AB982, which was signed in October 2011, would allow State school lands to generate revenue by allowing transfer of State and Federal land in order to create large-scale renewable energy generation.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Member of the public, Todd Andersen, reports on the recent meeting with Feather River Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) regarding the pond and plug project in the Red Clover Valley. Discussion follows.

VII. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

A. CONSULTANT TEAM'S REPORT

1. STATUS ON CONSULTANT PRODUCTS

Randy Wilson reports that the consultant team met yesterday to begin discussions regarding preparation of the General Plan EIR. Ray Weiss with ESA is the subconsultant who will be preparing the EIR.

B. PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY – *There is no comment.*

C. REVIEW & DISCUSSION ON BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING ON GENERAL PLAN UPDATE OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011

Randy Wilson reports that the Board of Supervisors approved the Draft General Plan with minor changes and directed the consultants to begin the EIR process. Part of that process will be holding one or two scoping meetings. When scoping for the EIR, one of the tasks is scoping the alternatives. In the scenario of alternatives, there is the project description, the no project alternative (which is using the existing General Plan), an alternative that is less impacting, and an alternative that has more impacts.

When the Board reviewed the Draft General Plan, one of the issues discussed is the possibility of allowing one residence per 40 acres on property zoned TPZ. It is currently at one residence per 160 acres. Although they did not change it, the Board is still interested in looking at the 40-acre scenario. There are concerns about changing it, such as fire protection, services, timber companies, etc. An impact analysis will be prepared, which will clarify the concerns. Another change made was adding transferrable development rights on property zoned TPZ.

Also discussed by the Board was the Airport Land Use Commission Chairman, George Terhune's, letter of November 10th outlining concerns that were presented at the meeting. The Board was amenable to the suggested changes with the exception of the list of priorities.

The Board also made one suggested change recommended by John Showers. Instead of stating that "gold and copper mining is a significant contribution to the County's economy", it was changed to, "gold and copper mining **speculation** contributes to the County's economy."

Additionally, per the recommendation of Kristi Jamason, the food security section was changed from "... **robust and democratic**" to "Create an advisory Food Policy Council to recommend policies that create a **robust and just** food system in the country."

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Randy Wilson notes that the current issue of CP&DR, which was distributed to the Commissioners, has an article regarding land trusts in which Plumas County is mentioned.

Wilson also reports that Brian Morris has resigned his position as the Flood Control Manager to take a position in Siskiyou County. The Board of Supervisors will be discussing the implications at their December 6th meeting.

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS – *No report*

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:

- View the 1997 New Years Flood DVD.
- Review current California Geological Survey earthquake maps
- Scoping meeting with consultant to discuss EIR process

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Schramel calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting of December 1, 2011. Motion is made by Olofson, seconded by Williams, with a unanimous affirmative voice vote recorded. The meeting adjourns at 12:14 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is set for December 15, 2011, 10:00 a.m., in the Planning & Building Services Conference Room.


Heidi Wightman, Recording Secretary
Plumas County Planning Department


Betsy Schramel, Chair
Plumas County Planning Commission