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## PLUMAS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of July 19, 2018

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### **PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

**Dr. Robert Abbott, Chair (District 1)**  
**Jeff Greening, 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 July 19, 2018, at 10:02 a.m. in the Planning and Building Services Conference Room, Quincy, CA. Chair Dr. Robert Abbott presides.

#### **II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

#### **III. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Dr. Robert Abbott, Jeff Greening, Larry Williams, John Olofson  
**Commissioners Absent:** none

**Also in attendance (Supervisors and staff)**

Randy Wilson, Planning Director  
Rebecca Herrin, Assistant Planning Director  
Gretchen Stuhr, Deputy County Counsel III

#### **IV. CONSENT ITEMS**

##### **A. Items to be continued or withdrawn from the agenda**

None.

##### **B. Minutes from the June 21, 2018 meeting**

M/S/C: Greening/Williams/4-0 to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018 meeting

#### **V. PLANNING COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS/COMMENTS**

There are no Commissioners' reports or comments.

#### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

There are no public comments.

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

Planning Director Wilson reads from a letter distributed to the Commission from U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, regarding the economic development strategy contained within the Economic Element of the General Plan. This economic development strategy was reviewed and accepted by the EDA Seattle Regional office.

Wilson provides an update on the appeal filed by High Sierra Rural Alliance on the general plan and environmental impact report. The appellate court is poised to make a decision, but gave Michael Graf, attorney for High Sierra Rural Alliance the opportunity to present oral argument which he has requested. There is no hearing date set as yet.

Discussion ensues with Deputy County Counsel Stuhr about the lawsuit, appeal process and odds of success. Commissioner Olofson states that High Sierra Rural Alliance has done much the same in Sierra County and filed a lawsuit regarding the lack of an updated zoning ordinance. He advises Stuhr to look into this issue. Olofson explains that this is why he votes against cancelling any meetings because he feels the County needs to press on in updating the ordinance.

Wilson discusses water issues, the recent Environmental Resources Committee meeting, CALTRANS' proposal to replace some 50 culverts in the Feather River Canyon which may be designed to increase fish passage into the upper, colder water reaches of the creeks that provide fish habitat. Wilson also reports on the potential salmon reintroduction in the Caribou reach as part of the 2105 Settlement with Pacific Gas and Electric and rehabilitation of Caribou itself. Wilson feels that the reestablishment of the salmon fishery and the resort facility at Caribou could create a "super attractor" benefit to the county economy.

Discussion ensues about bond issues for water, money to watersheds, failure to manage forests with result of increase in wildfires.

#### **VIII. ZONING CODE UPDATE: DRAFT TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE:**

**Discussion/workshop**

Wilson reviews the changes made to the ordinance at previous meetings.

M/S/C: Williams/Greening/4-0 to add the definition of "airstrip" as written by Commissioner Greening:

"Airstrip means a strip of land, typically privately owned, paved or not, used by aircraft, including rotorcraft, as a runway to take off or land, with or without normal airbase or airport facilities, such as fueling." Also to add "and airstrips" to wherever "airports" are listed throughout the ordinance.

Deputy County Counsel Stuhr tentatively agrees to the removal of "emergency" from the definitions section, but will review to see if there is need for an explicit definition. Keith Chambers notes that on page 6, exemptions item (g), "emergency" shows up: "Telecommunications facilities utilized from temporary use during and emergency or natural disaster".

Assistant Planning Director Herrin reminds the Commission that if there is no definition in the zoning code, the common usage of a dictionary definition for the term is used.

Commissioner Greening proposes to remove "Indian Valley" from the list of airports on page 1, Definitions (b).

Commissioner Williams proposes to remove the word "the" before "County Counsel" under Section 9-2.41079(d)(4) at the top of page 10.

Planning Director Wilson wants to review the section 9-2.4108(4) to determine if "rights-of-way" should be reinserted along with "public or private utility easements". Stuhr will review to determine if there is a way to word this section to add exemptions but not be overly broad in granting locations where facilities are exempted.

Wilson explains that Assistant Planner Tim Evans has prepared an initial study under the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines reviewing the potential impacts of the ordinance. This initial study will be reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Stuhr and presented to the Commission. The Commission will make a recommendation, by adoption of a resolution, to the Board of Supervisors.

A letter was recently received from AT & T raising issues with the ordinance. This letter was distributed to the Commission. Stuhr explains that some issues were not raised in previous correspondence and she will need more time to address the issues in the letter.

**IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ON-GOING PROJECT UPDATES:**

None.

**X. CORRESPONDENCE:**

There is no correspondence.

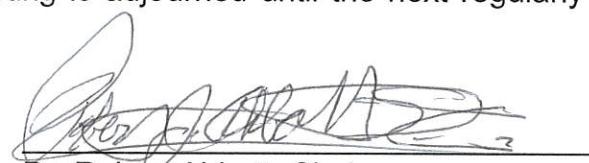
**XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Planning Director Wilson discusses the MAUCO initiative. If the initiative fails to pass in November, the Commission will most likely need to start reviewing the various commercial cannabis proposals starting the meeting after the election.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

M/S/C: Williams/Olofson/4-0 to adjourn the meeting of July 19, 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting on August 2, 2018.



Dr. Robert Abbott, Chair  
Plumas County Planning Commission



Rebecca K. Herrin  
Rebecca Herrin, Assistant Planning Director