

ESMERALDA COUNTY LAND USE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes from 12 December 2013

Item #1: Meeting called to order at ~12:00 PM at the Fish Lake Valley Community Center.

Roll call: Bob Biller, Ed Rannels, Donna Sweetman, David Sweetman

Absent from meeting: Ken Polman

Guests: Ralph Keyes, John & Debra Carroll, David Vondrak, Linda Williams, Bill Flaxington, John Deymonaz, Greg Rentchler, Wayne Munekiyo

A quorum was present.

Item #2: Review of Action Items from Previous Minutes was skipped.

Item #3: Officer's Reports and Administrative Issues were skipped.

Within these minutes, "**Action Item**" (in red) identifies an action item to be performed. "**Action Item**" (in green) identifies an action item that has been completed; "**Status**" identifies what actually was completed. "**Action Item**" (in orange) identifies an action item that is ongoing.

Item #4: Review of the draft BLM Sage Grouse Plan was skipped, because members had reviewed the plan prior to the meeting.

Item #5: Review Inputs from VEA on Sage Grouse Plan: David reported that VEA could not supply maps of the transmission line at this time, because of negotiations in progress. VEA will comply with all applicable environmental regulations when constructing the transmission line. VEA was attending a BLM meeting, so they could not send a representative to this meeting (noting a representative was sent for the previous meeting that was cancelled because of snow).

Item #6: Prepare a Presentation for Commissioners on the BLM Sage Grouse Plan: The draft presentation was edited and expanded, based on comments from members and guests. Ed moved, Bob seconded, and the revised presentation was unanimously approved. The presentation contains the information necessary for the Commissioners to express to the applicable regulatory and legislative bodies the opposition and legitimate reasons for opposing passage of the proposed "Greater Sage-Grouse Bi-State Distinct Population Segment Forest Plan Amendment Draft Environmental Impact Statement Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Alpine and Mono Counties, California; and Douglas, Esmeralda, Lyon, and Mineral Counties, Nevada".

Action Item: David to distribute revised presentation to the Commissioners and Members. Note, based on subsequent input from Nancy Boland, David sent the presentation directly via e-mail to Mr. Winfrey of the Forest Service (the recipient of comments on the proposed amendment for the plan).

Ralph noted that generic letters have been prepared to send to Mr. Winfrey at the Forest Service, noting the opposition to the proposed amended plan. Ralph will distribute the letters and strongly urge all to submit.

Item #7: Emergency agenda items: None

Item #8: New Business:

Ralph noted that the Forest Service had closed access to campsites and trailheads in Middle Canyon, which included closing of the turn-a-rounds. This could cause problems for trailers, i.e., cannot leave the area. Ed responded that the Road Department would follow all applicable regulations and would help where possible.

Ed noted that the Commissioners have still not issued an ordinance to approve the Master Plan, e.g., per NRS requirements. David also noted that various policies in the Master Plan will require ordinances to implement the intent of each policy (noting a policy is not a requirement as in a regulation or ordinance, but the goal).

Item #9: Public comment: Exercised as part of the presentation review.

Item #10: Next meeting: When requested by the Commissioners.

Item #11: Adjournment: Donna moved, Ed seconded, and the meeting was unanimously approved adjourned at ~3:00 PM.

These minutes were recorded by Donna Sweetman and prepared by Donna/David Sweetman.
These minutes are approved by:

David Sweetman *David Sweetman* Date: *23 December 2013*
Esmeralda County Land Use Advisory Committee Chairman