



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Michael Errante, Executive Director

MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

November 17, 2021

9:00 a.m. Commissioner Steven Muchovej called the meeting to order

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Steven Muchovej

Doug Thompson

Jennifer Roeser

Celeste Berg

Jose Garcia

Others Present:

Michael Errante, Director

John Pinckney, Staff

Justine Kokx, Staff

Cynthia Browning, Staff

Phil Moores, ESTA

Ron Phillips, City of Bishop

Adam Weitzmann, Caltrans

Mark Heckman, Caltrans

Dennee Alcalá, Caltrans

2. Public Comment

None

ACTION ITEMS

- 3. Request your Commission authorize future meetings during a state of emergency to be conducted virtually, in accordance with AB 361.**

- a. Schedule a meeting within 30 days to re-authorize continuance of virtual meetings.
Propose Wednesday, December 15th at 9:00 a.m.*

*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg.
All in favor

- 4. Secretary of the Local Transportation Commission - Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 20, 2021.**

*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg.
All in favor

- 5. Request Commission 1) Approve the submittal of the 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) to the California Transportation Commission and 2) Authorize the Executive Director to sign documents related to the submittal of the RTIP and to make any technical changes to the RTIP in response to input from City, County, and/or State staff.**

* No Public Comment

*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Garcia.
All in favor

- 6. Request your Commission approve Resolution No. 2021-14 to amend the Overall Work Plan (OWP) to include roll-over Rural Planning Assistance (RPA) funds. RPA funded grants unexpended amount totaled \$55,268.66 as of June 30, 2021.**

*No Public Comment

*Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg.
All in favor

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 7. None**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

8. ESTA Report

- **Executive Director's Report**

*Phil Moores stated that he submitted a staff report in the packet and gave a brief update.

Phil said that they finished their audit this year with no issues. He went on to say that the company taking passengers from Bishop Airport to Mammoth is advertising paying their drivers \$6.00 more an hour than ESTA. Phil said that he is looking into increasing their revenue to be able to be more competitive and offer their drivers an increase in wages. Phil went on to say that ridership is still down and the electrification plan will be starting next month.

9. Tribal Report

None

10. DVNP Report

None.

*John Pinckney stated that he received word that Jane Mercer is no longer with Death Valley National Park and he does not know if someone will take her place in the meetings.

11. Caltrans Report

*Dennee Alcalá reported on the Olancho Cartago 4-Lane Project. She said that the Desert Tortoise fence construction contract will wrap up at the end of the month. She said that the prime construction for the 4-lane contract has been approved and construction should begin in 2022. Dennee went on to say that the California Transportation Commission is posting the 2023 Active Transportation Program workshop today from 1-4pm. Dennee then stated that Mark Heckman has provided a power point presentation in the packet and will also give a short presentation.

*Mark Heckman shared the Bishop Area Access Circulation Study from the packet and gave a short presentation.

12. City of Bishop Report

*Commissioner Muchovej reported for Deston Dishion that they are still working on the East Line St. Bridge and there are no updates since the last meeting.

13. Executive Director's Report

*Michael Errante reported that December 19th is wheels down for the Bishop Airport. He said there will be a 10% locals discount for flights. Mike also reported that they are working diligently on the expansion of the terminal. He went on to say that the North Round Valley Bridge project has had some delays and they are about 2 or 3 months behind. It is anticipated the Bridge will be done by late spring 2022.

14. Reports for all members of the Inyo County LTC

*Commissioner Thompson commented: Commissioner Roeser forwarded the project from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, it's a good project. It mentioned the CAT team that we worked on for travel management for the Forest Service. Apparently, they are going to use that model. It can get complicated when you draw in all the user groups for the Buttermilk project; it takes a long time, but he hopes they use that model and he hope that grant gets funded. He said it's complicated and is a long slow process and it took months to go over 3000 miles of road. Sometimes 5 feet of road per night. He said he believes the Buttermilk project will be the same. The outcome could be like the North Fork of Lone Pine Creek, one of the east side's major climbing areas, where only 10 permits area allowed per day. We have parking problems all up and down all the trailheads. We spent 20 years on the Alabama Hills and we're just now implementing some of the recommendations, like no camping on west side, and designated campsites. These details take a long time to work out. Commissioner Thompson went on to say that hopefully the grant will open up the process, and the more stakeholders you can get into the process early on is important. As president for the Desert Mountain RC & D, the USFS asked the DMRC&D to take on the meetings for travel management plan, it worked because they were a non-profit. The trail system for Alpine County to Southern Inyo County, that's going to be really complicated. As an example, the trail from Lone Pine to Mt Whitney is almost linked – just 500 feet to go. It will hook the town of Lone Pine to the trail that goes between Canada and Mexico. Please step up to the plate if asked to volunteer. Olancho - 4 lane is now visible, just has two more accidents at the turn off to 190. This is an example of another project that took a lot of years.

CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURNMENT:

10:05am