

LASSEN COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
Board of Supervisors Chambers 707 Nevada Street Susanville, CA 96130

REGULAR MEETING
October 6, 2014 - 3:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chairperson Eid.

Roll call of members present: Jim Chapman, Rod E. De Boer, Brian R. Wilson, Larry Wosick and Todd Eid.

Staff Present: John Benoit, Executive Officer and Gwenna MacDonald, Clerk.

Mr. Benoit requested a correction to delete Item 4, Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for fiscal year 2014-2015.

Motion by Commissioner De Boer to approve the agenda with the correction as noted; Commissioner Wilson provided a second and the motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Chapman, De Boer, Wilson, Wosick and Eid.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner De Boer to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2014 meeting; Commissioner Chapman provided a second and the motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Chapman, De Boer, Wilson, Wosick and Eid.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

7 Continued Public Hearing: Consideration of establishment of Sphere of Influence for Herlong PUD and West Patton Village CSD

Mr. Benoit reported that on August 11, 2014, the Commission adopted Resolution No. 2014-0005, accepting the Municipal Services Review for the Herlong PUD (HPUD) and West Patton Village CSD, (WPVCSD) which made determinations but did not affect the Sphere of Influence. The SOI report provided for several options, including a zero sphere for WPVCSD, and sphere expansion for HPUD to include WPVCSD; consolidation of service functions, establishing two spheres; one for public works functions and the other for fire and emergency medical services; and a consolidation committee. On July 29, 2014 the HPUD and WPVCSD Boards met and agreed to pursue consolidation or reorganization of their respective districts. At the August 11, 2014 meeting, the LAFCO Commission directed staff to work with Mr. Pat Williams, HPUD General Manager, and prepare a Sphere of Influence resolution and map.

Mr. Benoit noted that the resolution and map had been drafted, proposing a zero sphere for WPVCSD, and a proposed Fire and Emergency Medical Services sphere of influence based on surrounding fire agencies to include the existing unserved areas located between Milford FPD and Doyle FPD in the Herlong PUD sphere of influence.

Chairperson Eid opened the continued public hearing at 3:09 p.m. and requested comments from the public.

Commissioner Chapman observed that the Herlong PUD sphere is fairly large, and the land along the shoreline of Honey Lake will vary depending upon the level of the lake water. He stated that the Board of Supervisors has been having discussions regarding the land that was deeded to the County by the Army, and that it is important to delineate the sphere border based upon the underlying parcels, and not the shoreline of the lake, to create one unified piece that will represent the District Sphere of Influence. It is important in the establishment of a District boundary to include the entirety of a parcel, to avoid the situation where services are provided on a segment of the parcel and not the whole thing.

Mr. Benoit stated that the proposed map was for the establishment of a sphere of influence and not the service boundaries for the District.

The Commission discussed the importance of ensuring that services including fire protection were provided to all residents without inadvertently leaving parcels out of the district boundary areas, and the process for district consolidation which Mr. Benoit described as a process of an annexation to the Herlong PUD and subsequent dissolution of the West Patton Village CSD.

Commissioner Wilson confirmed with the West Patton Village representative that the CSD was supportive of this action.

Vivian Peterson, Manager for West Patton Village Community Services District, summarized the challenges residents in District face regarding water service. The Sierra Army Depot provided water service for fifty years, and were directed with the recent Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) mandates to stop providing utilities. The District has been trying to get up to speed prior to being cut off by the Depot, and there are very few choices. There are 155 West Patton Village customers who will be facing rate increases with water and wastewater service.

Eula Johnson, WPVCSD Board President, asked if the District would essentially be in limbo until the current process moves forward.

Mr. Benoit explained the basic process of dissolving a CSD, noting that the large burden of paperwork to facilitate the consolidation would fall on the Utility District.

There being no further comments, Chairperson Eid closed the public hearing at 3:34 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Wosick to approve Resolution No. 14-0006 adopting the sphere of influence update with the condition that only whole parcels would be included in the sphere; Commissioner Chapman provided a second and the motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Wosick, Chapman, De Boer, Wilson and Eid.

8 Discussion of Groundwater Legislation

Mr. Benoit reviewed recent changes in legislation that result in the regulation of groundwater resources by the imposition of mandates on, among others, the agencies that provide water. There are three bills which have been enacted with phased implementation, depending on which tier an area falls in. Lassen County is in the lowest, or tier three, and the role that LAFCO will play in the process will likely be evolving as the process moves forward. The Commission discussed balancing growth pressure versus resource pressure, and the potential impacts that mandatory enforcement has on Lassen County.

9 Payment of Claims: August 2014 and September 2014

Motion by Commissioner Wosick to approve claims for August 2014 and September 2014 in the amount of \$6,827.13; Commissioner Wilson provided a second and the motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Chapman, De Boer, Wilson, Wosick and Eid.

10 Executive Officers Report

Mr. Benoit reported that the Meyers Healthcare District Annexation meeting was scheduled for October 7, 2014 in Adin, and he will share the concerns of Lassen LAFCO so it is on their radar screen that Lassen County voters must be provided with an opportunity to vote, and that annexing new citizens who will be subjected to payment of a usage tax without being offered an opportunity to vote was not acceptable.

Mr. Benoit reported that the Southern Cascades Community Services District had a measure on the June ballot which did not pass, and would be bringing resolutions back and proposing a possible special election, which would be appropriate as the District cannot form without the establishment of revenue.

Mr. Benoit announced that the firm of Best, Best & Krieger would again offer ethics training at no cost to local government officials. The training has been held in the City of Susanville council chambers and has been so successful that this year, a change in venue was being considered. He would provide more information to the Commission as it becomes available.

11 Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Chapman informed the Commission that he located the original Honey Lake TV file, and offered to entrust the file to Mr. Benoit, with the understanding that he would archive it for historic purposes.

Motion by Commissioner De Boer, second by Commissioner Chapman to adjourn until December 8, 2014; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Chapman, De Boer, Wilson, Wosick and Eid.

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Todd Eid, Chairperson

Approved

Gwenna MacDonald, Recording Secretary