

# COUNTY OF INYO NATURAL RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2014 MEETING

### MEMBERS:

DAVID GERMAN (VICE-CHAIR)  
DOUG THOMPSON  
TOM NOLAND  
DANA JEFFRIES  
WALTER SHARER (CHAIR)

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### ALTERNATES:

JAEL HOFFMAN  
VACANT

### STAFF:

JOSHUA HART, AICP  
VACANT

PLANNING DIRECTOR  
PLANNING STAFF

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The Inyo County Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC) met on Thursday, August 21, 2014, at the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Room in the County Administrative Center in Independence, CA.

Walter Sharer, Chair opened the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

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**ITEM 1: ROLL CALL** – Members in attendance: David German, Walter Sharer, Dana Jeffries, Doug Thompson and Alternate Jael Hoffman. Tom Noland was absent. Ms. Hoffman participated on the Committee due to the absence.

Also present was Joshua Hart, Planning Director; Marge Kemp-Williams, County Counsel; David Nam, Deputy County Counsel; Elaine Kabala, Associate Planner; and Courtney Smith, Transportation Planner.

**ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – This was the opportunity for anyone in the audience to address the Committee on any related subject that was not scheduled on the Agenda.

There was no one from the public wishing to address the Committee.

**ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2014.

Committee-members indicated that the draft minutes incorrectly identified the election of the Chair as Committee-member German and the election of the Vice-Chair as Committee-member Sharer, and that the Committee's action was that Committee-member German was elected Vice-Chair and that Committee-member Sharer was elected Chair.

**MOTION:** Moved by Committee-member German to approve the minutes with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Committee-member Thompson.

The Motion passed 5-0, with Committee-member Noland absent.

**ITEM 5: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE ATV ADVENTURE TRAILS OF THE EASTERN SIERRA PROJECT** – The Adventure Trails System of the Eastern Sierra, Inc. has submitted an application for a proposed project in accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 628 and the Inyo County AB 628 Implementing Procedures to undertake a pilot project to designate several combined-use routes for off-highway vehicles (OHV) up to ten miles long on certain unincorporated County roads; and the City of Bishop to undertake a project to designate several combined-use routes of up to three miles long on certain roads maintained by the City of Bishop. Inyo County has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act for implementation of the 38 combined-use routes within County- and City-maintained roads in and around the unincorporated communities of Aberdeen, Big Pine, Independence, Lone Pine; and routes in and around the City of Bishop. Dick Noles, Steve Toomey, and Randy Gillespie provided an overview of the project to the Committee, including passing out a brochure being distributed for existing OHV recreational opportunities in the County. Committee members inquired about enforcement, marketing, education, licensing, and other related topics. Staff members Courtney Smith and Elaine Kabala then provided an overview of the project and the DEIR. Committee-member Jeffries suggested facilitating out-of-State drivers, and Committee-member Sharer expressed concern about noise.

**MOTION:** Moved by Committee-member Jeffries to recommend that the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors accept the EIR. The motion was seconded by Committee-member Sharer.

The Motion passed 5-0, with Committee-member Noland absent.

**ITEM 6: BROWN ACT PRESENTATION** – The Committee received a presentation regarding the Brown Act from County Counsel, Marge Kemp-Williams. The Committee and Ms. Kemp-Williams discussed various Brown Act provisions relevant to the Committee's operations.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Hart discussed mileage reimbursements and the upcoming expiration of Committee-member Sharer's term. A request for a presentation regarding a wind project in Olancho was made; Mr. Hart indicated that he is unaware of any such proposal, but that he will investigate and agendaize it for a future meeting if any information is available. The Committee commended staff's presentations.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Prepared by:  
Joshua Hart, AICP  
Staff to Natural Resource Advisory Committee