

COUNTY OF INYO PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2007

WILLIAM STOLL
VACANT
SAM WASSON
RICHARD WHITE
PAUL PAYNE

FIRST DISTRICT
SECOND DISTRICT
THIRD DISTRICT
FOURTH DISTRICT (VICE- CHAIR)
FIFTH DISTRICT (CHAIR)

Inyo County Planning Commission
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The Inyo County Planning Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, June 27, 2007, in the Board of Supervisors Room, Administrative Center, 224 N. Edwards Street, Independence, California. Chair Payne opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

These minutes are to be considered for approval by the Planning Commission at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

ITEM 1: **ROLL CALL** - Commissioners: Rich White, William Stoll, and Paul Payne.

Also present were: Assistant County Counsel, Randy Keller; Senior Planner, Jan Larsen; Senior Planner for Planning Director, Pat Cecil; Associate Planner, Adena Fansler; and Secretary, Sharon Birmingham.

Absent: Commissioner Sam Wasson and Planning Director, Pat Cecil.

ITEM 2: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Action Item)** – Approval of Minutes for April 25, 2007.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Stoll to approve the Minutes for April 25, 2007 and that they be entered into the Administrative Record.

The Motion carried (3-0-1). Commissioner Wasson absent.

ITEM 3: **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA** – Opportunity to add or delete any item to the agenda with the approval of the Commission.

There were none.

ITEM 4: **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – Opportunity for anyone in the audience to address the Planning Commission on any subject pertaining to planning that is not scheduled on the Agenda.

There were none.

ITEM 5: **AMENDED RECLAMATION PLAN NO. 2007-03/CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (INDEPENDENCE PIT) (Public Hearing and Action Item)** – The California State Department of Transportation (CALTRANS), with the permission from Bureau of Land Management, is requesting an amendment of Reclamation Plan No. 97-76. CALTRANS is proposing to extend the time period of use from 5 years to 10 years;

increase material mining from 550,000 cubic yards to 1.2 million cubic yards; and allow for the placement of a portable asphalt plant within the material site only during periods of construction of planned highway 4-lane projects.

Chair Payne opened the public hearing at 10:05 a.m.

Adena Fansler, Associate Planner, presented the Amended Staff Report to the Commission, which was provided at the beginning of the meeting. A spelling correction on page 5, the word “dessert” should be “desert” was noted. Ms. Fansler requested that the Amended Staff Report be entered into the Administrative Record as Exhibit A.

Brad Mettam, representative from CALTRANS, spoke in support of the proposed project.

Portions of this public hearing were video taped by Bennett Kessler of KSRW.

Kenney Scruggs, TRIAD, spoke in opposition to the proposed project. Ms. Scruggs was concerned with the impact on the communities, with the doubling of the time and materials to include the use of hauling trucks close to town. Ms. Scruggs indicated that it was not clear as to each period of mining. Also, Conditions of Approval 7, 8, and 9 are not defined in the Report or the Reclamation Plan. Ms. Scruggs was also concerned with the odor of smoke. Ms. Scruggs suggested a revisit to the air quality and transportation issues. Ms. Scruggs also suggested that nearby residences receive notification.

Chair Payne closed the public hearing at 10:35 a.m.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Stoll to:

- 1.) Adopt the Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact and certify that the Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated in accordance with CEQA and reflects the County’s independent analysis and judgment; together with the Initial Study and all other information in the record, the Negative Declaration shows that there is no substantial evidence that the Amended Reclamation Plan will have a significant effect on the environment. The Negative Declaration is hereby certified and adopted; and
- 2.) Approve Reclamation Plan No. 2007-03/California State Department of Transportation (Independence Pit) with the conditions of approval recommended in the Staff Report.

The Motion carried (3-0-1). Commissioner Wasson absent.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS – There were none.

PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Senior Planner, Jan Larsen, updated the Commission on various projects.

CORRESPONDENCE - INFORMATIONAL –There were none.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, Chair Payne adjourned the meeting at
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10:55 a.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, July 25, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room, Administrative Center, Independence, California.

Prepared & Recorded by:

Approved: August 29, 2007

Sharon M. Birmingham,
Secretary To
Inyo County Planning Commission