

COUNTY OF INYO PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2010 MEETING

COMMISSIONERS:

WILLIAM STOLL	FIRST DISTRICT (CHAIR)	Inyo County Planning Commission
CYNTHIA LITTLE	SECOND DISTRICT	Post Office Drawer L
SAM WASSON	THIRD DISTRICT (VICE-CHAIR)	Independence, CA 93526
RICHARD WHITE	FOURTH DISTRICT	(760) 878-0263 / (760) 872-2706
PAUL PAYNE	FIFTH DISTRICT	(760) 872-0382 FAX

STAFF:

MIKE CONKLIN	PLANNING DIRECTOR
TED PEDERSEN	PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
KEVIN CARUNCHIO	COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
SHARON BIRMINGHAM	PLANNING COMMISSION SECRETARY
TANDA GRETZ	SENIOR PLANNER
JOSHUA HART	SENIOR PLANNER
ADENA FANSLER	ASSOCIATE PLANNER

The Inyo County Planning Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, in the Board of Supervisors Room, Administrative Center, in Independence, California. Chair Stoll 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: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Stoll.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL - Commissioners: Paul Payne, William Stoll, Sam Wasson, Cynthia Little, and Richard White.

Also present were: Mike Conklin, Planning Director; Susanne Rizo, County Counsel; Josh Hart, Senior Planner; Tanda Gretz, Senior Planner; and Sharon Birmingham, Secretary.

Absent: Kevin Carunchio, County Administrator
Ted Pedersen, Public Works Director

Josh Hart, Senior Planner, was seated at the dias in the Planning Director role.

ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – This is the opportunity to address the Planning Commission on any planning subject that is not scheduled on the Agenda.

There was no one from the audience wishing to comment.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Action Item) – Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2010.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Wasson and seconded by Commissioner White to approve the Minutes from March 24, 2010.

The Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5: TENTATIVE TRACT MAP #243/VALLEY HOMESTEAD LAND & LIVESTOCK (BARLOW) (Action Item) – A request for an extension of time in which to file the Final Map for Tentative Tract Map #243/Valley Homestead Land & Livestock (Barlow), which was approved by the Planning Commission in 2006.

Tanda Gretz, Senior Planner, presented the Staff Report to the Commission. Ms. Gretz informed the Commission that the extension would be for 4 years as allowed by the Government Code.

Commissioner White expressed concerns that the Inyo County Code did not allow for a 4 year extension and that a legal request may need to be made to modify the existing code. Josh Hart, Senior Planner, informed the Commission that the bond could be provided for filing the final map as an alternative for the applicant if prior to 4 years.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Wasson and seconded by Commissioner Little to:
Approve a four-year extension of time for the filing of TTM #243/Valley Homestead Land & Livestock, Inc. (Barlow), as recommended by staff.

The Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6: NATURAL RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NRAC) – Chair Tanksley of the Natural Resource Advisory Committee updated the Commission on the following items:

Input of data on roads into the GIS system; grazing issues, agriculture, Natural Resources; OHV use; U.S.F.S. Planning Rule; fish stocking, and the questionnaire being developed for camp grounds to gather data. Mr. Tanksley also mentioned the grants for possible consideration in the future for the OHV use.

Chair Stoll took a short break at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

ITEM 7: CALIFORNIA DESERT PROTECTION ACT OF 2010 (Action Item) – The Board of Supervisors approved correspondence to Senator Feinstein regarding the proposed California Desert Protection Act of 2010, directed staff to solicit further input from the Planning Commission, the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC), and the Agricultural Resources Advisory Board, and return to the Board at a later date with follow-up correspondence incorporating this outreach. Input has been provided by the NRAC, and was sought from the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Wasson had concerns with some of the language being used and it was clarified by staff to his satisfaction.

Commissioner Payne expressed concerns with language being included for sovereign lands, and national monumental lands.

The Commission expressed concerns with language needing to be stronger as it relates to the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT). Also, they would like to see the Wilderness Study Area (WSA) that remains.

Chair Stoll opened the public hearing at 11:30 a.m.

Dave Tanksley, private citizen, spoke of eminent domain on federal lands in the state of Utah.

Jim Scott, private citizen, spoke of the fund structure for PILT and the need for stronger language in the correspondence to be sent to Senator Feinstein.

Chair Stoll closed the public hearing at 11:36 a.m.

Commissioner Payne suggested that counting tourists and not just population may help. As the need to take care of the tourists are provided by Inyo County while they are here.

Chair Stoll opened the public hearing at 11:40 a.m.

Jim Scott, private citizen, informed the Commission of the dilemma of ranchers going to the Water Department when an issue arises with the water in fear of the Department of Water and Power.

Chair Stoll closed the public hearing at 11:45 a.m.

Josh Hart, Senior Planner, informed the Commission that there was a comment from Imperial County to be incorporated into the Correspondence to the Senator.

ITEM 8: **COMMISSIONERS' REPORT/COMMENTS** – The Commission thanked Mike Conklin, Planning Director for his service and dedication to the department and to the County of Inyo.

ITEM 9: **PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Josh Hart, Senior Planner, thanked Mike Conklin, Planning Director for being his mentor and Mike Conklin, thanked the Commission and informed the Commission that Josh Hart, Planning Director as of May 1, 2010 is very knowledgeable and will make a fine director.

Josh Hart went on to inform the Commission of upcoming projects.

Susanne Rizo, back from maternity leave, gave a welcome back speech, and an update about her new baby .

ITEM 10: **CORRESPONDENCE-INFORMATIONAL** – There were none.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, Chair Stoll adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room, Administrative Center, Independence, California.

Prepared by:

Sharon M. Birmingham

Sharon M. Birmingham,
Secretary To
Inyo County Planning Commission