

County Administrator's Office

Supervisor Fesko chairs panel at Great Basin Water Forum – Supervisor Tim Fesko moderated a panel at the two day forum discussing the region's water issues. The panel subject was a discussion on the Los Angeles aqueduct project monitoring, management, and mitigation programs.

Presenters include Jim Yannotta, Manager of the aqueduct, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; Bob Harrington, Ph D, director, Inyo county Water Department; and, Ted Schadenfreude, air pollution control officer, Great Basin pollution control district.



The Beginning of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Aqueduct – Picture courtesy of Supervisor Tim Fesko

Legislative Update from the California State Association of Counties is available – CSAC staff has been following a number of bills that were on the Governor's desk right up until the deadline on Sunday. Available via [CSAC webpage](#) are some of the more pertinent pieces of legislation the Governor acted on over the weekend.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Rural Counties Representative California Urges State to Make Past Due Payments to Counties- RCRC has issued the following press release and has asked all rural counties help pressure the administration to make required payments to the counties. Mono County will be participating in this effort and is analyzing monies due.

From the RCRC Press release:

“The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) urged Governor Jerry Brown to honor the State’s legal and financial obligations to counties as related to the Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (DFW) Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). RCRC requests that the State include current and past due payments in the 2014-15 State budget and resume annual PILT payments as legally obliged.

“Counties across the state are doing everything in their power to reduce expenses and tighten budgets to fund critical programs and services for residents,” said Nate Beason, RCRC First Vice Chair and Nevada County Supervisor. “All the while, the State owes 36 California counties more than \$17 million in past due PILT payments. The Administration has indicated that paying off California’s debts is one of their top priorities. These past due PILT payments are one of those debts.”

California PILT was established in 1949 to offset adverse impacts to county property tax revenues that result when the State acquires private property for wildlife management areas. Fish and Game Code Section 1504 specifies that when income is derived directly from real property acquired and operated by the State as wildlife management areas, the DFW shall pay annually to the county in which the property is located an amount equal to the county taxes levied upon the property at the time title was

transferred to the State. The DFW has neglected to make annual PILT payments in more than a decade.”

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Town of Mammoth Lakes begins Solid Waste conversation – Supervisor Larry Johnston, Tony Dublino and I attending the Town of Mammoth Lakes October 16th Council meeting where an item on solid waste was being discussed. The item of interest was the staff presentation on the state AB 341 requirements that requires the Town to report on ongoing diversion efforts. The Council agreed to agendize a broader discussion in the next month or so and staff will be following up with Town Manager Dan Holler to request County participation. This upcoming Council discussion could be the first steps in opening the broader, needed public dialogue on all jurisdictions solid waste issues.

Tony Dublino sent a letter to the Council last week (attached separately to Board Update) and again expressed the County’s ongoing interest and efforts to support a long term solid waste solution. Mayor Wood appreciated Tony’s information.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Boulder Creek Prescribed Burn Response – In response to Mono County’s request for a delay in the prescribed burn in the Sequoia National Forest, the Sierra Forest Legacy group has sent a letter supporting the burn. The Board sent a letter requesting a delay in order to reduce the impact of more smoke on the health of our residents and of the local economy which had seen great impacts from an unprecedented smoky summer.

No response from the Forest Service has been received. The Sierra Forest legacy response is attached for review and the County is awaiting the Forest Service’s response which was delayed due to the Federal Government shut down.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Federal Government re-opens – On Thursday, October 17th, all federal agencies have been re-opened due to a short term agreement between the Congress and the Administration. Te re-opening will restore federal agencies services until a new deadline of January 15th and has extended the Governments debt ceiling until February 15th. It remains likely we will be seeing the budget discussions continue non-stop between now and the next deadline.

Departments should analyze all federal and state sources of revenue which may be impacted by another shutdown.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

Economic Development

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK REOPENS TO VISITORS – The Yosemite Gateway Partnership provided an update (Attached spate to Board Update regarding the great news of the re-opening of Yosemite.

The Update from Wednesday evening is as follows:

"Yosemite National Park reopens to park visitors tonight, October 16, 2013. Visitors can access public areas and roads immediately while facilities and other public services are brought back on-line. Yosemite National Park has been closed since October 1, 2013 due to the government shutdown.

"We are excited to reopen and welcome visitors back to Yosemite," stated park superintendent Don Neubacher. "Autumn is a particularly special season to enjoy Yosemite's colorful grandeur."

Major highways and roads leading into and through Yosemite National Park, including the Glacier Point and Mariposa Grove roads, are open to vehicles. Park visitor centers will reopen and Ranger-led programs will resume on October 17. Visitors are urged to consult the Yosemite Guide for a list of programs.

Valley campgrounds in Yosemite will reopen on October 17. Those with reservations will be able to check in by noon. First come, first serve sites at Camp Four, Wawona and Hodgdon are also available.

Delaware North Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc., the park's primary concessioner, is reopening facilities and will begin to welcome guests immediately.

The Ansel Adams Gallery, located in Yosemite Village, will also reopen.

CONTACT: Jeff Simpson, (760) 924-4634

Community Event Marketing Available - Mono County, through its Tourism & Film Commission, is pleased to announce the availability of a Community Event Marketing Fund (CEMF) reimbursement program to support organized, non-profit groups that may require additional revenue to market and promote tourism-based community events. The purpose of this program is to further the Mono County Tourism & Film Commission's (MCTFC) goal to increase year-round visitation and overnight stays in Mono County which provide economic benefit to the region

Up to \$4,000 in funding on a reimbursement basis is available per event, determined by the scope and needs of the event. Total funding available for CEMF is \$20,000. **Please see the attached application for details!**

Application submission deadline: November 1st, 2013. All applications for the 2013-14 must be submitted by November 1, 2013 in person, by mail or electronically to:

CONTACT: Jeff Simpson, (760) 924-4634

Information Technology

Town IT Support Services contract signed - Last week the Town of Mammoth Lakes signed a 5 year contract with Mono County for IT support services. Through this agreement, Mono County will operate as the IT Department for the Town, providing front-line desktop support for all Town staff, server and network maintenance/support, and advice and guidance on technology best-practices. The first phase of this effort began on October 7th, with the replacement of several critical servers, and 25 PCs at the

Town's main offices. Work will continue through the end of the year at other sites, and on other critical infrastructure.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

Mono County prepares for Digital 395 -This week Praxis will complete fiber splicing work in Mammoth, which will put the County one step closer to having Digital 395 in all of our facilities. We anticipate having a circuit made available to us in the next week or so, and to begin testing with the new network shortly thereafter.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

Public Health

Public Health Officer issues proclamation to protect health care workers from influenza – It's that time of year again – flu vaccine is being offered to all health care workers (HCW). The most efficient method of preventing cases of influenza in the community, with the resulting morbidity and mortality, is by the use of pre-exposure influenza immunization.

Dr. Johnson issued an order mandating that all licensed healthcare facilities, agencies, and entities in Mono County, including within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, implement a program in which all HCW at such facility, agency, or entity receive an annual influenza vaccination for the current season, unless the HCW signs a declination (e.g., stating a medical contraindication, or philosophical or religious belief), and wears a mask while in contact with patients or working in patient-care areas.

Facilities, agencies, and entities covered by this order shall determine the means of implementation and enforcement within their organization (e.g., adoption of personnel policies, use of incentives or penalties, suspension of professional privileges, etc.). Further, Dr. Johnson is recommending that each health care facility adopt an easy way to identify those health care workers who have received the influenza vaccine, e.g., placing a sticker on the health care worker's badge following vaccination.

The goal is a >90% vaccination rate in all facilities/entities within Mono County and this order applies to each influenza season, defined as November 1st of one year to March 31st of the following year, unless the order is rescinded.

If data in a particular year demonstrate that the influenza season is different than Nov 1 to March 31, this period may be changed by further order, as determined by the Health Officer based on local, regional, state, and national surveillance data, and communicated to all facilities/entities in writing.

CONTACT: Richard O. Johnson, M.D., MPH, 760-914-0496

Public Works

Pre-winter Projects underway by County Facilities Division - The boiler for Annex II has arrived and the install is moving forward. The hot water heater is also being replaced by an in-direct unit that is tied into the boiler which is significantly more efficient than a traditional water heater. However, you



wouldn't even be aware that the boiler was missing as our portable heating unit has been doing the job in the interim.

Community Center Solarization continues! - The solar projects at Lee Vining Community Center and the Crowley Lake Community Center are also progressing rapidly as the crew focuses on staying ahead of the winter weather.

These systems include photo voltaic panels as well as solar hot water which will reduce our energy bills as well as our carbon footprint. The solar hot water system at the CLCC will also introduce hot water into the boiler system which will reduce our propane as well as electricity bills. The funding for these projects came from a Clean Air Projects Program grant.

Contact: Joe Blanchard, (760) 932-5443



Sheriff's Office

1. Completed background packets on two possible hires (1 Deputy, 1 PSO) have been received. Psychological testing has been set up and should be completed by the first week of November on both. Medical testing will proceed after that and hopefully get these individuals hired by the end of November.
2. RIMS updated software will be installed hopefully the first week of December. This software update will also affect the DA's Office as well as Mammoth Lakes Police Department. It will enable all agencies to better communicate and monitor any and all reports, suspects, and other information from agencies.
3. The old electrical power pole was removed from the rear yard of the jail. This is a positive both for safety reasons as well as aesthetics.
4. The Sheriff's Department is moving forward with an MOU with Mountain Warfare Training Center, the current draft is in the Military Staff Judge Advocate's Office for review. If you didn't already know, MWTC also has a new Police Chief, Mr. Frank Atkins who replaced Al Reshaw.

CONTACT: Sheriff Ralph "OB" Obenberger, 760- 932-7549

REMINDER! -- New home for Mono County Search and Rescue to be dedicated on November 23rd! - The Mono County Sheriff Search and Rescue (SAR) Team, over the past several years, have been working very hard in fundraising efforts to build a permanent building and permanent "home" for the team. The SAR Team, besides the thousands of countless volunteer hours spent in the field helping those in need, also does thousands of hours of training to keep their skills fresh. The team has vehicles, snowmobiles, and other equipment that help make their volunteer time more effective to those victims they serve. Even though the team has been fortunate to always have a place to "store" equipment, and other facilities which to house their trainings, the team has never actually had their own "home".

With their successful fundraising efforts, the generous land use by the Mammoth Community Water District, and all the generous donations they received (over \$850,000), the SAR Team is proud to announce that their new "home" is complete! The dream of finally having a home base in which to operate this team of dedicated volunteers has come true!

On Saturday, November 23rd, 2013, the SAR Team would like to extend a welcome invitation to all of their generous donors, and all the members of the Mono County communities, to join them in their building dedication and open house from **11:00am to 3:00pm at 1315 Meridian Blvd in Mammoth Lakes.**

Please join the team rain, snow, or shine for this major accomplishment! The team will be hosting tours of the new building and training center, along with demonstrations of their equipment. The team could not have been successful in meeting this goal and accomplishment without the kindness and generosity of those within and beyond Mono County and it is time to celebrate together!

CONTACT: Jennifer Hansen, (760) 932-5279

