



Mariposa County

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT



MINUTES OF THE WAWONA TOWN PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, October 6, 2023
TIME: 9 A.M. to Noon
LOCATION: The Redwoods in Yosemite – Conference Room
8038 Chilnualna Falls Road, Wawona CA 95389

AUDIO OF THE MEETING STREAMS ON THE INTERNET BUT HAS A 1-4 MINUTE TIME LAG. CONSEQUENTLY, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO PROVIDE INPUT FROM OFF-SITE ARE INVITED TO DO SO BY SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS (SEE BELOW) OR BY JOINING THE TELECONFERENCE (CHARGES MAY APPLY) BY CALLING:

Call In-Number: 929-352-1921 ID# 662 014 613#

Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting are invited to do so by submitting written comments (instructions follow) or by joining the meeting in-person.

WRITTEN COMMENTS: Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Postal Service, email or may be dropped off the Planning Department. In your written communication please note in the subject line: Which Planning Advisory Committee you are commenting to and indicate which "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM #" (insert the item number relevant to your comment) or "PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEM" that you are commenting on.

- 1) Mail • Send written communication to:
Mariposa County Planning Department
PO Box 2039, Mariposa CA 95338
- 2) Email • Send an email to the planningdept@mariposacounty.org
- 3) Drop Off: • Written communication can be dropped off at:
Mariposa County Planning Department
5100 Bullion Street, 1st Floor, Mariposa, CA 95338

No matter which of these formats you choose to use for written communication (Mail, Email or Drop Off) please know that in order to ensure distribution to the committee prior to their consideration of the agenda, and in order for your written comments to be placed into the record it must be received no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please

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contact the Clerk of the Board’s Office.

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(Please note that while comments may also be sent via U.S.P.S. Mail to PO Box 784, Mariposa, California 95338, that method is not recommended as there is a high likelihood that it will not be received prior to the meeting.)

Persons who, due to a disability, need assistance or special accommodations in order to participate in this meeting should, as soon as possible prior to the meeting, contact the Clerk of the Board at (209) 966- 3222, option 2 (voice) or email board-clerk@mariposacounty.org to request special accommodations for persons with disabilities.

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A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Eugene Spindler called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Danielle Bondshu/Clerk of the Board acting as secretary called the roll. The following individuals were present. Chuck Jones, Eugene Spindler, Richard Jacobson, Edward Mee, Alton J. Brown, Roger Soulanille, Ken Kehrer, and Marty Cerles. Excused members included Tony Christianson, Gale Bank, Paul Koubek, and Gary Wuchner. Quorum was established.

Chair Spindler noted agenda items F.1 and F.2 will follow the presentation from Public Works, which was item E.1.

B. Introductions

Chair Spindler asked the public members in the room to introduce themselves.

D. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Shannon Hansen/Public Works Director updated the committee on the road conditions and the upcoming winter. She noted Mariposa Ave is complete, they had to go out for bid. She noted they were able to do the stripping of the road for the school. She noted the team is prepping for winter and her department has been allocated seven new roads positions to assist with roads.

E. Presentations

1. Receive a presentation from Mariposa County's Public Works Department on Solid Waste Services and Decide Whether to Recommend that the County Proceed with a Rate Increase for Waste Collection Services in Wawona

Sam Cervený/Deputy Director of Public Works gave a PowerPoint presentation noting the anticipated maximum cost per resident is \$158.80 per quarter.

In response to a question from Mr. Jones, Mr. Cervený noted the cost is because of the competitive bid, noting if each household wanted individual service, there is no start up, but the cost would be significantly more.

Public comment was received by Mike Heckly/Resident who asked if there was a smaller cart, in which Mr. Cervený noted yes, but the cost is in the pickup.

Further committee discussion ensued on the possibility of bulk item pick-up. In which it was decided against, noting contractors needed to be made responsible for hauling away construction material.

Chuck Jones presented an independent study he conducted on Short Term Rentals (STRs) who noted there are on average 2.7 times as many cars, which means 2.7 times more people and garbage. He also presented his dumpster tour findings, noting the public visitors and park staff are using Wawona garbage cans.

Public comment was received by Trish Peterson/Resident who inquired about pine needle pick

up, noting residents were told last minute that it was not going to be picked up. She noted they as a community needed to find an option, suggesting maybe individuals with pick-ups to take to a burn pile. She noted this strategy would be difficult for 250 parcels which is why its imperative the County continues to pick them up.

On Motion by Edward Mee, Seconded by Ken Kehrer, the Committee agreed to allow for the Proposition 218 process to move forward as presented by Public Works by unanimous vote

Further discussion ensued on bulk item pick up. In which both Mr. Kehrer and Rosemarie Smallcombe/District 1 County Supervisor noted a vote was already taken and this would need to be discussed at another time.

RESULT: APPROVED AS PRESENTED

The Committee took up item F.1, then returned to E. 2

2. Receive a Presentation on the 2023 Community Survey Results and Strategic Plan Update from the Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

Recessed for a brief break and reconvened at 11:02 AM.

Supervisor Smallcombe gave a PowerPoint presentation. She noted she has placed white sheets on the walls and asked individuals to write possible goals for the community. She wanted to hear their feedback on what the County's priorities should be.

In response to a question from Rick Jacobson, she noted they did not yet have the employee input, but she felt the County Administrative Officer would reach out to department heads and factor that input in. She noted the Board engages in a retreat typically in November to have a conversation about the strategic plan.

Ms. Bondshu noted the retreat date may change.

Roger Soulanille and Alton Brown noted they felt the poor feelings about government could be the negative feelings people have towards Washington D.C.

Item ended at 11:45 PM.

F. Discussion and Possible Action – moved up

1. Review and Recommend Approval of the Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee's Annual Report to Mariposa's Board of Supervisors

NOTE: The below item became a mixed discussion of F.1 and F.2.

Supervisor Smallcombe gave the staff report, noting there is a blank page. She noted agenda item F.1 was approved at the meeting in August but wanted further feedback for any additions prior to it being submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Soulanille noted he had no issues with the new draft by-laws, made mention of membership. Supervisor Smallcombe noted a recommendation could be made to authorize additional membership positions. It was also discussed to include language in which if a new application is received, it will be submitted to the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for

approval before submission to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Soulanille asked if they should include language on if an individual does something to cause termination of the committee such as violation of the Brown Act, the committee was told that the committee's policy has that language in place.

Supervisor Smallcombe noted they would include language that "members of the WTPAC may recommend approval of an additional member".

Mr. Jacobson noted in Article 3, since the committee policy is in effect, he felt the annual report needed to be complete by April of the following year. He felt the October time frame was meaningful. He suggested that the calendar for the following year be adopted so the annual report is done in October. Chair Spindler noted he agreed, when officers are elected, it needed to be the beginning of something. Supervisor Smallcombe noted most committees at the first meeting of their year, set a proposed meeting schedule.

The committee agreed to use Robert's Rules of Order and have the organizing meeting set to the October meeting where they vote on Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, finalize the annual report, and set the following year's meeting calendar.

The inclusion of language that it will take a 2/3rds vote to amend the by-laws as well as the inclusion of language to "schedule set by the committee" the minutes will reflect April, June, and October.

On motion by Rick Jacobson, seconded by Ken Kehrer, the Committee approved the by-laws as amended by unanimous vote.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED BY-LAWS

Committee moved back up to E.2

2. Review, Discuss and Recommend Approval of the Wawona Town Planning Advisory Committee's Updated Bylaws by Mariposa's Board of Supervisors

See above.

G. Approval of Minutes

1. Approve the Minutes of the August 11, 2023 Meeting

Ms. Bondshu noted she was notified there was a missing "P" in WAPPOA, which would need to be amended.

On Motion by Edward Mee, Seconded by Ken Kehrer to approve the minutes with a minor amendment was passed unanimously.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

L. Information Updates

1. Supervisor District 1

Supervisor Smallcombe gave a few updates noting she would like to add "Wawona Town Plan Compliance" to the Future Agenda items. She noted she will assist and devote time to Firewise recognition for any community in the County. She discussed information she had received in regard to insurance and

Firewise. In response to Mr. Jacobson, she assured the committee that the MOU is an important and the committee will have ample time to review. Mr. Spindler noted his concerns with the MOU having lapsed.

2. Planning Commissioner District 1

No updates from District One Planning Commissioner as he was not present.

3. Wawona District Ranger

Justin Fey/District Ranger noted he appreciated the trust the community has in them. He noted Chad Andrews retired and he took his institutional knowledge. He expressed that it is a big priority to get that position filled, hopefully before the expected winter. He noted overall, they are doing a lot of hiring. He expressed the need to help mitigate as many dead and dying trees and debris prior to fire season. He noted its important to keep parcels maintained so they do not become the target of arson, such as arsonists who started the Washburn Fire.

M. Future Agenda Items

1. MOU Between Yosemite National Park and Mariposa County Regarding Wawona
2. Wawona Golf Course Update
3. SDA Camp Wawona Project Update
4. Addition from Smallcombe – Wawona Town Plan Compliance

Mr. Jacobson noted three of the items on the “Future Agenda Items” didn’t seem to be withing their purview. Chair Spindler noted it’s still good practice to have a body of monitors as they are serious community issues.

Supervisor Smallcombe noted she felt future agenda items are concerns for the WTPAC, and noted where it involves the County and the Park Service, she felt having those items on the agenda was okay.

N. Adjournment

12:14 PM Chair Spindler adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Bondshu, Acting Secretary
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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