

# **PLUMAS COUNTY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

## **A Commitment to Coordinated Public Service**

### **Plumas County Management Council Meeting Minutes**

**9:00 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2004**

### **Plumas County Library Community Room**

Bob Conen brought the goodies. Thanks Bob.

**Present:** Barbara Thompson, William Kelly, Gayla Trumbo, Karl Bishop, Sid Roberts, Mike Tedrick, John McMorrow, Elliott Smart - Chair, Kathy Williams, Scott Lawson, Rich Turner, Margaret Miles, Bob Conen, Chuck Leonhardt.

#### **Mid-Management Report:**

William Kelly, Assistant Building Official, gave a report on the Health & Wellness program involving a monthly power-walk. The 40-minute walk is hoped to improve health and morale of county employees. He also passed out material on leadership qualities. Kelly also gave an overview of upcoming Mid-Management programs, and wants to build up attendance at their meetings.

In response to a question about electronic election hackers Kathy Williams reported on election results from the March 2 election. The normal voter turnout is 70%, this year it was down at 56% due to some kind of voter confusion-affliction.

#### **Budget Meetings with the Board of Supervisors:**

Bob Conen gave a summary of budget meetings of the past month. He guesses there will be a 3% to 7% deficit in the budget. Worker's compensation rates are way up. The county has spent \$600,000 so far and the WC budget is \$750,000, making WC a significant item. PERS also needs discussing. Budget hearings are planned for the first week of June. The Board will supposedly meet in April to talk about priorities. They plan to go through the service categories and determine priorities. It is hoped the Board will be able to give department heads an idea of what priorities they are establishing as affects each department. Let's hope.

#### **Status Report on State & County Budgets:**

Mike Tedrick indicates he won't know what will happen with the budget regarding post-election results until at least March 17. He thinks General Fund departments are OK this year, but it is still unknown what will happen with the governor's budget versus the legislature's budget. Worker's Compensation is still an issue and we could be \$1,000,000 short in our reserve. WC rates may double next year, and WC reform won't take effect for a few years. Each time "reform" has occurred, rates have gone up. Surprise! California has the lowest benefit level and the highest premium rate in the nation. Even if there is any real reform, the county won't see the effects for three to five years. If WC is increased to full coverage, roughly 10% across-the-board cuts will be applied to all departments. 2005-2006 debt service will come due, with \$1,500,000 to hit the general fund.

#### **Personnel Administration:**

Standing item: John McMorrow asked "How do you keep your office pleasant?" No one had any suggestions (at least that he was willing to take). Gayla Trumbo spoke on the need to be more active in the areas of safety and ergonomics and to be proactive regarding WC claims. The IT department can scoot right over to check your office ergonomics. Chuck Leonhardt spoke on the cost effectiveness of risk management to prevent office injuries and the past discussions regarding an analyst position for those issues. It was noted that fire evacuation drills have not been kept up over the past few years and that if you are stuck in the second floor women's restroom, tough luck.

**Board Review of County Codes:**

The Board is still considering pursuing this project. Only one department so far submitted their ordinances. Bob Conen thinks the project will be beneficial, but doubts it will happen until next fall. Bob Conen's last day is March 14 though he will still be on call for the rest of the calendar year. Julia Coleman will take over as CAO on the 15<sup>th</sup> with an informal Management Council meeting to greet her on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.

**County Building Projects:**

Construction is continuing at the Annex; concrete to be poured soon. The One-Stop Permit Shopping Center has been approved to begin \$1.2 million in renovations. Fortunately no a-----s was found. Kathy Williams asked about the Assessor and Building & Planning moves and the amount of \$500,000 in remodel money for B&P to become a courtroom. Some work will be "pay as you go." An emergency exit is the next priority after the courtroom (see above).

Someone felt the Space Committee should be resuscitated. It was continued to the March 19 meeting (incidentally, no one brought it up at that meeting).

**Round Table:**

Margaret Miles announced that Larry Williams is the new Literacy Coordinator and that the library also received \$99,000 for supplies, etc. as well as a CCTV in Chester and more books on CD. Elliott Smart noted there is a new Tribal Taniff Office opened in Quincy that is block grant funded. Tribal groups can now contract with the Office of Human Services. Scott Lawson noted events coming up at the museum: Art reception, 150<sup>th</sup> celebration, and that Lori Simpson is now the new Assistant Museum Director. Chuck Leonhardt said that despite losing staff his business is up, the GIS program that has been three years in the making is coming along well, they are upgrading new software, and he will have a mandated appraisal of his appraisal system next year.

Adjourned 10:30 a.m.

/s/ Scott Lawson, *temporary* minutes taker, substituting for Judi Mault.