



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF MONO**

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January 17, 2012

Honorable Judge Stanley Eller  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
100 Thompsons Way  
P.O. Box 1037  
Mammoth Lakes, California 93546

Re: Response to the Mono County 2010 - 2011 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Eller:

Please consider the following responses to the 2010 – 2011 Mono County Grand Jury Report and place this document on file as the Mono County Board of Supervisor's response to the Grand Jury Report.

**Responses to the findings and recommendations:**

**Sheriff's Department  
Complaint #10-01**

Note: As you presumably know, the Sheriff has already responded to this portion of the report pursuant to Penal Code sections 933(c) and 933.05(c), and the Board appreciates the Sheriff's response. It appears that a response by this Board is neither required nor arguably even authorized by section 933.05(c), because the report pertains solely to personnel matters over which the Board lacks decisionmaking authority.

**Public Works Department  
Complaints #10—04**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1) a. Enhance communications, employee recognition.  
The recommendation has been implemented. Public Works is continuing to go through a restructuring, which should enhance communication opportunities

(and improve customer service, among other things). The County implemented an employee recognition program several years ago, which it continues to utilize.

b. Involve supervisory staff on various levels.

The recommendation has been implemented. Supervisory staff are involved in various levels of the operation, including budget preparation.

c. Periodic in-house training regarding purchasing and payroll.

The recommendation has been implemented. As part of the restructuring mentioned above, accounting staff has been placed under the Finance Department, which has provided them with training.

d. Tioga Pass opening.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County has long provided support to the National Parks Service to get Tioga Pass open as early as possible.

e. Hire an in-house design professional.

The recommendation requires further analysis. County Administration will review and consider the recommendation, including funding issues, during the next six months.

(2) a. Review timecard process.

The recommendation will be implemented. County Administration and the Finance Department are currently evaluating software for timecard processing (for all employees), which should streamline the process for time efficiency.

b. Convey accomplishments.

The recommendation has been implemented. The County endeavors to publicize the accomplishments of the Department.

### **Child Welfare Services Complaints #10—05**

#### **Findings:**

The Board agrees with the findings.

#### **Recommendations:**

(1) Search for additional CWS staff.

The recommendation has been implemented. The Department of Social Services continues to have a vacancy, but the Board has approved broadening the recruitment to Social Workers III. This will allow the Department to increase the potential applicant pool. It additionally and critically, will provide an opportunity to have an employee transfer into the position from another county. It is believed this would greatly help address case load and staffing issues. Additionally, the Department of Social Services has hired a Program Manager specifically for Services and a Vocational Trainee for Child Protective Services. Both of these

new positions should aid in balancing the work of Social Workers. Finally, the Department of Social Services is working on cross training all Social Workers.

(2) Search for new foster homes.

The recommendation has been implemented. Department of Social Services has recently completed a Foster Parent State Orientation, the first step in certifying foster care homes. It appears from such there is on additional family that is now in the process of being certified as a foster home. Mono County is working with the State to conduct such Orientations on a regular 6 month basis. Mono County Department of Social Services is additionally working to keep this issue visible to the public, in hope to encourage recruitment. An example of such is a one page article that recently ran in a special section of the Mammoth Times addressing the need for Foster Parents. Finally, Mono County is investigating the possibility performing the licensing for foster homes in lieu of the State.

**Right-Of-Way Codes  
Complaint #10-07**

Findings:

The Board agrees with the findings.

Recommendations:

- (1)
  - a. Complainant's existing mailbox.  
The recommendation has been implemented. The agreement was signed by all parties and recorded.
  - b. Code enforcement consistency.  
The recommendation has been implemented.
  - c. Staff knowledge.  
The recommendation has been implemented. Numerous discussions have taken place with staff to reiterate mailbox requirements and other right-of-way issues.
  - d. Informational handout.  
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
  - e. Communication training.  
The recommendation has been implemented and will be implemented with additional training in the coming months.
- (2)
  - a. County Code enhancement.  
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.
  - b. Code development.  
The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.

c. Informational handout.

The recommendation will be implemented within the next three months.

d. Mailing of correspondence.

The recommendation has been implemented.

e. Coordination with Postal Service.

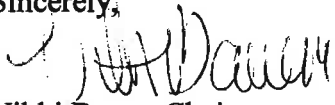
The recommendation will be implemented within the next six months.

f. Website enhancement.

The recommendation will be implemented. Mono County is presently working on a new improved website. It is a lengthy and costly project and is being accomplished when funds are available.

We thank the members of the grand jury for their public service.

Sincerely,



Vikki Bauer, Chair  
Board of Supervisors