

Mammoth Lakes Recreation Commission Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Resolution making findings to allow the Recreation Commission to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

Commission Meeting Date: 2/1/2022

Prepared by: Stuart Brown, Parks and Recreation Director

Recommended Motion: Adopt the resolution making findings to allow the Recreation Commission to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

Summary: On December 7, 2021, the Recreation Commission by motion adopted a resolution making findings to allow the Recreation Commission to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency. To continue to rely on the relaxed teleconferencing provisions, each advisory/legislative body must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and make the following findings by majority vote, every 30 days:

- The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or
- State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

The Recreation Commission has expressed an interest in continuing to utilize the virtual meeting process. AB 361 creates statutory exemptions to the Brown Act that extend flexibility for remote public meetings during proclaimed emergencies, through January 1, 2024. State and local agencies must give the public notice and an opportunity to comment and participate at meetings in real time, even using remote means, and they must comply with certain prerequisites in order to rely on the remote meeting provision. While this new law relaxes certain remote meeting requirements relating to member participation, agendas, and public accessibility at remote locations, the underlying aim of the Brown Act remains - to ensure meetings of local agencies be open and public.

The current process used for Commission meetings meets the requirements of AB 361. The process does allow for in-person comments at the council chambers (437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z). Public comments generally and on specific items are allowed for in real time including via Zoom which may be accessed through a published link or phone number. The Recreation Commission continues to accept public comments in writing or by email. Email comments are accepted during Commission meeting as well as prior.

The Commission will need to reconsider the circumstances and need for remote meetings every 30 days. This process will continue until the emergency is terminated or the Commission determines it is safe to reconvene in-person meetings and not utilize the flexibility provided under AB361