

Action Minutes of the regular meeting of the Round Valley Area Municipal Advisory Council (RVAMAC)
Held Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Online by Zoom at URL <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81233910849>

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Jessica Stull-Otto at approximately 6:00 p.m.

1. The meeting was attended by the following persons:

Council members

Jessica Stull-Otto, Lew Chichester, Dane Downing, Kathy Britton

Officials

Tom Fitzgerald, CalTrans, Travis Killmer, Mendocino County Executive Office Disaster Recovery Field Coordinator, John Haschak, 3rd District Supervisor, Matt Kendall Mendocino County Sheriff

General Public

Pat Sobrero, Lourance Hall, Dee Mullen (any other participants were unidentified)

2. The agenda was approved by consensus after a minor date error was corrected.

3. Minutes for May 5, June 2, and July 7 were approved by consensus.

4. Discussion, Public Comment, & Possible Action: Traffic Safety and Clean CA Grant project ideas for downtown streetscape improvements.

Tom Fitzgerald provided an update on the Clean California project – downtown traffic calming and streetscape beautification – and clarified that this project is funded entirely by CalTrans and is not dependent on qualifying for grants. He further clarified that Clean California also includes a grant component for local projects, such as Howard Street improvements, which are out of CalTrans right-of-way. CalTrans projects must be completed within a relatively short time frame. This particular project must not only be designed and funded but construction must be completed by June 30 of 2023. At some future time community input will be part of the initial design process. Schematics provided by CalTrans to date are merely starting points of basic features and are expected to be modified pending community input. Regarding Hwy. 162 rock slide maintenance Tom reported that he is negotiating with the employees union and expect they will be amenable to allowing an exception to their work rules to allow Bryan, the CalTrans driver who lives in Covelo, to do more of the maintenance work on the road. Bryan is also anticipated to be able to operate a plow truck in his daily commute along the road and conduct maintenance enroute back and forth.

5. Sheriff Kendall announced a big recruitment push to get more deputies and that the department is looking for applicants from local communities. However Mendocino county's pay scale puts it at a disadvantage to other counties such as Sonoma, where pay is about 30% higher.

6. Report from Supervisor John Haschak & Public Comment.

John had a lengthy list of matters to report on, including the following:

- In light of the success of the Referendum petition against the proposed cannabis ordinance (22.18 of county code) the ordinance was voted down by all five members of the Board of Supervisors.
- Redistricting – the 3rd district currently has to lose about 1200 residents and the 4th (Fort Bragg area) has to gain about the same. The redistricting commission is holding public hearings.

- Transfer station upgrade to accommodate the “possum belly” transport vehicle – the price tag has apparently doubled from \$26,000 to \$52,000. Engineers are working on the design and preliminary discussions continue.
- State funding for eradication of illegal cannabis grows – John and Sheriff Kendall are continuing work on this. State Senator McGuire has secured \$1.5 million for the Emerald Triangle counties with \$600,000 of that allocated to Mendocino county. The funds are earmarked for sheriff’s overtime and per diem for out-of-county personnel.
- Drought task force (John and Glenn McGourty) – short term measures envisioned are prohibiting water hauling at night and fines for illegal grows. For the long term the possibility of instituting a land use process for well permits is under consideration.
- Lew Chichester informed the meeting that he had received a call from code enforcement’s Bryan Webb and was informed that three new staffers have recently been hired. Code enforcement is developing a process to deal with complaints including cannabis grows and other violations. A critical feature of the process will be to allow fines against property owners where grow and other violations occur.
- John later announced that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for \$1 million for cleanup on tribal and non-tribal properties was still in process.

7. Discussion, Public Comment, & Possible Action: Treasurer 's Report

Treasurer Dane Downing reported the balance of funds available is the original allotment of \$2500.

8. No further action was taken by the Council. Meeting was adjourned by the Presiding Officer at approximately 7:30 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION THE VIDEO OF THE MEETING ON ZOOM CAN BE VIEWED AT:

<https://mac.roundvalley.org/agendas-minutes/>