

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Round Valley Area Municipal Advisory Council (RVAMAC)  
Held Wednesday, March 3, 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 6:00 p.m.

1. The meeting was attended by the following persons:

**Council members**

Kathy Britton, Jessica Stull-Otto, Lew Chichester, Charles Sargenti (Alternate), Dane Downing, Kat Willits, Jim Russ, Laura Betts

**Officials**

John Haschak, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor, Matt Kendall, Mendocino County Sheriff, Mary Anne Petrillo, CEO West Business Development Center, Una Wirkebau, Director, Mendocino Opportunities for a Vibrant Economy (MOVE 2030), Brian Edwards, CalTrans

**General Public**

Pat Sobrero, Kay Richards, Mary Lou Mileck, Lourance, Heidi Edwards, Mary Jane Cummings, KMUD, Billie Williamson, Susan O'Brien, Dee Mullen, Monique Ramirez

2. The agenda was approved by consensus with one change, to start off with the MOVE 2030 presentation.

3. Minutes from the February 3 meeting were approved by consensus.

4. MOVE 2030

Mary Anne Petrillo presented Resiliency Plan highlights:

Mendocino awarded \$500 K to:

1. Create an Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plan
2. Complete a Broadband Implementation Plan
3. Hire an Economic Development Coordinator
4. Create Digital Learning Hubs

A Community Action Plan To:

- Developing living wage jobs
- Helping residents be more resilient
- Safety Issues
- Looking for ways to invest in communities

John Haschak notes that he has met with Dr. Keith Taylor for UC Davis Extension regarding economic development and they are trying to figure out a plan for investment groups, cooperatives and other avenues that use the strength of community to build up Covelo. He is trying to find out about grants for Water System Needs from the Interim Director of Planning and Building.

Action taken: Jessica and Dane to redraft a letter previously approved by Council listing economic development objectives for Round Valley to send to the Board of Supervisors

## 5. Public Comment

Dee Mullen expressed concern about overgrown lots on Tribal land which increases fire risk. Jim Russ pointed out that doing anything on heirship parcels is difficult because there may be dozens of owners. Kat Willits added that surveys, which would be required, are expensive and can run between \$5000 - \$12,000.

## Trash Cleanup

Brian Edwards suggested the community adopt more local roads. Contacts are Bill for the county Adopt-a-Road program (707-445-6563) and Cecil at the CalTrans yard in Willits (707-459-2218).

## 6. Tribal Council update

Jim Russ reported that beta testing for the broadband project is underway. Illegal marijuana grows have escalated out of control and the tribe is talking with BIA about it. Also the tribe is looking for a contractor to deal with illegally dumped cars. Kat Willits mentioned other issues including the difficulty of limiting tribal grows when all around are others doing big grows and is working with the sheriff to improve backup for the Tribal police. Matt Kendall remarked that he is hoping to eventually have deputies on patrol here on a 24-hour basis. Meanwhile illegal grows are using enough water to put at risk fire fighting efforts in the midst of the upcoming fire season.

## 7. Cannabis Cultivation Expansion

Various issues on the proposed expansion ordinance were discussed with consensus being it should not be allowed.

Action taken: Jessica to revise a previous letter on the same topic to the Planning Commission and include references of support for letters from the Laytonville MAC and the Round Valley Water District and Lew is to review said letter prior to mailing.

## 8. Report from Supervisor Haschak

COVID- still in the purple tier, heading hopefully for red. RVIHC doing a great job with testing and vaccines.

US Cellular – two cell towers to be online by May.

Illegal garbage and abandoned vehicles – if there are vehicle blocking right of way, call code enforcement.

Looking at what Mendocino Solid Waste Management can do to help with the garbage problem.

Water shortage—this is going to get much worse as we allow excessive water to be pumped out for illegal grows.

Vaccinations – our county has the highest utilization rate in the state. We are getting 3000 vaccinations done each week.

## 9. Disaster Preparedness Working Group

Pat Sobrero: we need to designate fire safety zones and keep them mowed and also have Porto Potties and water on site, plus communications. We are working to organize this and have a drill to see what happens. The library plans to host a Zoom meeting in April on developing Fire Safe Councils. Attend the meeting to learn about how to start one and get funding to help neighborhoods stay safe.

Lourance: Rec Center area is mowed starting in late May and has porta potties available.

Jessica will connect with Pat to put the fire safety meeting info on the MAC website.

Jim Russ: Tribe is still working on emergency ops center at the business park. They are ordering items for the center and plan to have an evacuation center there also

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council Presiding Officer Jessica Stull-Otto adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

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

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