

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Round Valley Area Municipal Advisory Council
Wednesday, August 3, 2022
Online by Zoom at URL <https://zoom.us/j/2324039636>

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Charles Sargenti at 6:03pm.

The meeting was attended by the following persons:

Council Members:

Charles Sargenti
Lew Chichester
Jessica Stull-Otto
Dane Downing
Laura Betts
Kathy Britton

County/State Officials:

John Haschak, 3rd District Supervisor, Mendocino County
Travis Killmer, Mendocino County Executive Office Disaster Recovery Field Coordinator
Tim Ahearn, US Postmaster for Covelo
Heather Menninger, MCOG
Stacey Caico, ED&FC
Garrett James, Mendocino County OES

General Public:

Mary Jane Cummings
Marylou Mileck
Susan O'Brien
Pat Sobrero
Mary Jane Cummings
Carol Borden
Sandra Mullen
Kay Richards
Lourance Hall
Janet Cox
Patricia

Action Taken: Approval of Agenda

Charles announces skipping Item 4 because minutes are not finished. Charles proposes having Presiding Officer approve the agenda without motion and vote. Dane notes decision making is by consensus, not motion and 2nd, but only call for objections then consensus noted. CC said roll call votes are necessary because of zoom meetings. Laura asks about email requesting that rules be added to the agenda. Charles noted 72 hours notice needed to get on agenda. Charles states agenda approved without further objection.

Action Taken: Authorization of Remote Teleconference Meetings

Resolution authorizing remote teleconference meetings: Motion by Lew. Roll call vote: Dane yes,

Lew yes, Jessica yes, Laura yes, Charles yes. **MOTION PASSES.**

Non-Agenda Items: 6:08pm-6:15pm

Jessica Stull-Otto: 3 projects. Water quality testing is available through the Water Board; if you know any location that has concerns about water contamination please let her know so she can add those to the list to test wells. She is organizing community bike rides and walks around town to get ideas about infrastructure needs; if you want to sign up email to (email address was put into the chat app). She wants to create a volunteer alley at BBF; space for NPs or other orgs looking for volunteers can have a table to connect with potential volunteers. To join a bike ride or walk to talk about bike and pedestrian infrastructure we'd love to see, in a fun, family friendly manner please email slowrollcovelo@gmail.com.

Heather Menninger MCOG: coming to Covelo on August 22 for MCOG transportation study listening session at the Library; notice about listening sessions going out to community by mail; looking for solutions for transportation challenges to our area. Her email will be in the chat app. She is on Item 8 of today's agenda. heather@ammatransitplanning.com

Stacey Caico, Development Manager for ED&FC (Economic Development & Finance Corporation): CA Micro Business Covid 19 Relief Grant Program has money available; re-opening the portal to apply; \$2500 grants available to micro businesses and start-ups affected by Covid 19; check eligibility requirements; her information in chat app with link to grant application. Stacey Caico, Development Manager, Economic Development & Financing Corp. PH: 707-234-5705 E: stacey@edfc.org. Announcement: CA Microbusiness CV-19 Relief Grant Program has funds remaining! \$2,500 for micro businesses in Mendocino County that were significantly impacted by CV-19. The grant portal has been re-opened until all funds are exhausted. Visit www.edfc.org for more info and eligibility requirements. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Agenda Item 8 taken out of order to complete Heather Menninger:

Jessica: would MCOG and RVAMAC be interested in a publicly noted meeting to comply with Brown Act on August 22 at 11am Stakeholder Meeting or 1pm Public Meeting if more council members plan to attend? Would Lew want to make this meeting zoom-able? He might not be available to set up the zoom. Jessica notes it does not appear the Brown Act will come into play unless more MAC members attend. Lourance notes this meeting is during the CalTrans Cleanup Week. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

Postmaster Tim Ahearn on Issues at the Covelo Post Office. 6:22pm-6:43pm

Carol Borden wants to know why mail is put in the wrong boxes. Why she did not get package scanned in as received by 95428. Ahearn says there is a lack of training; new employees still learning names and do not pay attention to names; mail is presorted; lots of mistakes being made; box owners change a lot; they will improve. Did not have regular employees for a long time; still recovering from that. You can ask to put notes on your box as to who does and does not get mail there. If misplaced in wrong box and box owner does not return the mail, there is nothing anyone can do. There is insurance available. Ahearn suggests coming in and talking to him in person to try to resolve problems. He knows where to look for/track down packages if possible. He explains postal delivery processes. Ahearn says Covelo and the rest of the USPS are working on getting adequate staffing; there is a new employee here. Employee retention is a problem. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

Reports from County/State officials:

John Haschak: **6:53pm-7:13pm** He appreciates work on CalTrans dump days; RVIT going to help elders get trash to station; haz mobile scheduled then canceled; Mendo Recycle has Covid and staffing issues; they've canceled all hazmobiles but Ukiah; BOS passed proposed continued sales tax for fire district \$ and county-wide agency working on fire prevention to be on November ballot; \$4M per year

total, \$400K to fire-safe councils; need someone from 3rd to be on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (contact him if you are interested); Public Safety Advisory Board Laura Betts is representative; water extraction project passed by BOS going to CC for legal analysis then to planning, to regulate the extraction of water and sale from private property by keeping logs; seller must show it will not impact neighbors and no night hauling; hydrology study planned for ¼ mile from each well site to be paid by seller; community development block grant to be awarded in September for community clean up; RVAMAC term limits need to be decided (who is 3-year and who is 4-year?) so RVAMAC members need to notify John; if anyone wants to join the MAC contact him. Need 3 people to be 3-year to stagger members' terms. John proposes discussion at next meeting of the roles of the officers, norms and agreements for the MAC.

Lew adds discussion about smaller library branches getting less and less county money but the county librarian says Round Valley gets its share. Lew wants John to know he has 3 of the libraries in the 3rd District and RV will be lobbying for more money and a change to the method of distribution of money to benefit RV and other small branches.

Jessica asks Charles if he gets any mail from the county nothing the MAC of any planning; MAC did get notice of one project after the deadline to respond. Jessica tells John the MAC is not getting any referrals from planning either timely or at all, either within the RV district or county-wide. John will follow up with the director of planning and building.

Travis Killmer: 6:43pm-6:52pm working on bringing OES under Executive Office except that alerting and direct response remains with MCSO; new building will be at county admin center; Disaster Recovery in same location; introduces Garrett James. Charles asks about grants for farm and ranch land cleanup. Travis notes 8/11 deadline too close, but 11/10 deadline coming for ag/ranch zone clean up grant applications. \$50,000 must be enough to complete a particular site cleanup. The funders want site visits, photos, cy estimates, to see if it can reasonably be accomplished for \$50,000.

Garrett James: MCSO remains messaging center.

7:13pm Report by Charles on and discussion about upcoming CalTrans community clean-up and free dump week.

Action taken: MAC Table at Blackberry Festival

BBF committee has invoiced the MAC in the amount of \$95 for a RVAMAC information table at the festival. Motion by Lew to pay \$95 for booth; Kathy 2nd. Roll call vote: Lew yes, Jessica yes, Dane yes, Laura yes, Kathy yes. **MOTION PASSES.**

Action taken: Disaster Preparedness Group:

Group wants a MAC letter to the county transportation department about “correcting” the road signage to CR numbers and commonly used names. Lew will prepare and send letter to county. Laura moves to approve Lew's letter; Kathy 2nd. Roll call vote: Lew yes, Dane yes, Kathy yes, Laura yes. **MOTION PASSES.**

Group also wants to purchase parcel mapping software to look at possible evacuation routes, contact information for affected property owners, etc. \$400 per year seems to be the cost of such. Jessica has software programs available and other resource ideas that might suffice for the group's needs. John concerned this project is not within the scope of the MAC and this cost might not be reimbursed. Travis suggests using county GIS program for free. **NO ACTION TAKEN.**

Action Taken: Printing of Planning Document for Public Access

Jessica has an 88-page transportation planning document. She can print, put in a binder and store at the District Office or Library, and also has safe routes to school plan she can print. She would like reimbursement for paper and she will provide the ink. Can she invoice for a ream of paper? No

objections made.

No Action Taken: Selection of Interim MAC Secretary to Replace Acting Secretary

Jessica suggests paying a stipend for the preparation of meeting minutes. John says this is a proper expense for the MAC. Travis notes other MACs are paying for this service and will find out the rate. Lew suggests adding this to the agenda. Secretary does not have to be a council member; it is not necessary for the secretary to attend the meetings. **MATTER IS TABLED.**

Treasurer's Report:

\$2,500 deposited for this fiscal year; no expenses paid yet.

Other business:

John asks that the issue of MAC guidelines as to how to conduct business be placed on the next agenda. Charles states he will be calling a special meeting for this issue after the community cleanup. John said this meeting should be scheduled right now. Charles plans to poll the MAC for a time for a special meeting. Jessica is not available for a special meeting and would prefer it be on the agenda of a regular meeting. Dane wants this on the agenda of a regular meeting so it will be transparent. John said we need to deal with this issue so let's schedule this for the next regular meeting and work through it. Kathy wants to make a motion; Charles said it is not on the agenda for action. Dane notes if this is not addressed, participation could fall off. Dane asks it be on the agenda for the next meeting. Jessica had asked in May that the June agenda include an item of decision-making procedure for the MAC. Laura notes there is a quorum now and she also wants this on the next agenda. Kathy concurs that this needs to be on the agenda for the next regular meeting. Charles notes this will be at the end of the next agenda.

CERT brochures will be provided for the BBF table. Laura notes the RVIT is interested in this.

Adjournment of Meeting: Meeting is adjourned at 8:13pm.