

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Round Valley Area Municipal Advisory Council (RVAMAC)
Held Wednesday, February 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 6:02 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

Officials

John Haschak, 3rd District Supervisor

General Public

Pat Sobrero, Kay Richards, Mary Lou Mileck, Tekla Broz, Patricia, Justin Pinches, Lynn Zachreson, Monica Gowan, Russ, Wiley, Lourance, and one unidentified participant

2. The agenda was approved by consensus with the addition of one item, a request for support by MCOG.

3. Minutes from the January 6 meeting were approved by consensus.

4. Clarification of duties of Alternate Council members – Alternates shall cast votes only when there is an absence of one or more of regular members from either the general community or the tribe, respectively.

5. Tribal council update – no update this month

4. Supervisor's update

Supervisor Haschak is in touch with state representatives and PG&E about cleaning up the damage to trees from the recent snowstorm which created a lot of debris from falling trees and broken limbs. This will be a serious fire risk this summer if left unaddressed.

Another town hall focused on cannabis regulations is scheduled by the cannabis ad hoc for Thursday at 4 p.m.

Measure B – the Board of Supervisors approved several facets of measure B: the mobile operations unit, which will accompany Sheriff's deputies when responding to calls involving potential mental health issues, the community awareness and education program, and the aftercare program which provides follow up care after hospitalization. The Board is still considering site options for the psychiatric health facility. One option is the former hospital in Fort Bragg. The issue is proving to be contentious.

The cannabis 10% rule was approved 4 to 1 (Haschak dissenting) at the last supervisor meeting. The Phase 3 cannabis ordinance, which includes the 10% rule, will be reviewed by the Planning Commission sometime in March.

Animal and wildlife services: currently there are three separate programs for animal welfare. The animal care program is managed by the county, animal control by the Sheriff, and wildlife services by the USDA.

The Board is looking at consolidating these programs into a single entity for efficiency and cost savings.

Public Safety Advisory Board. The ordinance establishing the Board has underwent the first reading and will be active after the second. Haschak worked with Supervisor Gjerde and the Sheriff to develop the Advisory Board. The purpose is to bring awareness and facilitate communication about public safety issues in the county. Examples include abandoned vehicles, and the need for certain agencies to work together such as mental health and the Sheriff.

Jessica raised the question as to what types of matters the Board of Supervisors or Planning Commission take under consideration are appropriate for review by the MAC. Supervisor Haschak will check into that question with the county.

5. Item 8 on the agenda regarding a proposed amendment of code enforcement regulations. Due to absence of input from county counsel the matter was postponed to the next meeting. Jessica will contact Trent Taylor, code enforcement head, and Nash Gonzalez, interim Planning and Building director, to request their participation.

6. Agenda item 11, town water system for fire prevention. Dane reported on meeting with the Covelo Volunteer Fire Department who proved receptive to the general idea of helping obtain grant funding for the initial feasibility study. Board member Justin Pinches, with input from Lourance, clarified that the fire department was undergoing a tax audit and would not be in a position to accept grant funds until the audit was completed sometime in the next 6 months. The consensus was that Dane should attend the next meeting to ensure ongoing communication on the issue even though no concrete steps can be taken at this time.

7. Agenda Item 10. Overviews of the past year and future directions were given by Jessica (MOVE 2030), Dane (Economic Development), and Lew (Disaster Preparedness). Lourance recounted the experience of attempting to open the rodeo grounds during the fire for evacuation purposes. They were unable to do so because of liability and lack of resources for staffing and funding and the county was unwilling to help. It was agreed that the Disaster Preparedness group would help with the rodeo grounds issue. Jessica reported she is working on grant funding for creek cleanup and restoration and hoped to get the school and community involved in the effort. Regarding communication infrastructure Supervisor Haschak reported that U.S. Cellular will be improving service when their facilities using the tribe's new cell tower becomes operative later this spring. He also will contact Assemblyperson Jim Woods to see if he wants to attend a MAC meeting in the future, and is communicating with Monica Gowan through Mendocino Community College regarding beginning courses in the fall for paramedic training.

8. Letter supporting MCOG request. Dane requested the support letter include a manner allowing the MAC to provide input to the process. Jessica will send the letter with that addition.

9. Agenda Item 9.b. It was agreed that letters to agencies will be vetted by a 2nd MAC member prior to sending out as representing the MAC.

10. Meeting was adjourned by the Presiding Officer at 8:06 p.m.

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

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