

**MEETING OF THE ROUND VALLEY AREA MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
(RVAMAC)**

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Library Commons 23925 Howard Street, Covelo, CA

Mailing Address: PO Box 372, Covelo, CA 95428

www.MAC.RoundValley.org

MINUTES

Presiding Officer Laura Betts was absent due to illness. Asst. Presiding Officer Kathy Britton chaired meeting.

Council Members Present

Kathy Britton

Dane Downing

Charles Sargenti

Lew Chichester

Secretary Kay Richards was absent.

Kathy Britton, Asst. Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Action Taken: Approval of Agenda.

There were no objections to approval of the agenda; agenda approved.

Action Taken: Approval of Resolution authorizing remote teleconference meetings.

There were no objections to approval of resolution; resolution approved.

No Action Taken: Approval of February Meeting Minutes.

The February meeting had no quorum so no action was taken and therefore there were no minutes to approve. A description of what was discussed was submitted by the Secretary.

Public Comment & Announcements on non-agenda items.

- Lew noted that last week he saw linemen with boom trucks and fiber optic cable and the foreman confirmed the line is going from 101 to Covelo to Frontier's site in Round Valley. They are hooking up to Charter School. Round Valley is at the top of the list to get fiber optic to every person who has a Frontier phone account, and part of the reason the existing copper phones are in disrepair as they will be abandoned. No timeline was offered but this is the Frontier project.
- Dane received in the mail an October 2022 permit application that the county had sent for comments, which were due before he received the application. MAC meetings are always after the deadline to comment. Awareness of this is important but he is not sure what action to take. Kathy suggested contacting the department head. Charles noted Kay was in touch with the official who was responsible for noticing us which did not appear to result in a change. Kay would be most knowledgeable to handle it.
- Charles reported the Richard Wilson appreciation event going on in April. Would the MAC like to support it? No ideas were offered as to how to support it. Richard just published a new book Stand for the Land. Charles suggested a book signing.

Tribal Council Update & Public Comment. None.

Report from County officials & Public Comment.

a. Supervisor John Haschak: 49:12

Kay Richards and Marylou Mileck were approved by the BOS as MAC council members on 2/28/2023 and can act as voting members after signing the oath of office. The county and CalTrans partnered to get patients to Ukiah for medical visits during bad weather. “We” need to be thinking how to maximize the CDBG. With Clean Ca money maybe “we” could do what we want to do. He has been working with Rich Molinari who is cooperating with the RVIT to kennel dogs until they can be transported to the shelter. Kathy confirmed this is happening. John has heard no problems with 911 service in the Covelo area. Lourance asks about whether dogs are euthanized to make room for new strays. John admits there is a reluctance to take dogs into shelter due to overcrowding. Rich Molinari wants a county wide policy on neutering but no details as to the policy were offered. John will check with Rich Molinari about euthanization policies and report back to the MAC. There is a FEMA van in Willits to take applications for individuals needing financial support for storm issues.

b. Sheriff Kendall (Lt. Dustin Lorenzo standing in) 57:04

Covelo had a bad Saturday night last week, but otherwise it has been quiet in Covelo. Staffing is still an issue. Storm rescues are happening. A CHP program for sideshows is being planned with the Garberville commander to be rolled out when the weather improves and sideshow activity increases. The community needs to report this activity. Calls to MCSO have gone down so law enforcement assumes the activity has decreased.

c. Tribal Council – no appearance

d. Travis Kilmer, Mendocino County Disaster Recovery Field Coordinator – no appearance

e. James Sookne, MCOG 44:30

As to the 162 trail project, it was put it out to bid in October; bids came back higher than fund (as previously reported). MCOG is asking CalTrans for more money. CalTrans is sending request to March CTC meeting. Caltrans is asking if community supports this project. There is nothing stopping this project if CTC approves funding, and they are ready to execute the project with Wylatti whose bid is good for 240 days. They will miss the March deadline to start because of bird nesting protection from clearing activities. They may break ground before CalTrans beautification project, but may finish before them. They are hoping for no increase in material pricing now.

Updates on the Caltrans Clean CA Infrastructure Grant downtown streetscape improvement project and the 162 Bike & Pedestrian Trail.

Julia Peterson was called out of order at her request and was moved to after tribal council nonreport starting at 18:54. In February she met with RVIT and downtown steering committee so she is presenting current plan to the MAC. **Currently the** bidding specs are being drawn up at the Office Engineer to go out to bid; will be another 2 months before bid is out. They are still planing to build this summer. The work will be advertised for 3 weeks then a contractor will be chosen. Any changes now would require change order. The project scope has been increased and now starts before fire station and goes past East Lane. As safety is the most important aspect to this community, a pilot project was approved for rubberized speed humps, flat on top, through town on 162. This addition was a result of community input. The whups can be moved fairly easily to another location by CalTrans. They are adding bulb-outs and crosswalks at Howard; utility boxes will be adjusted; bike lanes will be re striped; a stamped brick median will extend 2 blocks on both sides of Howard; a tribal design will be woven into the project emphasizing the Yuki basket – the RVIT just gave approval and CalTrans is waiting for the final resolution of council approval from them. Solar decorative automatic light posts will have banner

brackets and are night sky compliant. CalTrans will provide the first set of banners and the community can design and add banners through an encroachment process; light settings can be adjusted; batteries will last about 5 years and Covelo will get 2 sets of batteries. Cycle 2 for CleanCA is open now – local grants are ok. Projects would be decorative, for safety, trees, art, beautification, etc. – it can also be used for more dump weeks. Work can match what's going on in 162, maybe even sidewalks with a right-of-way. Cycle 3 is not anticipated so this cycle must be taken advantage of; a District 1 grant manager is available as resource. March 17-27, 2023 are Community Day Cleanups – there is a Eureka Festival, etc. Sign up online for bags, pickers, etc.; CalTrans can't promise debris pick-up.

Action Taken: Public safety issues of loose dogs. 1:03:40

This topic was covered with John H report. Tribal police met Animal Control with 5 dogs recently. Animal control has been up several times in past few weeks and are asking for owners to set live traps on their property. Letter of MAC support suggested by Kathy B. to RVIT's efforts. Kathy will draft it.

Sonoma Clean Power seeks community input. 1:06:16

Suzanne Pletcher from SCP has been surveying in Mendocino County for knowledge of SCP, what people want to see in the future. Lew gave her feedback as to outreach possibilities. They can come to Earth Day. SCP has great rebates available now through the Advanced Energy Center: \$3000 for mini-splits, \$3100 for hot water heaters. SCP is the default power provider in Mendocino. Their Evergreen project 100% renewable energy is now policy for county buildings. It is more expensive but you can opt for it – sign up on line or call. Dane asked about PG&E ending its purchase of excess power from homeowners generated by solar panels. Pletcher responded that SCP's CEO wrote to the CPUC supporting lowering/ending homeowner's ability to sell back solar power to PG&E, which passed over strong opposition from homeowners. Lew suggested SCP provide information at Earth Day or in the Library. SCP needs equipment installers and are apparently recruiting but applicants must have experience.

CDBG Grant update 1:21:00

Nothing more reported by John. Cycle 2 of CleanCA discussed again. Mendo Recycle is dysfunctional at this point but might still be a partner. The list of projects to spend CDBG on not yet final. Removal of cars eliminated as a project because \$1000 per vehicle was quoted.

Next Meeting: April 5th, 2023. Send agenda items to admin@mac.roundvalley.org.

Adjournment at 7:31pm.