

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

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Library Commons 23925 Howard Street, Covelo, CA

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<https://mac.roundvalley.org/>

Minutes

1. Call to Order & Roll call at 6:30pm. Kathy Britton, Marylou Mileck, Kay Richards and Charles Sargenti present; Dane Downing, Laura Betts and RVIT members not present.
2. Approval of Agenda: Lew moved that the Sheriff's report be moved up so that Lt. Dustin Lorenzo could make the report for Sheriff Kendall at the earliest possible time; Kay moved to approve the agenda as amended. There were no objections and the motion passed.
3. Approval of Resolution authorizing remote teleconference meetings (see Attachment A): Charles moved to approve the resolution. There were no objections and the motion passed.
4. Approval of June minutes: Charles moved to approve the June Minutes. There were no objections and the motion passed.
5. Public Comment & Announcements on non-agenda items. None.
6. Discussion and Possible Action: closure of public access to Eel River. What, if anything, can the MAC do to support restoration of community access. Sponsor Bill Cull.

Bill Cull was not present. Charles reported that Eric Montenero was the new owner of the subject property. Charles e and Bill Cull were going to the area Saturday to look at the situation. Kathy Britton clarified that Charles was going as a private individual, not on behalf of the RVAMAC.

7. Report from County and Tribal officials & Public Comment:
 - a. Tribal Council update: none.
 - b. Sheriff Kendall: Lt. Lorenzo reported a very busy July 1-4 long weekend; current fire at Foothill and Crawford and on the ridge behind housing.
 - c. Supervisor Haschak: working with Lewis Whipple to have a Nicole Mann Day at Indians Days this year as recognition of her work. John is having trouble contacting RVIT regarding the CBDG but has another year to spend the money.
 - d. James Sookne, MCOG: on the walking trail, 2000 feet left to clear; earthworks start next week; there is a sewer line under the creek; the bridge will not have to be moved; Carol Borden was present and noted her fence and gate were removed by the contractor and some members of the public were trespassing; James advised he would contact the contractor and have a barrier installed for Carol.
8. Discussion and Possible Action: Special election. The MAC currently does not have a Presiding Officer. Therefore it would be appropriate to hold a special election to remedy that circumstance at this time or in the near future. Recommended action. Hold special election for Presiding Officer of the MAC. Sponsors Kay and Charles.

John Haschak will contact Laura as to her plans to continue as Presiding Officer of the RVAMAC and report back at the August meeting. This topic is to be on the August agenda.

9. Discussion and Possible Action: Agenda approval. Due to a number of circumstances the Agenda for our

monthly meetings has not been prepared by the Presiding Officer, as has been the custom since inception of the MAC, since January of this year. Although the Council has not weighed in on the matter, the individual preparing the Agenda (many thanks to that individual!) has deemed it obligatory to submit the Agenda for pre-approval to either the (elected) Presiding Officer or the Assistant Presiding Officer. However this practice raises a number of questions. 1) it is not in the Bylaws but if it is a requirement it should be. 2) In practice it has been a rubber stamp matter. Is another bylaw appropriate? 3) This potentially can conflict with the Council's oft expressed principle of giving voice to all members of the community. Pre-approval of the Agenda other than by rubber stamping can have only one effect, which is to censor or deny a particular proposed Agenda item. Since all members of the Council are free to add items to the Agenda it would NOT serve to give the Presiding Officer (or other party as the case may be) an opportunity to add something as that opportunity exists already. Furthermore approval of the Agenda is already required under our existing (although not necessarily codified) bylaws. Any problematic agenda items can thus be addressed by the Council as a whole and would be much more appropriate in terms of transparency. Recommended action: since approval of the agenda is already part of the meeting process and other reasons adopt a Resolution stating that no pre-approval of the monthly Agenda is required and should only be undertaken if it is the final step in a collaborative effort between the preparer of the Agenda and the reviewer. Sponsor Charles

Charles was concerned that there was misinformation that the Treasurer and Secretary did not have to be council members; that the Secretary was writing the agendas while not on the council. Kathy clarified that before Kay became a council member, she was contracted as Secretary and as the Secretary she was working with Kathy to formulate agendas. The presiding officer has the responsibility of preparing the meeting agendas; Kathy has been doing so in light of Laura Betts' lack of performance of her duties. Kathy will be preparing the agenda going forward unless Laura resumes her duties.

10. Discussion and Possible Action: Bringing in-house all the various electronic media and equipment currently under the control of various individuals. The Council utilizes a number of electronic media formats to communicate with the public, such as a website, Google group email, Zoom account, etc. Initially all these important communication tools were curated and controlled (either directly or indirectly) by individual Council members so it little mattered who owned them. Today several initial members are no longer on the Council. It is probably time to begin the process of consolidating all these things within the MAC itself. Recommended action: appoint someone to draw up a list of all the communication tools the MAC currently depends on and to develop recommendations for bringing these tools in house and under the control of the MAC. It may possibly make sense to hire an outside consultant to assist with this effort as some of these items are highly technical. Sponsor: Charles

Lew suggested preparing a spreadsheet of all RVAMAC information with login information, passwords, URLs, etc. so that the council has all information in the event the person normally taking care of particular work cannot do so and another council member must step in. Kay and Charles will work on this together and revisit the topic in August.

11. If available an update on the RVCDC's attempt to secure funding for a planning and feasibility study for a fire hydrant system in the town area of Covelo.

Kay reports 2 possible funding sources for feasibility study (CalOES BRIC and a USDA technical grant).

12. Treasurer's report : tabled to August meeting as Dane was not present.

13. Adjournment at 7:00pm.