

MEETING OF THE ROUND VALLEY AREA MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
(RVAMAC) Wednesday, January 03, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Library Commons 23925 Howard Street, Covelo, CA
Mailing Address: PO Box 372, Covelo, CA 95428 <https://mac.roundvalley.org/>

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order at 6:02pm. Roll call: Kathy Britton, Marylou Mileck, Kay Richards, Dane Downing present. Laura Betts, James Russ, Michelle Downey and Charles Sargenti absent.
2. Approval of Agenda : Marylou asked that Julia Peterson be first on the agenda with her CalTrans team; Kathy tables Items 7 and 8 because Jessica Stull-Otto will not be at the meeting. **Amended agenda approved by consensus.**
3. Approval of November 01, 2023 meeting minutes: Kay moves to approve, there is no discussion nor objections. **Meeting minutes approved by consensus.** .
4. **Public Comment & Announcements on non-agenda items.** Kathy Britton brings up loose dog issues; this will be on the February agenda to request help from the county agencies as this is even more out of control. Patrica Mera reported three dogs on Howard, attacking her dogs and each other. She also reported a dead dog on the sidewalk for at least a day or two. Patricia Mera asks who is responsible for the sidewalk on Howard between KYBU and the Tucker house. Lew Chichester thinks an improvement was made 10 years ago from a Safe Route to Schools program but not maintained. This item will be put on the February agenda. Dane reports being contacted about 3 dogs near Crawford & Foothill headed north; and there are two other packs there.
5. Report from County and Tribal officials & Public Comment:
 - **Julia Peterson, CalTrans:** introduces Scott Ellsmore who finds money for projects (maybe even county road projects) and two others from proactive and reactive safety. They are proposing changes to the downtown humps: taking out three humps; remaining humps will extend over bike lanes. They are also adding more signs and striping, and writing the word “humps”. Traffic is slowing. Now some people want more humps but no one is doing highway speeds through town anymore. Several people took her aside quietly during her last visit and thanked her for installing the humps. Lew Chichester wants more humps taken out. Marylou wants only 4 in town and installing some on Main Street at the same time. She reports emergency vehicles are speeding on Main Street with sirens. She thinks the humps are too harsh and could be just as effective; trailers and equipment are having a hard time. Carol Borden reports that two near Riffe Road made a huge positive difference for her tenants. Lew C. reports speeding has lessened such that “it's working and we don't need all of the humps”. Michelle Penalosa agreed with Marylou on Main Street conditions– she lives on Main Street. People are flying faster now on Main Street. Patricia M. asks if the flags will change - yes we can do what we want. Scott Ellsmore is the Investment Planning Manager for CalTrans and reports grant money might be available to be aimed at sidewalks, bike areas, etc. A Plan for Complete Streets is needed to line up for grants. We should set up a meeting to talk about this and loop in MCOG. Julia P. said CleanCA is wrapping up. This hump change will be the last work. John Haschak said set it up with Howard Dashiell. Ellsmore said there is more money for county roads now. Julia P. discusses maintenance agreement which is needed to make changes, do maintenance, change and move speed humps. Pat Sobrero asks on behalf of a charter school teacher who wants a Greeley cross walk over 162. Julia P. said it will not be in this work. Andreas Krause from CalTrans discusses M4 program in Caltrans that funds crosswalks. Will he put in money for us for this already? **Julia P. says CalTrans needs from the MAC a letter for what we want and**

why we need it. Send it to Andreas. Andreas said he will send out a request for projects. Lourance Hall reiterates the need for additional crosswalks at Grange, Greeley and Ebberle. Also the humps are not visible but the word “hump” is visible unless it is foggy and dark.

- **Tribal Council** update: not present
- **Sheriff Kendall** : not present
- **Supervisor Haschak**: appreciates Lew’s letter about the cell problems; reported about Kelly Hansen meeting and HCD not taking planning grants until the fall; fire hydrant project was well received by the board of supervisors. Dane asks about animal control changes/improvements. John said no but he will contact Rich Molinari tomorrow about dogs.
- **Mendocino County DOT**: not present

6. Old Business:

- a. Discussion/Update: Continuing discussion on the possibility of the county creating a safe housing area for deputy sheriff and other essential county employees and health care workers on the Forestry Service property located at the Covelo Ranger Station. **No action taken.**
 - b. Discussion and possible action on the resolution of the continual problems with telephone service, landline through Frontier and cellular service. Consider a letter of support both service providers requesting them to work on improvement of telephone services in and around Covelo. Update with latest information obtained by Lew Chichester. Katny left this on because of a continuing problem; US Cellular was off today. Lew reports consistently hearing from kids/parents because of their difficulty in contacting the schools between cell and school land lines. He asked for reports on Facebook; had a 2 hour conversation with a Frontier tech who blamed the other guy. Lew could never connect with US Cellular. The letter that worked was the one sent to Senator McGuire – this was a while ago. Now there is a new problem; will be a constant issue that won’t go away. Lourance reports the fire hall has the same problems. **No action taken.**
 - c. Discussion and possible action: Approve a maximum of \$250 for technical consultation for RVAMAC website, email, and possible other technical media platforms in order to assure ongoing MAC access and control (Imil Ferrera consultant). This item tabled at the November 1 meeting for additional information. Charles not present to discuss this. **Kathy tabled to February meeting.**
7. Discussion and possible action: “Transportation planning and data collection”? DOT was supposed to coordinate with County DOT to make sure they had enough notice to get traffic data on Main St. prior to the 162-downtown project. At the last steering committee meeting it was clear that they had not yet made sure to coordinate with DOT and that the Cal Trans project would leave a couple week time frame between stopping construction and installing speed bumps where there would be a return to “normal” traffic on Main St. Unfortunately, they seem to have only had this window of time between the construction barrier removal and the installation of the speed humps for a couple weeks including during the Thanksgiving week. Did DOT receive enough notice and were given enough time to plan accordingly. **Tabled to February meeting.**
 8. Discussion and possible action: The parking in front of the library was recently repaved and the lines have not yet been re-striped. Discussion at the Friends of the Library meeting was to make the parking situation safer for pedestrians who have to walk behind big trucks in the oncoming traffic lane to walk north to reach the library. Additionally, there has been a 2nd crash into the garbage can in front of the library, next to the book drop box, from people pulling in too fast or something. Discussion about changing the parking in that section or having DOT work with the owner of the next parcel to the south to make a safer walking area. This is especially important since the speed humps may result in more people driving south on Main to

avoid the 162 speed humps when driving south from Howard by the library. **Tabled to February meeting.**

9. Discussion and possible action to request that CalTrans designate Highway 162 as a “Scenic Highway”. Ask adjacent landowners what they think and see what the process is. Kay R. to follow up. **No action taken.**

10. Discussion and possible action on the Report of Findings: Rock Tree Directed Enforcement Project. John reports this is north of willits and they wanted to do an opt out area. But it was already opted out. They wanted extra protection; the board denied this request but sent in code enforcement. Informationa only. **No action taken.**

11. Discussion and possible action on the Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Scheduled for January 8, 2024 on Zoom. Information only. Kathy reports on new behavioral health facility going in on Henderson. John H, still trying to work with RVIT for that \$500K. **No action taken.**

12. Treasurer’s report : we have made two payments : PO box and from charles for Zoom services. Balance is \$2,268.10.

13. Next Meeting: February 07, 2024. Send agenda items to admin@mac.roundvalley.org.

14. Adjournment 7:30pm