

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

Wednesday, July 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Library Commons 23925 Howard Street, Covelo, CA

Mailing Address: PO Box 372, Covelo, CA 95428 <https://mac.roundvalley.org/>

To join Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/2324039636> Meeting ID: 232 403 9636 Call In: +1 669 900 6833 For those who are not able to attend by phone or video, you may make public comment at the Library Commons. Public comment is available for all items on the agenda.

Minutes

1. Call to Order & Roll call: Kathy Britton, Dane Downing, Marylou Mileck and Kay Richards present at : 6:13pm. Laura Betts absent with notification. James Russ and Michelle Downey not present.
2. Approval of Agenda: Kay moved. Agenda approved without objections.
3. Action Item: Approval of June 05, 2024 meeting minutes: Kay moved. Minus approved without objections.
4. Public Comment & Announcements on non-agenda items.

4a. The Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services would like to remind Mendocino County residents and visitors that all fireworks are illegal in Mendocino County. Public events will be:

Fort Bragg Independence Day Fireworks:

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2024

Location: Todd Point, Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Point Arena Fireworks Extravaganza:

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2024

Location: Arena Cove, 810 Port Road, Point Arena, CA 95468

Fireworks Extravaganza at Ukiah Speedway:

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2024

Location: Ukiah Speedway, 1055 N. State St., Ukiah, CA 95482

4b. The Food Bank is looking for space, per Lourance Hall. Lourance was informed that the June Marie's building is being remodeled so they are kicked out, but this was supposed to be temporary. RVIT may be discontinuing space for the food bank. Kathy Britton reported that RVIT bought the building for food distribution because FRC was overwhelmed and did not have not enough space. June Marie's is a health board/FRC property, not RVIT. Kathy will check with Otis Brotherton.

4c. Susan O'Brien would like to have a community dump day scheduled. State is still funding Clean CA - we could use a large item dump day. Someone should call Julia Peterson and ask her.

5. Report from County and Tribal officials & Public Comment:

a. Tribal Council update : none

b. Sheriff Kendall : Buffalo Room and Health Center Conference rooms are cooling spaces.

c. Supervisor Haschak: Meeting with county and skate park; 2nd item for next BOS meeting to get permission from GSA to do more research on options for skate park on county land. County budget was approved without too much pain. There is a lot of talk about cannabis density. Now 2 permits for one parcel are allowed – such as mixed light and outdoor instead of 22000 sq ft of hoop houses. Since January 138 people have dropped out of the permit system. MAC meeting attendees noted permitted grows are not the problem; the cartels are the problem.

d. Mendocino County DOT: Alicia Winokur reported that the county submitted an application for Round Valley for the Safe Routes to School program. . The county continues to try: they apply, get feedback and more assistance. This part of the HTP program is very competitive but MDoT feels they made a compelling case for Round Valley for work along Howard, Airport and Foothill (sidewalks, cross walks, pedestrian flashing lights, bulbouts, reworking Airport and Foothill). They conducted traffic counts on Main Street (MDoT has been out 3 times to do counts - Oct 2023 was 420 on Main and 3900 on 162; Jan 24 560 on Main, 2700 on 162). So more drivers going onto Main but this does not correlate because there was a bigger reduction on 162; on June 24, 580 on Main and 3,850 on 162. 85th percentile for speed on Main is around 28-29, and on 162 was 32 before bumps and down to 29 after. Lourance thinks it should not be counted between Church and Grange on Main. Marylou noted when percentages are calculated the numbers look more problematic. MDoT is applying for a grant for countywide traffic calming. Green Bridge (Hill Road) work is at the right of way stage, done with environmental, starting design. They are a few years out, waiting for the bridge program to give them the money and then prioritizing with other bridges (13 that need to be replaced right now). Alicia suggests we look at the CEO's report for MDoT. Hill Road is scheduled for 2028 at the moment. MDoT plans crosswalks at Main and Howard (all 4 crossings); then at Main going west on Howard there are planned bike paths on both sides and sidewalks planned on the south side. Speed humps are not being discussed at this time. But there are bulb outs as drivers get closer to the schools.

e. Mendocino County Animal Control – John had one more meeting with the RVIT regarding the dogs. It's frustrating because they are not trying to get the ordinances in alignment and there is resistance. Jim Russ and Carlos Rabano were on the call; council members did not appear. There is doubt the RVIT will go for it. Leashing and tie up requirements were not welcomed. Rich Molinari resigned. There is no vet to man the Carevan.

There is no work release program with the jail now; the inmates are not good for community service – too dangerous.

6. New Business:

6a. Issue RVAMAC comments on the GRTA Master Plan as proposed by Bruce Hilbach-Barger, both drafts attached - 6a.1 and 6a.2, which must be submitted today. Kathy moved to approve 6a1 and discard 6a2, which was approved without objections. Bruce Hilbach-Barger reported the GRTA is actually considering making changes and if so there will be major input from native communities.

6b. Requesting personnel from the County Elections Division of the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder's office to accept candidate applications for the November 2024 election in person in Round Valley. (9 people have stepped forward so far.) John Haschak reported that Katrina Bartolomie said she would come up if a candidate would assure her that candidates would take advantage of this. Kay said she would contact Katrina and step into this role.

7. Old Business:

7a. Issue RVAMAC comments in alignment with letter from Round Valley County Water District re: Eel River water diversion, attached - 7a. (tabled on June 5, 2024). Bruce Hillbach-Barger reported the Russian River is benefiting from this diversion. Mostly agricultural irrigation is relying on Eel River water, not residents drinking water out of their taps. Tribes position has always been the Eel River water is for the Eel. Potter Valley

Irrigation District has a policy of using as much water as they can to justify having the diversion so they would have sprinklers on during a rainstorm. This is no longer a power generation issue, just a water issue. “Grandfather” argument that it should remain is inconsistent because it is no longer a power generation issue. Tabled to August without objection.

7b. 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. Sheriff Kendall not in attendance. Tabled to August without objection.

7c. Ongoing problems in the community with uncontained dogs, dogs that have been abandoned (dumped), dogs killing other dogs and creating a nuisance and potential safety issue. Covered by John Haschak report. Tabled for August without objection.

7d. Safe Routes to School program: covered by MDoT’s report.

7e. Requesting an in-person polling place in Round Valley for the November 2024 election. Kay reports one person responded but then said nothing more. Katrina said she needs 4 people to do the training. Kay will ask Katrina what is involved. Kay will give information to Patricia Mera who will do the artwork; then post around town and on Facebook to get interest in voting here and manning the voting booths.

8. Treasurer’s report: \$2,500 because there is a new fiscal year.

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

10. Adjournment: Kay moved to adjourn at 7:35pm. Adjournment without objection.