

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

Wednesday, May 07, 2025 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 a public comment at the Library Commons. Public comment is available for all items on the agenda.

## Meeting Minutes

1. *Call to Order at 6:07 PM. Dane Downing, Marylou Mileck, Laura Betts, Kathy Britton present. James Russ, Michelle Downey, Charles Sargenti absent.*

2. *Marylou moved to approve May 7 agenda; approved without objection.*

3. *Laura moved to approved April 2 minutes; approved without objection.*

4. Public Comment & Announcements on non-agenda items.

4a. The county is developing a Low Intensity Camping Ordinance and would like to organize a community stakeholder meeting similar to that for the recent Short Term Rentals ordinance meeting here in Covelo. Planning & Building plans to attend the June meeting to present the topic and has asked to be part of the agenda. The new use type of Transient Habitation: Low Intensity Camping would allow for a limited number of short-term commercial campsites (*up to 9 units*) on properties within the Inland areas of the County.

4b. The California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (regional water board) filed an April 29, 2025, Staff Memo regarding the open Underground Storage Tank case for the Mountain Valley Company (Craig Christensen) lot south of The Old Post Office on Hwy 162. No cleanup work has been performed since last August. Mr. Christensen (RP *responding party*) has indicated that he would like to sell the property to an interested buyer but that has not taken place to date. The site has now been referred to the Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) Fund with a signed Delegation Authority submitted to MyLinh Dunn on February 6, 2025. Staff Memo attached as Item4b1 and EAR Fact Sheet as Item4b2.

4c. The RVIT, April James, Eunice Swearinger and Steve Britton have filed suit against Mendocino County, Sheriff Kendall, Sheriff Bonsal (Humboldt), Deputy Justin Pryor (MCSO), and the CHP for the July 23-24, 2024, cannabis raids in Round Valley. The complete Complaint attached as Item4c. *Correction to Humboldt Sheriff's name: Should be Honsal.*

Lourance Hall reported that the Prescribed Burn Association is planning a control burn at the airport on May 31st and June 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 5. Reports from County, State and Tribal officials:

a. Tribal Council – *No report*

b. Sheriff Kendall – *Sheriff Kendall called from his vehicle and didn't have access to the monthly incident stats. He will report at the monthly RV Sheriff's meeting on May 21. One more deputy has completed their training.*

c. Supervisor Haschak – *The supervisor and sheriff send a letter on May 6<sup>th</sup> to interested parties, asking for their support in mitigating illegal cannabis grows in the area – see attachment 6a1. Supervisor Haschak attended an EMT meeting in RV, and the Board of Supervisors approved the annual financial support to the Covelo Volunteer Fire Department of \$66,000. Local EMT training is being planned. He thanked Kay Richards for representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> district at the Building and Planning Department. He is still working on getting some answers for the Skate Park and will have the county communicate with the Lions Club. He also set up a meeting with Senate Pro Tem President Mike McGuire.*

d. Mendocino County DOT

e. MCOG

f. Office of Assemblyman Chris Rogers, Monica Barragan

## 6. New Business:

6a. Discussion/possible action: Letter/eComment to Board of Supervisors regarding Haschak/Kendall letter requesting support for Mendocino County in cleaning up the unregulated cannabis industry. Comments due before BOS meeting Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 9:00am Haschak/Kendall letter attached as 6a1 and instructions for public comment as 6a2. *No action taken.*

6b. Discussion/possible action: PG&E will be filing its Final Surrender Application with FERC on or before July 29, 2025. FERC will then open a final comment period and PG&E will begin developing proposed plans and measures in August 2025. Does the RVAMAC wish to submit comments? Discussion regarding development of a RVAMAC committee to review the application and suggest comments on behalf of the RVAMAC.

6c. Discussion/possible action: Approval of a letter to the BOS in support of the Round Valley Skatepark Project for information on their proposal before the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2025. Letter to be submitted by Patricia Mera. *Supervisor Haschak doesn't think a letter is necessary at this point. He will work with the Lions Club to move this project forward.*

## 7. Old Business:

7a. Discussion/possible action: County Planning & Building has conducted community stakeholders meetings at the Round Valley Public Library on April 23, 2025, regarding a possible ordinance for the Inland area (Division I) as to Short Term Rentals. Are there any updates following the stakeholders meeting? Will there be an opening for RVAMAC comments? *Comments can be submitted to the Planning and Building Commission at any time. No action taken.*

7b. Discussion and possible action: development of a county noise control ordinance. Will there be an opening for RVAMAC comments? *Sheriff Kendall met with code enforcement and county counsel. The ordinance is advancing; possible completion this year. No action taken.*

7c. Discussion and possible action: any needs for the Covelo Fire Hydrant project? If appropriate, Lew Chichester to give a brief report on the town fire hydrant project and request an official letter of support from the RVAMAC which could be used for a grant application to the USDA, the Mendocino Community Foundation and other potential sources of funding for the planning, initial engineering, review by LAFCo and an eventual ballot measure for a parcel tax. This item is a work in progress and will remain on the agenda. *We are waiting to hear if Lew's grant proposal is approved. The county is also applying for money from the State. No action taken.*

7d. Discussion/possible action: 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.

7e. Discussion and possible action: 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. *How do we get the CarAVan to RV? Animal Control is not under MCSO. Consider inviting Amy Campbell of Animal Care to attend a meeting.*  
[Campbell.a@mendocinocounty.gov](mailto:Campbell.a@mendocinocounty.gov).

8. Treasurer's report: *We spent \$659 to send out the postcards and \$60 for three months rental of the Commons. Our balance is \$1,445.91.*

9. Next Meeting: June 04, 2025. Send agenda items to [admin@mac.roundvalley.org](mailto:admin@mac.roundvalley.org).

10. Adjournment at 6:55