



**Redwood Valley Municipal Advisory Council  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
November 11, 2020 05:00 PM  
8650 East Rd - P.O. Box 243 Redwood Valley 95470  
<http://www.redwoodvalleymac.com/>**

Chair Dolly Riley • Vice-Chair Jini Reynolds • Treasurer Katrina Frey • Member Chris Boyd • Member Sattie Clark • Alternate Member Marybeth Kelly • Member Patricia Ris-Yarbrough

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chair Dolly Riley.

- A. Roll call. We will record names of those present except for those who state they wish to remain anonymous. All members present except for Katrina Frey. Members of the public present: Cathy Monroe, Laroni Williams, Martha Barra, Bree Kolter, Elizabeth Salamone, Gizmo Henderson, Meredyth Reinhard, Zoe Bigelow.

**2. Approval of Minutes of 10-14-20.**

Member Patricia Ris-Yarbrough motioned to approve. A second was made by Member Chris Boyd.

The motion passed with the following vote:

All Present **In Favor**       **Opposed**  
   **Abstained**    Katrina Frey **Absent**

Dolly stated that she edited the Minutes, and asked for a vote on the Minutes. Patricia (Pien) requested proper spelling of Scotts Dam.

**3. Public Comments**

Dolly stated that there are still openings on the Council that need to be filled.

Elizabeth Salamone (Beth) of the Russian River Water Flood Control said that any questions about the water supply should be directed at her.

Chris said that for those who are not on Nixle, a siren test will be conducted by the Redwood Valley Fire Department next week.

Martha Barra introduced herself and her involvement with the zoning process.

Laroni Williams said that she was concerned about there not being a sidewalk near the Redwood Valley store. She requested a sidewalk and a slower speed limit so the dangers are reduced. Christine Boyd said that these concerns were also seen in the public survey and that she was looking into fixing it. She invited other members to help her. Gizmo said that it's mostly due to the lack of law enforcement on the speed limit. Jini said that the speed limit becomes 50 in some places and that should probably be lowered. Granville Pool said that there is a speed trap on the way up the hill however the distance between that and the next one is lengthy. Laroni offered the idea of speed bumps or a sign to help slow the drivers down. She proceeded to describe an experience of her own in which a speeding car startled her. Pien thanked Laroni and recommended speeding fines be doubled in residential zones. Laroni mentioned that young drivers don't always have the best judgment which may be contributing to this problem. Jini said that calling California Highway Patrol is always a good idea.

**4. Report from County and Agencies on Current Events**

Guest speaker Granville Pool of the Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) began by speaking about his career and his qualifications, specifically that he has participated in RVCWD since 2006. He said that they had entertained the idea of building a stream reverse however mounting debt has stopped them. Pumping water from Lake Mendocino would be exceedingly hard even though the surplus of water was substantial for Redwood Valley. Due to increased water consumption through contracts that surplus has decreased- in fact this year the surplus has already been consumed. A grant was received to help alleviate water shortages from the Potter Valley district. Dolly jumped in for clarity on the proposed location, which turned out to be the Masonite well, used for domestic water. Granville said that the districts are connected. Due to the use of pumps to move water many things could go wrong. Lakewood well, and two other locations are currently being used to supply Redwood Valley with water. Another proposal was a couple wells on the property across the road from the casino. Dolly asked if that would be pulling from Forsythe Creek. Granville confirmed that it would. Gizmo asked Beth if the Russian River Flood Control reached out to Blue Lakes. Beth said no. Gizmo also asked about getting water from Blue Lakes. Granville said no. Beth said that surplus is typically used by agricultural uses- this water

usually comes from the Masonite well. Redwood Valley is running from the surplus which means Redwood Valley is subject to water shortages if the water usage increases. Sattie restated that Redwood Valley is in a perilous situation, they are already experiencing water shortages and again asked what could be done. Sattie also wondered when she could start advocating; Beth said she was already working on it, and that there was a specific task force faced for solving this problem. She said that she is communicating with the State board about this and that there are several websites that could be checked in order to better educate ourselves. Granville said that the City of Ukiah let Redwood Valley use their surplus. Beth disagreed. Christine asked how the Potter Valley project is connected. Beth said that the Potter Valley project is connected because everyone in the district is depending on the water. It is a very large project with lots of expenses. If the water is reduced and demand continues to rise we will be faced with an ever growing problem. Meredyth said that she was surprised there was no media attention to the need for water conservation. She said that in past years she had seen media content about such issues to promote conservation. Beth said that she wants to give agriculture as much water as possible but at this point the best thing we can do is to prepare. Sattie said that the idea of agricultural water being cut off is very scary. Martha introduced Bree as the new potential candidate for the water board seat. Gizmo said that during the last water shortage there had been media content on water conservation. During this time he also reported that much water was lost before it even made it to the facilities. Gizmo said that a meter he reported two years ago was still leaking. Gizmo said that both supply and demand sides needed to be accountable for the wasted water. Beth said that the district meetings are always public, and recommended he attend one because that situation specifically was out of her jurisdiction.

Meredyth gave an update on Adopt A Road for December, work depending on weather. Meredyth said that on Saturday there would be a fundraiser.

Gizmo gave an update on communication regarding dragging chains to prevent wild fires. Gizmo said that near in the future he may ask for donations for posters teaching folks to not drag chains. Chris said that she had recently joined the Redwood Valley Fire District and said she would be happy to act as liaison with the MAC.

Air Quality: Patricia (Pien) reported she had spoken with Barbara Moed of the Air Quality Management District, to find out what the contentions with the pellet plant are about and gain more clarity. Pien reports Barbara said that they had reduced their production, moved the machine in question, and tested the emissions of the plant at full capacity. The nitrogen-oxide emission was within the legal limit. The health and risk assessment may be done by the end of the year. Besides the scheduled testing she said they do randomized drive-bys and visual inspections. Pien learned from Barbara that there is misinformation circulating in the community. Pien was in question about the "trade secret" and is still waiting to see the permit to clarify that. Pien said that it was not about the emissions but about the plant itself. Dolly said that it was a zoning issue because it was zoned industrial right next to residential zoning. Sattie reminded everyone that wineries were a large part of the tourism and said that they need to not be polluted. Martha said the pollution was not bad at her vineyard. In order to open a conversation with community members opposing the plant, Pien volunteered to make contact with Polly Girvin, attorney for local tribes, who is leading opposition to the pellet plant operation.

Jini reported that the 'Big Mac' meeting of MOVE 2030 was a good way for all the local MACs to learn about each other. Jini said that it would be beneficial for everyone to participate in the Big MAC meetings so that decisions could be made as a county and not in individual groups. Jini said that all the economic benefits are coming from the MAC which is another reason why it would be good for all of them to get on different committees during that meeting. Jini said that she was pleasantly surprised to see people from as far as Hopland involved. Jini said that she was looking for ways to bring this to Redwood Valley. She said that it was supportive, informative and highly recommended.

#### **5. NEW: Cannabis Neighborhood Policy Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Dolly assigned members Patricia and Sattie, and community member Martha Barra to this committee. Jini said that there was \$2 million set aside for complaints in the cannabis industry and invited anyone who is interested in that to email her. that she had spoken to multiple people and came to the conclusion that the laws of the land were extremely lenient and that they should look into reviewing them if they are interested in preserving the land. Sattie nominated Pien to help address this issue. Martha said that the only way for their voices to be heard is to continue their work and be persistent. A substantial plot of land is dedicated to the cannabis industry. Sattie said that the Ad Hoc needed to review the current policies for multiple small cannabis grows. Dolly said that Amanda Reiman had mentioned a plan for separate zoning for the cannabis industry. Sattie made it clear she wants to create these regulations in favor of more small grows that reduce the harm that large monoculture crops can bring. Cathy Monroe said that the cannabis industry has grown substantially and noticed the lack of enforcement. Cathy thinks that the County will get themselves in a legal mess based on the fact that they were only supposed to have allowed old grows, not to support the cultivation of new ones. Members discussed light pollution, water trucks destroying neighbor's roads, and the digging of a large well, as well as more trash along the roadway. Violence, fast cars, overuse of water were also among the concerns about the cannabis industry. Martha again expressed her frustration and concerns. Gizmo pointed out that the cannabis industry will be a main source of County tax income especially during Covid.

#### **6. Development Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Marybeth, Jini, Patricia, Gizmo**

There were no new building permits received from Planning and Building to share with the MAC. Gizmo said that development in Redwood Valley included trailers for PG&E, he asked to have a Caltrans representative at another meeting to see if they could share facilities.

#### **7. CAP: Interim Community Action Plan and Design Review: Chris, Sattie, Alex, Sheilah**

A.

Cathy Monroe said that an oak ordinance needed to be looked into by the planning commission before they look at the cannabis ordinance. Pien asked about what the oak ordinance was. Cathy clarified that heritage oaks are protected and that in order to remove them, certain steps need to be taken. And that they were also a significant source of carbon absorption. Marybeth said that she took a look at the County website and that the ordinance was not listed. Cathy said that in the next couple of weeks the ordinance would be available. Gizmo asked about how the fires affected the oak ordinance. Cathy said she was unsure, however she was aware that the ordinance allowed for the removal of sick trees. Granville asked at what point an oak is considered a heritage. Cathy said that there were size requirements however there were certainly some species that were not included. Pien said that the workshop could be found at <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showdocument?id=38690>

**8. Officers and Members Reports and Announcements**

Vice-Chair Jini Reynolds motioned to approve. A second was made by Member Sattie Clark.

The motion passed with the following vote:

  All   **In Favor**       **Opposed**  
   **Abstained**       **Absent**

MAC voted on continued approval of the Secretary for a 6-month period, and discussed taking Minutes in real time and not waiting for a recording.

**9. Adjournment. Nest meeting 12-9-20 or 1-13-21?**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06.p.m. No meeting for December. Next meeting 1-13-21.

No Action