



**Redwood Valley Municipal Advisory Council
Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 13, 2021 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 • Member Adam Gaska

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of 9-8-21.

Present: Jini Reynolds, Dolly Riley, Supervisor Glenn McGourty, Travis Killmer of Disaster Recovery, Katrina Frey, Marybeth Kelly, Gizmo, Katina Frey, Shelia Rogers, Sheriff Matt Kendall, Garrett James Mendocino County OES, Meredyth, Sattie Clark, Bree Klotter, Christine Boyd, Granville Pool, Meredyth, Michael Katz, Alex Di Grassi, Carson. (Patricia and Adam not present).

Dolly called the meeting to order at 5:01. Approval of Minutes of 9-8-21.

Member Chris Boyd motioned to approve. A second was made by Vice-Chair Jini Reynolds.

The motion passed with the following vote:

6 In Favor 0 Opposed
 Abstained 2 Absent

2. Public Comments

Marybeth- Power outages are currently at the discretion of PG&E, recently we've had several. They are now using helicopters to inspect the lines. Much is still uncertain. Katrina- The lack of pulsating upon the shutoff/return of power might be a good thing. Marybeth agreed they are doing the best with what they've got. Jini has been in contact with the sheriff's office about the man camping and smoking on the side of the road in his motorhome. She was concerned about fire safety. Chris- A resident is very concerned with noise levels regarding music (maybe a grange party?) her concern is that there is no noise ordinance. Christine agreed a noise ordinance would be welcome in a future meeting. Dolly- We do have an ordinance regarding the disturbance of peace and think that citizens should take a stand. Gizmo- A noise ordinance is in the CAP, Chis and I talked about that somewhere in the CAP.

3. Report from County and Agencies on Current Events

Alternate Member Marybeth Kelly motioned to approve. A second was made by Member Chris Boyd.

The motion passed with the following vote:

6 In Favor 0 Opposed
 Abstained 2 Absent

A vote was taken for MAC to send a letter regarding PG&E clearcuts to the BOS, and the CPUC.

PG&E's Enhanced Vegetation Program: Dolly composed a letter from last month's speakers (Sarah Reith, Nancy Macy, and Jeanne Chinn) in combination with filing from PG&E. In conclusion the clearing within 100 ft of lines is illegal because it requires a timber harvest plan from CalFire, and is not an area of simply vegetation. In some instances, CalFire refused to renew the license of those contractors working under PG&E due to lack of PG&E's obtaining a timber harvest plan from CalFire. Southern California found that triple insulated copper wire prevents fires much better than bare wires. Glenn- They are leaving trees on the ground which is an immense burden to those with limited resources. It's more than just us, potential legislation might come from CPUC. Dolly- CalFire gave them something like six violation notices. The water board and the coastal commission got involved with complaints in Santa Cruz County. There has been no action taken yet. Chris- I like the letter and I think complaints from the citizens themselves would be helpful. I think we should send the letter. Gizmo- Excellent research in the letter, are we going to find a district attorney willing to stand up to this company? Action needs to be taken, maybe a citizen's arrest, but definitely a district attorney to start prosecuting. Bree requested a copy of the letter, Dolly said she would send one. Sheilah also requested a copy. Marybeth- We're asking the Board of Supervisors to write a resolution, is that their only way of communication? Dolly- I believe they all need to agree before submitting a complaint. Glenn- Sounds correct, I'd imagine this will be daily easy to get the Board to agree because nobody has been especially enthused about this. Dolly- PG&E changed their business model allowing them to get away with a lot but a grassroots effort might be enough to get it to stop. Marybeth recommended sending it to the CPUC as well as the board of supervisors. Dolly said she could amend the letter to do so, Sattie will also be helping to edit the letter. Marybeth motioned, to send the letter. All in favor. The motion to send the letter to the public utilities commission and the board of

supervisors passed.

PG&E Settlement Funds: Dolly- We got about 16% of the money allotted and wonder how that money will be spent.

Marybeth- The H-vac system, the heater, the cooling system, the H-vac in the kitchen, ADA compliance violations, we got our sign up, we replaced some handles, and we will continue working on the bathroom and access violations. We have progressed with the kitchen and we have renewed a contract with an architect and we will need to look into electrical and plumbing. Chris- The fire department is

already working on procuring a new engine. Tom- The water department is going to replace and or upgrade the pumps in the lake. We're also working on putting locks on the fire hydrants.

Update on Build Back Better funds: Chris called Marie Jones and is yet to receive a response. Glenn is also yet to find out what is happening, he will inquire. Sheriff Kendall had to depart for work.

UUSD sale/trade of Redwood Valley School property: Marybeth has heard Gary Breen, who owns camp La Vidi and several other properties, is interested in doing housing for public safety officers and teachers. He was also interested in a property in Hopland. She thinks we should invite him to come speak at a meeting to find out his intentions and what he knows.

Dolly said that we already have a speaker for the November meeting but that is a wonderful idea. Dolly- Just let me know so I can put it on the agenda. Sattie- I'm sure he will only need ten minutes, I'm surprised he isn't here today. Glenn- I also don't have much besides what Marybeth said. Glenn recommended calling the superintendent, and Gary Breen. Marybeth said she could contact them.

Redwood Valley water issues: Tom Schoeneman- Good news, we used a million fewer gallons in August. PG&E turned on the power to a dry pump and damaged it in doing

so. We completed the pipeline replacement on road E under a river. This is a very expensive project to pay for and we are currently looking for funding. This was just maintenance turned into a huge project. We are still working on billing FloCanna. We chatted about the annexation into the RRWD with an attorney, we wanna make sure we do this right. Gov Newsom has set funding back with the removal of shutoff and late charges. We have some outliers that have been warned and are getting better, overall usage is down. RV county water board meeting is next Thursday at 5:00. Marybeth- Which road was that pipeline on? Tom- East Rd.

Fire Preparedness updates, and 9-12-21 Hopkins Fire recognition of firefighter Adam Gaska: Dolly- We will bring this up next month to honor Adams' work. Gizmo- I was hoping we could get a grade as far as evacuations, relocations, and communications in regards to the recent fires (Hopkins fire). Sattie- Adam will not be able to make it today, Sattie proposed we move this to next month. Gizmo agreed, Chis said she might have more information after the fire board meeting. Glenn- They did a pretty awesome job considering what they had to deal with. There were about 60 structures burned, they hit it with everything they got. There was a full response from surrounding cities, considering the conditions they did great. What made it so concerning were the embers flying ahead and the wind. We are seeking funding from CalFire and FEMA, we are unsure if we qualify but there will be inspections shortly. There was a resource fair rectally to help expedite the victim's recovery. We're getting a little too good at this. This was a much more robust response compared to 2017. You should hear from Sheriff Matt, he did quite a bit of work to clean it up. Marybeth- I was up at the lake yesterday and a tremendous amount of damage was done to the Pomo campground. There is a lot of work to be done before it will be usable again. Marybeth- An old friend the "bird lady" lost a lot of very dear valuable birds because the sheriff wouldn't let her back into her house to free them from their cages, there are many stories like this one we should hear both sides to every story. There have been looters, this has been a problem since 2017, can we put an end to this? Gizmo- We have received donations from around the county for the fire department of Willits, Potter Valley, and Redwood Valley. We're gonna do the last push before the rain comes to get as many of these chain covers out there as I can. Shielah- Danilla Sands has a location for disaster recovery, she just wants everyone to know this is an ongoing effort at 1240 Airport Park Blvd at the old animal hospital. They are getting people rehoused and accommodating their needs. It's open Monday through Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for donations. Jini- There is furniture coming in for disaster relief, we should push for more.

Adopt-A-Road report: Meredyth- There were five of us, we didn't get to finish our route because it was raining so I went back on Sunday. The next one is on the winter solstice on Saturday, December 18th starting at 9:00. The more people the shorter it is so hopefully the turnout will be better this next time.

4. Cannabis Policy Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Patricia, Sattie

Community Members Martha Barra and Sandra Berman may work with Subcommittee.

Sattie- The referendum to rescind the new ordinance was successful. So no expansion beyond 10,000 feet and no rangeland use. What we are hoping for is to add No hoop houses, no plastic, no trucked water, and a fair and affordable path to licensing small sustainable practices to the current ordinance. Glenn- John Haschak has taken the leadership role in this but we will need to evaluate how to do this without invoking an EIR. Sattie- Why would we want to avoid an EIR?

Glenn- We should've done an EIR, instead, we went with discretionary permits based on CEQA compliance. This program is already running and an EIR would require more legislation. We also need more water and land data. Sattie- People are interested not only in the legal impacts but also the environmental impact for many years into the future. Michael Katz- 10A17 did go through an initial EIR, including a mitigated declaration. There has been an explosion of unpermitted agriculture so the question here is what kind of impact will that cause. So what has to happen for folks to get through their annual license? Right now three will be no new permits accepted due to the drought. Appendix G allows people to prove CEQA compliance to make sure existing operators get through. The board of supervisors approved a portal to allow people to get through so they weren't removed from the program. This has opened during harvest on this brand new system and there have been hiccups. The goal was to have this back and forth allowing participants to have all their documents in order to comply with this program. These folks shouldn't be removed from this program while they are trying to reach compliance. Matt Kendal to talk about enforcement next month.

5. Development Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Marybeth, Jini, Patricia

Dolly- There has been a rezoning request for a cannabis facility. What does this mean? What are the impacts? Marybeth-

Citizens including myself are attempting a cannabis prohibition. Chris- There were hoop houses encroaching on our views, water trucks damaging the roads, nasty dogs, the change of attitude in the area, safety, lack of water, noise at night were some of the complaints. Someone was racing down road E jumped the curb and then ran off. I'm not sure if this is related but an activity like this has certainly escalated recently. 70% of people in a given zone have signed a petition to address and restrict large growers in the neighborhood. We're asking for rezoning, I've lived here for 30 years and it's changing so fast in so many ways seemingly without oversight. Chris- I just want to say that we are not against legacy growers, they are doing great, we are opposed to strangers coming in and buying up large properties and attempting to commercialize the process. Dolly- It sounds like we want people who are interested in taking care of the neighborhood and being part of the community. Katrina- I believe this is modeled after a project up in Deerwood that managed to pull that off. Glenn confirmed there is an exclusion zone although he is unsure of the status. Carson- I'm not sure who owns the land over there and I'm sure there are illegal cultivators but can we attempt to garner more information and have a real conversation about it? These home cultivators could lose everything right now. My fear is that without proper information we could be throwing families under the bus. I just really think before we jump into this we should mitigate some of the illegal operations before eliminating everyone in the area. Michael- Acknowledge everything that has been said, the unfortunate reality is that a prohibition will hurt small licensed practices. This will not hurt the illegal operations which I think are who we should be concerned about, and should be attempting to shut down. We've seen what prohibition does before, we want people to be licensed and compliant. This is a very important conversation but I think we should really think about who is stopping us from growing. Marybeth- In order for this to pass there needs to be a certain number of people who have opted in (60%), we currently have 70%. As the MAC we had requested a list of legal cannabis grows in Redwood Valley in regards to the legality of hoop houses. Sattie- I can forward you the list, I had to do an information request back in February to get it. Gizmo- Is there a number of plants that denotes a commercial grow from a small grow? We don't want reckless regard for the community. Michael- Anything over medical is automatically commercial. The largest legal cultivation in Mendocino County is a quarter of an acre (10,000 square feet). Carson- We have a very small legal limit here in Mendocino County compared to other counties. Michael- yes, these massive grows are not legal. Gizmo- we are working with the CHP to get larger grows in compliance. Sattie- I remember speaking to people in the Deerwood Cannabis Exclusion Zone. Those who hold residence get to vote but those who hold business did not get to vote? Chris- I think this would just go straight to the board? This is still unclear. Golden Rule antennas (in Redwood Valley?) Jini- Better communication is in our interest in case of a natural disaster. Chris- I saw a sign for a new Barra tasting room. This must be a change of zoning? Alex De Grassi- I believe this is not as in Barra Vineyards but another Barra.

6. CAP: Interim Community Action Plan and Design Review: Chris, Sattie

A.

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

The motion passed with the following vote:

6 In Favor 0 Opposed
 Abstained 2 Absent

A vote was held to approve a letter from the MAC to request Planning and Building Dept to begin the process of review and approval of the CAP in 2022. MAC approved Plan 7-15-20. Dolly wrote a letter summarizing the last few years of work from the RVMAC, to Planning and building to speed up the CAP review. Jini motioned to approve Sattie seconded. Unanimous of the members present. Dolly requested Sattie to edit the letter and make sure the formatting is proper. Glenn- I will make sure to follow up with this when I receive the letter. Alex De Grassi- The county is very overwhelmed right now, rumor has it that the county CEO is retiring, if you look at the big picture the Mendocino County planning is essentially dysfunctional. I think the Redwood Valley MAC needs to take a stand and go stand up to them and highlight the fact that something needs to be done. I don't think the county is standing up for you. Dolly- I appreciate that, would you like me to email you a copy of the letter? Alex- Yes, please.

7. Officers and Members Reports and Announcements

Squarespace MAC website issues: cost reimbursement, etc., Treasurer's Report, Update on efforts to finalize RVMAC bylaws. Chris- I would like to work with Zoe on posting some of the items seen today. I've figured out the ongoing payments to keep the website. It is beyond me to actually maintain the site itself, help from anyone would be appreciated. Chris- Tuesday, November 2nd there's Brown Act and ethics training with Juliana Chatman at the county, this is required every two years. Let me know if you need to do this training and I will shoot you the email. Dolly- I encourage everyone to do this training because it protects you as an individual.

Katrina- We haven't spent much other than the annual \$2500 so we are in the money. I will have more to say next month.

Jini- the Halloween event will be on Sunday the 31st. Megan of the fire department wants to collaborate with the Grange to be a partner for "Trunk or Treat". We're trying to pull Redwood Valley together as a community.

8. NEW: InterMAC Engagement Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Sattie, Adam, Jini

County MACs' shared issues for local government engagement.

Sattie- I've been in contact with surrounding MACs and they have generally been supportive of it. More information next month after we meet again.

No Action

9. **Adjournment. Next meeting 11-10-21.**