

Introductions: New Administration. **Kudos to Craig Stone, Past President.**

Eric Davis, as new President, called the meeting to order.

Robert Bragg, as new Secretary, explained the intended role of attendance and reporting thereof. The new emphasis and reporting of issues are to be news worthy and timely released to benefit the community at large including HOAs. Formal approval can be voted on the following meeting.

1. **Treasurer:** Jill Holstein was absent with illness. Eric noted that dues of \$35 are being collected. Two checks of three to charities from last December had been cashed.
2. **Sheriff's Office:** Mike Oliveira reported 4 Deputies will soon be available to be on the streets adding to our protection. At present, a call for help may take as much as 45 minutes.
3. **County Supervisor:** Mike Oliveira, District 3, had several issues to report:
 - A. Public Roads** are being severely damaged by this winter's storms. The cost of repairs and tree removal is climbing past \$2.3M. Residents must be patient for future road repairs and even snow removal which is done according to priorities and considerations of Safety. Hwy 4 has the highest priority for snow removal and maintenance.
 - B. Marijuana Commercial Cultivation and Processing** is being considered for a total ban in the coming May 2nd County wide election (by mail). This Ban eliminates commercial growing, manufacturing, processing, testing and transportation along with dispensaries. It does not Ban personal recreation and medical growth as outlined in California Prop 64 but it does provide some restrictions on the amount allowed. This Ban if it passes would nullify the tax revenue collection established by the passing of Measure C in the November 2016 election and raises the question of how the county will fund the necessary law enforcement for the illegal grows. Measure C revenue was controlled by the County General Fund so there was no guarantee that it would have been used

for law enforcement purposes. If the Ban fails or if it passes and appeals to the state Supreme Court overturn it, then the county must be ready with a directed responsible action.

C. Consequently, the Supervisors are **meeting on Feb 14th** to either extend the “Urgency Ordinance” current in power for another year or come up with another action plan to cover the period before the election results (June of 2017). They must also develop a going forward plan if the BAN fails (like their own BAN initiative or a “Permanent Ordinance” for managing commercial and personal grows) or if the Ban is overturned by a State Court Appeal. If the BAN passes and survives any lawsuits or appeals, the Supervisors must find a solution to fund law enforcement, like create a special district tax on properties just for law enforcement of the illegal activities. Up to date news and details are available on: www.mymotherlode.com

4. **PUBLIC WORKS:** **Jeff Crovitz**, Director of Public Works and **Dave Vaccarezza**, of Cal-Waste explained the state of Solid Waste (TRASH) in Calaveras County. Currently there is the existing \$155 fee paid with property taxes which allows only 2 cu yards per Week at the Transfer Stations. Enforcement has been enhanced to allow only property owners with proof of residence to deposit Solid Waste. An option exists to have home pickup in Cal-Waste provided barrels for extra money. This option is aided by a free “App” to add to your phone to coordinate trash pick-up, and one free 4 cu yard bin for green debris once a year, and more. For more information, contact Janette at: janettedejong@cal-waste.com
>The problems that exist with the current service for now and in the future are many.

a. **Current fee structures** dates back to 1980 and is inadequate at the current costs. There is no tracking at dump sites as to who or how much waste is deposited according to the rules.

b. **Green-Waste** (pine needles) disposal is going away with no promise of a solution of an on-going accumulation of tree and needle materials.

c. **Visitors:** Approximately 70% of the homes in Arnold area are second homes with visitors and/or renters. The disposal amounts and rules are restricted to property owners, so what does the guest/renter do with their trash? Take it home, leave it in the cabin, leave it in a business or HOA trash can or leave it on the road? One solution would be for real estate companies providing rental services to have a central bin at their office for use by visitors. Another idea is a punch card for the renters/visitors? No solution was suggested by Public Works other than every cabin getting Cal-Waste contracts and hoping the volume of cans can support the volume of waste.

d. **Future State laws** mandate by 2020 that a minimum of 75% of all waste be “recyclable” trash materials. That means rigorous sorting of trash begins with the residents and additional sorting downstream. This requires new education efforts as well as discipline, self-imposed or by fines and additional fees. The State fines are HUGE and are per DAY! Cal-Waste can be contacted at www.cal-waste.com for more information. Your ideas and suggestions will be welcomed.

e. **Good CRV news?:** Valley Springs remains the only Cans/Bottle collector for CRV rebates in the County. Most every other recycler (650? Statewide) has gone out of business. Modesto still maintains a recycling facility for cash back. The industry will not recover until the CRV is increased considerably.

5. **CCWD (Water):**

- A. **Bertha Underhill** reports that there is a free “Minor Home Repair” activity available for calling 1-800-510-2020. Seniors (Age 60+) in need of a minor repair, i.e. plumbing, carpentry, most any problem costing less than \$499, can get aid. This is “Area 12” out of Sonora. Call for eligibility and service. The local phone is: 532-6272.
- B. **Joel Metzger**, CCWD reports the following Status of Water:
 - a. The Blagan Road washout was costly. The new water line is exposed, but safe. The road to the Moose Lodge is closed for several months curtailing many planned activities.

b. The Reach 3A is fully stopped until spring. Most of the water line is completed.

c. The State is still calling for a Drought Emergency program. Calaveras has a 3-year supply of water in storage. The Emergency plan is being reviewed, but will have long term consequences. An allotment of water for each parcel is projected that must accommodate from homes with lawns and landscaping to forest parcels like those in Arnold. Fairness will probably not be the decider.

d. The State of California continues to ignore the need for added water storage for a growing population.

6. **GABA: Bob Doten**, President, reports that Arnold is Alive and Well. The weekly Cedar Center music shows will begin on Father's Day. Many more civic events are planned including the Car Show. He would invite more people to make use of the Web Site: www.CometoArnold.com. GABA continues to try to update the town, remove unsightly buildings, and make Arnold a destination resort. Bob asks for suggestions from the Community on what most to improve. Bob can be reached at: Bob@BarryWardRealty.com

7. **Ebbetts Pass Fire Commissioner:** Tom Sullivan reports that a new Battalion Commander, Aaron Downing, has been selected for Calaveras County. Aaron will serve this post with distinction.

8. **Arnold Trail:** Steve Lauterbach had no new information. As anticipated, the trail is probably not traveled much during the winter season.

9. Meeting ended.

Minutes by Robert Bragg
EPPOC Secretary

1 February 2017