

EPPOC October 4th 2023 Minutes

Draft

Watch online or download the Zoom video of the meeting using [this link](#).

If you wish to watch this meeting, I *highly* recommend downloading the video to your computer. It is more user friendly to watch the downloaded video, easier to scroll through, etc, than watch it online.

- Approval of September 2023 minutes by consensus

- Speaker for this month:
Brian Do-Golden, MPH, CHES
Health Education Program Manager, Public Health Division, Calaveras Health and Human Services Agency.
Brian reviewed the various programs hosted by the CHHS Agency including:
 - Cal-Fresh program supporting healthy food choices.
 - Program to ensure that children obtain car seats.
 - Maternal/Child health equity program teaching new mothers parenting skills.
 - Provide naloxone administration training.
 - Oral Health Improvement Program
 - Healthy Aging Program – educational and social engagement opportunities
 - Tobacco Abstinence Program
 - Program for Special Needs Children
 - Vaccine program that will be administering Flu vaccine this year. Call 209-754-6460 to learn dates that mobile vaccine unit will be in various locations. Visit [this webpage](#) for information about the vaccine program.Brian encourages folks to follow the County Health Department’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/calaveraspublichealth>

- Reports:
 - EPPOC Treasurer’s Report – Laura Baughman report \$360.10 in treasury
 - EPPOC Chairperson’s Report – Eric Davis no report this month.
 - District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty – Martin prefers small community meeting format. If anyone has an issue please contact Martin to arrange an in-person meeting. Martin met with GABA about their programs. Martin is working with Fire Marshall to teach children about evacuating schools. Martin is working on “Burn Buddies”, this is a program that Martin is creating to help those who cannot shovel berms when the County plows create berms. Martin is working on hiring extra plow drivers. Working with County on restrictions for short term rentals including having bear boxes, a

way to address noise complaints. Working with Dean at Meadowmont Shopping Center to get larger stop sign by the church when pulling up to Highway 4. Working with State Senator Marie Gill on updating County animal shelter. Alex Sagewalker asked Martin to get a new building and Martin met with the Senator and she is providing a check for \$200,000 for the new building. Martin Huberty says that tourist trade in Calaveras is continuing to be very strong.

- Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus – Public Works has been quite busy and Monica reviewed the streets in the Highway 4 corridor that are receiving work. Some of the road improvements needed to be put on hold while PG&E is undergrounding power cables.

Culverts under a property owner's driveway are the responsibility of the property owner.

Public Works is having a luncheon to thank those who drove the snowplows. They work very hard in difficult weather conditions.

Laura Baughman thanked PG&E for the courtesy and good nature in the work they are doing undergrounding lines.

The question was raised about the depth of utility easements onto private property. Monica explained there is no set number. Varies by lot. Call 209-754-6401, the main number at Public Works to learn the answer for a specific lot.

Martin explained that the County went 2 million dollars over-budget for snow removal in the 2022-23 snow season. Martin asked who signs off on patches done by PG&E. Monica explained there is a standard, but in this case since the County plans to resurface roads after PG&E has finished undergrounding lines, there may be a time that the temporary patch remains in place until County resurfaces the roads.

Martin explained that Monica hosts a storm meeting prior to the snow season where she brings together all the relevant agencies to coordinate the snow removal process.

Dale Pilgeram asked about the County Tree Mortality Program. The County Department of Emergency Services has resumed that program, and it will start in November. The Stanislaus National Forest as already resumed their tree mortality program.

- Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson, Pete at EPFD attended in the Chief's stead. He reported no issues
- CalFire – Dennis Lange – unable to attend
- Sheriff's Department & CHP – Joshua Wilkinson (CHP)
- CCWD –Bertha Underhill & Michael Minkler – Damon Wyckoff, Chief of Operations at CCWD reported that the redwood tank program is proceeding as planned with placement of steel tanks in areas that are vulnerable to forest

fire. This is an very valuable program for our water safety, a grant funded program through FEMA. Tules plants being removed from White Pines Lake. Inspections done at CCWD infrastructure with oversight agencies was successful. CCWD crews prepping for the winter focusing on optimizing the water distribution system and water quality. Detailed technical information about this process explained by Damon, as it is a nuanced and requires attention to detail.

- County Office of Emergency Services – Bajit Singh – unable to attend.
- California Big Trees State Park – Heather Reith – unable to attend.
- Calaveras Big Trees Association – Vida Kenk. – the fire teams from the Park and CalFire are currently doing the prep work to prepare for the prescribed burns both in the North Grove and South Grove.

Guided bird hikes will happen on Thursday through October. Guided hikes may be rescheduled depending on prescribed burns activities. Vida recommends that visitors check the white board at the Visitor Center each day for planned activities.

There is a QR code on the white board that visitors are asked to scan to fill out a questionnaire about the future of the Park.

The Arnold Library has twelve passes that are available to folks who wish to be able to enter California State Parks for free

Camping is still occurring although Oak Hollow is closed for the season. Docents are extremely important to the Park, and there will be invitation only docent-appreciation-dinner in recognition of this importance.

There is a snack shack that had a soft opening and the learning process will be helpful when the snack shack returns next year.

Please see Vida's document attached to these minutes for details about all the programs.

- Calaveras Council of Governments – Tim Muetterties – unable to attend.
- Great Arnold Business Association – Linda Sapien – Linda thanked Martin for attending last GABA event at the Mountain Headquarters at Cedar Center. Mountain Headquarters is place

October 28th is going to be a Halloween event where folks can attend a trunk or treat event for children where they go from business to business for the treats.

Will also have a Sequoia Woods Mixer on November 16th to which everyone is invited. One speaker will be Sergeant Stark from the Calaveras Sheriff's Department. Price will be \$20 person.

- Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach reported that Pacific Coast Trail Runs hosted a run that included a 10k, half-marathon, a 22 mile, and 37-mile run. Highly successful.

The Forest Service is asking trail users to submit trails that are not currently

on Forest Service maps for inclusion in the environmental review process so these trails can be brought into FS's trail mapping system.

Linda Sapien explained that her daughter was out running the Arnold Rim Trail and her dog was stung multiple times by hymenopterous insects. Linda asked how her daughter should report this so others won't be stung by that same nest. Steve asked that these be reported to info@arnoldrimtrail.org and either Evan Watson, the person to whom the Arnold Rim Trail Association reports at the Calaveras District Office, or one of the Arnold Rim Trail Association volunteers will go out and mitigate the nest.

- Open Forum: What's on your mind that is not on the agenda? Ken explained that he was concerned about the CCWD rate increases, that the doubling of rates is impossible to comprehend. There were also several follow-up comments.
- Adjournment: 11:30 am (approximately)

Respectfully submitting,

Steve Lauterbach
Secretary, EPPOC