

EPPOC Draft Minutes

November 1st, 2023, 9:30-11:30 am

- October 2023 minutes approved by consensus.
- Speaker for this month:
No scheduled speaker
- Reports:
 - EPPOC Treasurer's Report – Laura Baughman was not able to attend the meeting, so she provided this report:
\$360.10 balance. Dues statements go out next month for 2024.
 - EPPOC Chairperson's Report – Eric Davis
 - Eric reminds us that we would like the GMs or Board officer from each HOA to make a succinct report at the December meeting. The meeting will be held by Zoom.
 - Eric explained the Davis Sterling rules on providing the HOA proforma budgets to its members.
 - Eric is also explained that December is the meeting that we elect EPPOC officers for 2024. He requested that a new Chair, Secretary, and perhaps Treasurer be identified.
 - District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty
 - Martin sent a report. He regrets that he could not attend. He is working on the Berm Buddy program, recruiting volunteers to ensure a robust program for this winter's snow season.
 - Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus
 - Utility Coordination meeting held at Sheriff's Office to prepare for the winter. Attendees including PG&E, Volcano, AT&T, Comcast, Mike Johnson from EPFD, CCWD, and OES Director. Monica explained this was an excellent meeting planning ahead, so these critical agencies are collaborating in real time.
 - Monica spoke about the PG&E undergrounding project. PG&E is collaborating with Calaveras County inspectors on this project. She knows this is frustrating for the citizenry.
 - Monica explained about multiple other projects that Public Works is

involved with.

- Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson reported they are getting ready for the winter season.
 - They have acquired a device that helps lift patients onto gurneys thereby protecting their backs from injury.
 - Permit burning has started. Still need to get online burn permit at the CalFire website. 4'x4 size, must be present, must have tools and a defensible perimeter. Must call the burn line (209) 754-6600 to see if burning is permitted that day.

- Calaveras County Public Health – Evita Olson
 - Evita is attending the meeting as a listener today.

- CalFire – Dennis Lange
No report

- Sheriff's Department & CHP – Joshua Wilkinson (CHP)
No report.

- CCWD –Bertha Underhill & Michael Minkler
Kelly Gerkenmeyer gave the CCWD report. The PG&E undergrounding projects is affecting CCWD also. CCWD must identify the underground water lines for PG&E. This can be challenging because some of the old water lines are plastic and do not have an underground wire with them which would allow PG&E to sense them.
 - Kelly reported on the removal of vegetation at White Pines Lake.
 - All the redwood tanks except one have been replaced in the Highway 4 corridor.

- County Office of Emergency Services – Bajit Singh
No report.

- California Big Trees State Park – Heather Reith
 - Oak Hollow Campground closed for the winter. The rest of the campgrounds will be closed also,
 - Talked about forest management projects including in the South Grove at a townhall meeting.
 - Prescribed burn 39 acres in North Grove completed and went very well. The 1,300-acre prescribed burn is still planned. Prep work going well in anticipation of that burn.

- The Orphans are coming still alive and new sequoia seedlings are growing on the forest floor!
- Calaveras Big Trees Association – Vida Kenk
 - Vida is glad to learn the Orphans are reviving.
 - Docents led 860 visitors on guided hikes this summer and spoke with 65,000 visitors this summer.
 - Guided bird hikes and astronomy nights will return in year.
 - The Parkway will close at the first significant snowfall or December 1st, whichever comes first. Once the Parkway closes there will be designated locations for playing in snow.
 - The snack shack will return in the Spring.
 - There will not be a warming hut this winter.
 - There will be a forty-hour course on California Naturalist Certification Course, a UC Extension Course, will start in May 2024. A flyer will be attached to the minutes. Registration starts on January 1st. Costs \$310. Limited scholarships.
- Calaveras Council of Governments – Tim Muetterties

As he was unable to attend, Tim emailed this report:
 “I will send updates on the Council of Governments as well as the Transit Agency as they develop.
- I can now ‘share’ the fact that for the last several months the Council of Governments has been working on compliance with the new EV Regulations coming down from the State of California radially approaching. Due to the state requirements and guidelines for implementation, we either had to own our own facility or have a 40-year lease, or we would not receive the state and federal funds necessary to be in compliance. We attempted to negotiate with the owners of our current location, but they would not sell or extend to a 40-year lease leaving us little choice but to find a new location.
- We eventually found and acquired vacant land in San Andreas near the old Airport and are working towards the design and construction.
- I will update you as things progress.
- Thank you!
- Sincerely,
- Tim Muetterties”
- Great Arnold Business Association – Linda Sapien

No report.

- Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach
Steve reported on the Stanislaus National Forest’s plan to identify informal trails and bring them into their formal trail system. Also, he reported on a workshop hosted by Stanislaus National Forest in building sustainable trail for equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers.

- Call for nominations for EPPOC Officers, Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. Elections at December meeting. 2024

- Adjournment: 10:40