

EPPOC Meeting Minutes, Draft  
Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 9:30-11:30 am

The video of this Zoom meeting may be viewed using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Hvndqalt5rGz2PWgBCRtJnDTTrXg3ad7NphDOY6Jk7HT- q8XvMtrfAEtmGxUOwtG.jdpt1KYhHQEr30ji>

Password to view: U.X\$4j0

- March 2023 draft minutes approved.
  
- Speaker for this month: Melissa Justice, HHA/Volunteer Coordinator, Hospice of Amador & Calaveras County, provided a superb introduction to their hospice program and services that I **highly recommend** watching. Starts at 3 minutes into the Zoom video and wraps up at 32 minutes. I recommend that everyone who is not familiar with hospice to please watch. Hospice is a true blessing.
  
- Reports:
  - EPPOC Treasurer’s Report – Laura Baughman – no report.
  - EPPOC Chairperson’s Report – Eric Davis said that Calaveras County now has a Health app for smart phones, search for Calaveras County HHSA in your google and apple app stores.
  - District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty – happy to report that the County worked with Martin to setup his “Burn Buddies” program. He looks forward to continuing the program next year. \$5,000 grant from Mariposa Calaveras Community Action program given to Calaveras County and provided to Martin to administer his program. Looks forward to this program continuing for years to come.  
Martin asks that anyone with issues to reach out to him directly; he does not monitor social media.
  - Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus – unable to attend so provided written report that contains excellent detail. The County has a five-year program to maintain the roads. Because PG&E is ungrounding cables, County is working closely with PG&E to make sure that County does not resurface any roads that PG&E is going to unground until after they have finished. Please see Monica’s attachment to the minutes.
  - Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson – explained that it is still open burn time not requiring a permit, but we still must check the burn line (209) 754-6600. When burn season starts, probably May 1<sup>st</sup>, permits will be required and burning will be limited to one pile per lot. Permits are obtained online now, not at CalFire or EPFD taxes:  
<https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov>

Calaveras Proposition A was passed. It provides sale tax support for all the fire districts in Calaveras County. Chief Johnson noted that a proposition on the upcoming November CA State ballot may change the requirement that a citizen sponsored tax increase measure will need a 2/3rds majority to pass instead of the current simple majority rule. If that passes, then it would negate the Calaveras Measure A because the state ballot measure would negate any passed measures retroactively to January 1, 2023.

- CHP – Commander Tim McCollister – no report
- CHP – Resident Deputy Joshua Wilkerson on duty here for 8 years – reported that the apparent mild weather this winter paradoxically resulted in more crashes due to snow but there were less trees done. Currently working with other emergency and law enforcement agencies to coordinate responses to various situations including active-shooter incidents, but all incidents in general. There is a new Lieutenant on the force, Lt. McCollister (sp?), who is seeking to acquire new equipment including off-road vehicles. Not many speeders this winter. Josh said that if citizens call the office, it may take a while for our resident deputies to be notified. He recommends contacting them directly. Excellent report.
- CalFire – Dennis Lange – no report
- CCWD – Kelly Gerkenmeyer, CCWD External Affairs Manager – reported that CCWD is partnering with East Bay MUD offering four \$500 scholarships for Calaveras high school students based on essays. Also reported that redwood tanks are being replaced with stainless steel tanks. Kelly is encouraging Calaveras high school students to consider careers in water by making presentations at both Calaveras high schools.
- County Office of Emergency Services – Bajit Singh – no report.
- Calaveras Public Health – Evita Olson is coordinating healthy aging program. She explained that the Public Health apps that Eric mentioned in his chairperson report will provide information about the Calaveras Health Departments offerings and activities. She looks forward to hearing from us about the app.
- CalWaste – Jillian Goss – no report
- Friends of the Calaveras Library, Arnold Branch – Martha Rubin – no report
- California Big Trees State Park – Heather Reith – no report
- Calaveras Big Trees Association – Vida Kenk – pile burning has been occurring the the State Park. School programs are increasing. Earliest date to open the main road to the South Grove is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Camping in the Park is first-come-first-serve until May 15<sup>th</sup> after which bookings are done through <https://www.reservecalifornia.com/Web/>. Any unreserved spots not booked through Reserve California are available on first-come-first-serve basis. Student tour programs are almost completed booked for the summer.

North Grove has guided walks every Saturday at 11:30am starting at Visitor Center Plaza.

Volunteer Park Docents program is launching again this year.

John Muir Laws seminar is May 4<sup>th</sup>. Cost of seminar is \$50. Space is limited. *FIND phone number to book this seminar in Vida's email communication to me.*

Vida spoke lovingly a memorial she wrote about CBTSP docent Ray Sutliff at 1:06 into the Zoom podcast.

- Calaveras Council of Governments – no current representative
  - Great Arnold Business Association – Linda Sapien – no report
  - Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach – encouraged folks to join one of the guided nature walks on the ART. See attached flyer for details. On May 4<sup>th</sup> there will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Bikeapalooza – see flyer for details. ARTA has made the decision to become its own 501(c)3 and hire a staff person with the title Director of Education and Development starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.
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- Open Forum: What's on your mind that is not on the agenda?  
Eric Davis reminded everyone that Davis Sterling requires Home Owners Associations must be getting their election material out to property owners.
  - Adjournment: 11:30 am (approximately)