



Minutes for 5 January 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC) was held on Thursday, 5 January 2017 at the Gualala Community Center in downtown Gualala. Council Members present were: Lloyd Chasey, Ron Eckert, Charles Ivor, Robert Juengling, Eric Mills, and Jeff Watts. Guest: Howard Dashiell, Director of the Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) was in attendance. Administrative Secretary Mary Mober and five members of the public were also present (see sign-in sheet and speaker's cards). **Council Chair Juengling** convened the meeting at 18:30.

1. **Introductions and Announcements:** Council Members introduced themselves.
2. **Consent Agenda:**
 - 2.a. **Minutes: 1 December 2016**

It was moved by Council Member Watts, seconded by Council Member Ivor, and unanimously carried that the Minutes be approve as amended by respelling typos.
 - 2.b. **Correspondence:** All were acknowledged as received.
 - 2.b.i. Letter: County of Mendocino Department of Planning and Building Services Regarding Compliance to County Building and Zoning Ordinances by Local Agencies
 - 2.b.ii. Letter: North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding Comments on Proposal for Off-site Investigation of Unocal Service Station, 39225 South Highway One, Case No. 1TMC017.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** It was moved by Council Member Ivor, seconded by Council Member Mills, and unanimously carried that the Agenda be approved as amended by deleting Items a and b from- and leaving Item c on Item 6.
4. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items:** Rebeca Motlagh, Gualala-area resident, announced a celebration of Martian Luther King Day Monday, 16 January at the Gualala Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon with guest speaker Dr. Lois M. Moore (see flier, attached). Attendees are urged to bring canned food for the Gualala Food Bank.
5. **Report: Mendocino County Law/Code Enforcement:** Council Member Watts will call the Sheriff's office confirming the Sheriff's Forum scheduled for Thursday, 2 March.
6. **Discussion: Council Matters; c. Various CalTrans and; County Issues:** Council Chair Juengling introduced Howard Dashiell, Director of MCDOT who noted no changes with County roads at present. Annual costs average to patch roads are around \$2 million. The County may have to let roads go back to dirt if the chip-seal process won't help their upkeep. Fish Rock Road is a good example and will be partially paved this summer costing half of this district's budget. The October rains have caused deep pot-holes to develop countywide. He urged people to drive slowly because potholes won't be fixed before summer and may get worse over the next few months.

Council Chair Juengling cited Supervisor Hamburg on 3 November 2016 saying he would like see a voter's initiative raising \$40 million for repairing County roads. Most roads would be beyond repair in five years and would have to be taken down to gravel. (see Minutes Archives, 3 November) Presently, there are 365 miles of gravel roads in the County.

GMAC's archives may be viewed at this website: www.gualalamac.org, and/or by contacting Administrator Mober: (707)884-3006.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors established the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC) to advise them on planning issues that affect or have the potential to affect the Gualala area. The GMAC's role is advisory only.

Public Attendance and Participation is Encouraged at GMAC Meetings.



Mr. Dashiell noted the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (BOS) considered a sales tax with revenues of around \$2 million annually for funding road repair but shelved it, though it may come up again in the near future. If President Trump allocates funds for roads, the County will apply for aid on major, federally-supported roads but that will not help local ones. Bad local roads will have to be ground down to dirt and started over.

Due to retirement, the Point Arena (PA) road crew will be down to two men. Staffing should be functional crews of six men in each road district, i.e., sixty men countywide; at present, twenty vacancies exist. No one wants to move to the Coast or the County with the present, low starting salary being paid. A man can't raise a family or buy a home at that salary. Only Sacramento County is fully staffed at present. Mowing also needs to be done but there is no manpower to do it now.

Electric vehicles need to be taxed to help pay for roads. Average family buys 1,000 gallons of gas a year i.e. \$700 annually in taxes for a family to drive all roads nationwide. This spring, the state legislature may raise gas taxes by \$0.12 to \$0.14 a gallon; this may help with local roads but taxes aren't popular no matter what their designated purpose.

The Windy Hollow Road Bridge is in the planning stage but costs may be \$35 to \$40 million and the County doesn't have the funds for that. The state doesn't see the bridge as their issue though it provides a route north during the closure of Highway One during flooding. Phil Dow, Director of Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) may apply for a Tiger Grant for Federal monies allocated to offset the effects of sea-level rise.

7. Drought: State of Emergency & Status of the Gualala Water Moratorium: None.

8. Chairman Juengling's Report: Phil Dow, Director of MCOG will attend the 2 February meeting. Chairman Juengling is working on finding another GMAC Member.

9. Vice-Chairman Ivor's Report: Council Member Ivor reported Friends of the Gualala River met to discuss reorganizing. The meeting was very positive with good results.

10. Council Matters:

10.a. **Report: Gualala Community Action Plan (Streetscape Planning) (GCAP): Council Chair Juengling** stated GCAP started 1 October 2016 and Mr. Dow will update the project for the Council in February.

10.b. **Discussion: Gualala Parking Issues:** None
Council Member Mills noted all of Highway One is of substandard quality. There is standing water present and many potholes needing attention. He wondered what CalTrans' plans were for our area and felt asking a representative to attend a future forum would be a good idea. Since Mr. Dow will attend the next meeting, he could be asked how to deal with CalTrans and their much-needed work. Contacting Supervisor Hamburg to inform him of the Council's concerns about road conditions would be advantageous as well.

Red Wristen, Gualala-area resident, noted the highway just south of Valley Ford floods during and after heavy rains, which affects the coastal area. A viaduct is needed to keep traffic moving.

GMAC's archives may be viewed at this website: www.gualalamac.org, and/or by contacting Administrator Mobert: (707)884-3006.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors established the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC) to advise them on planning issues that affect or have the potential to affect the Gualala area. The GMAC's role is advisory only.

Public Attendance and Participation is Encouraged at GMAC Meetings.



Mary Mobert, Gualala-area resident stated the soil bank on Highway One just north of Anchor Bay is badly fissured and has subsided. It represents a grave danger to traffic and the occupants of the Anchor Bay Campground below.

- 11. Treasurer Eckert's Report: Council Treasurer Eckert** reported webmaster Sophia's invoice for the past quarter was for \$60.
- 12. Secretary Watts' Report: Council Secretary Watts** asked why Administrative Secretary Mobert's June 2015 invoice hadn't been paid. Treasurer Eckert will contact the County to ask what happened.
- 13. Website and Broadband Report: Council Member Chasey** gave a lengthy and detailed report on present and future broadband service in the area (see attached). Anchor Bay Campground is connecting to fast internet (see Minutes Archive, 1 December)

The California Public Utilities Commission is working with AT&T using federal funds of \$60 million to connect all rural Californians to high-speed internet by 2020. AT&T plans to erect fourteen new antennas countywide and upgrade eight existing ones. Additional new towers will be erected in Gualala on Fish Rock and Ten Mile Cutoff Roads, and in Manchester. These new and upgraded towers will connect customers to cell service via AT&T. Skyfiber Company will connect Gualala businesses via these antennas; AT&T's "dark fiber" network presently going through Gualala will be available to local businesses as well.

Council Member Chasey will be the South Coast's representative on Broad Band Alliance of Mendocino County and keep the Council informed on broadband issues. **Mr. Wristen** offered to help Council Member Chasey in any way he could.

- 14. Website Report: Maintenance of GMAC Website:** None
- 15. GMAC Promotion, Citizen Participation & Recruitment:** None
- 16. Administrative Secretary Mobert's Report: Administrative Secretary Mobert** reported working 14.48 hours; materials were \$0.84, for a total of \$218.09. Her invoice for June 2015 was never paid. Council Member Eckert will look into the matter.
- 17. Agenda for next meeting** – 2 February 2017
- 18. Adjournment:** It was unanimously agreed to adjourn at 20:37.

DRAFT Minutes prepared by Administrative Secretary Mobert

GMAC's archives may be viewed at this website: www.gualalamac.org, and/or by contacting Administrator Mobert: (707)884-3006.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors established the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC) to advise them on planning issues that affect or have the potential to affect the Gualala area. The GMAC's role is advisory only.

Public Attendance and Participation is Encouraged at GMAC Meetings.