



## Minutes for June 2, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC) was held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 via *Zoom.us*. Council Members present were: Melissa Finley, Donald Hess; Chair, Robert Juengling; Dan Lewis, Henry Mayer, and; Vice Chair, Tom Murphy. Council Member Kevin Evans was absent. Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall; Mendocino County Emergency Services Director Brett Blaser, Mendocino County Disaster Recovery Director Travis Killmer, and; GMAC Administrative Secretary Mary Mober, were also present. No members of the public attended. Newly-appointed Member Lewis was unable to vote because his documentation hadn't been received by the County Clerk. **Juengling** convened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

### 1. **Resolution Authorizing Teleconference Meetings:**

**Juengling** noted the *Teleconference Resolution* was required to be voted each month (see attached or GualalaMAC.org).

**It was moved by Murphy, seconded by Finley, and carried 5 YES (Finley, Hess, Juengling, Mayer, and Murphy); 0 NO; 1 ABSTAIN (Lewis), and; 1 ABSENT (Evans) that the resolution be approved as presented.**

### 2. **Announcements:** Juengling introduced new Member Dan Lewis.

### 3. **Consent Agenda:**

#### a. **Minutes:** May 5, 2022:

**It was moved by Murphy, seconded by Hess, and carried 4 YES (Hess, Juengling, Mayer, and Murphy); 0 NO; 2 ABSTAINMENTS (Finley and Lewis), and; 1 ABSENT (Evans) that the Minutes be approved as presented.**

#### b. **Correspondence:** All were acknowledged as received.

##### i. **California Department of Forestry Notice of THP #1-08NTMP-009-MEN (Bower LP)**

#### c. **Approval of Agenda:**

**It was moved by Murphy, seconded by Mayer, and carried 5 YES (Finley, Hess, Juengling, Mayer, and Murphy); 0 NO; 1 ABSTAIN (Lewis), and; 1 ABSENT (Evans) that the Agenda be approved as amended by deleting Juengling's and Murphy's names from Item 8. Permit Review Assignments for THP 1-08NTMP-009-MEN (Bower) since assignments had yet to be made.**

### 4. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items:**

**Mary Mober**, Gualala-area resident, said *Zoom.us* had sent a notice stating their service would revert to its usual 45 minute limit on July 1. If she wanted more time to attend meetings, she should apply for it. She wondered if she needed to do so to attend GAMC meetings.

**Murphy** said GMAC meetings are paid by the council and can last as long as necessary. If Mober or other private citizens wished to exceed 45 minutes for their own meetings, they would need to obtain a paid account.

### 5. **Report: Mendocino County Law/Code Enforcement:**

Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, Brett Blazer & Travis Killmer reported.

**Kendall** reported on a new program for rehabilitation of inmates via employment-education classes. In the next three to five years, the jail facility will have classrooms to teach these various classes. A representative from *Carolina Coops*, a chicken-coop manufacturer, is flying out to teach inmates how to construct the jail's chicken coop. The \$15,000 coop and the man's time were donated by the company.

Two deputies, one a South-Coast resident, graduated from the Police Academy last Friday and one more, an inland tribal member, will graduate June 10. The department hired a deputy in May and will hire two more in the next month. Both were from other departments around the state. His will bring the total of new employees to six in all. He has received 30 applicants for jail corrections offi-

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cers. The *Unconditional Freedom Project*, will help the department with advertising that will perhaps interest more recruits. If addiction was recognized as a medical problem and addicts were medically treated rather than jailed, his jail population would be reduced by 40-60%.

The rain lessened calls for service; drivers tended to slow down because of it. He urged everyone to be careful with fire because 96 % of all fire incidents in Mendocino County are human caused. If anyone thinks the Coastal area won't burn, they're wrong; it will. The fire in Point Arena (PA) was a wake-up call for the County. It was located at Bill Owens Road and Schooner Gulch Road, spread to 30 acres in no time at all, and burned down to the beach due to high winds. The cause is suspected to be a PG&E line that snapped due to the wind but this has yet to be official determined.

**Juengling** noted the smoke effected air quality in Santa Rosa and the Bay Area, and was covered by their local news organizations.

**Finley:** How does the department ensure they're not hiring a white supremacist: Proud Boys or a 3%er?

**Kendall** does background checks on all extremist groups via their computer connections and applicants via their social media.

**Hess** thanked Kendall for the work he was doing in the reintegration of prisoners back into their community. He asked if they be able to vote.

**Kendall** wasn't sure and will ask Katrina Bartolomie, Mendocino County Assessor-Clerk-Recorder.

**Blaser:** Electrical power and internet outages have happened over the last six weeks. Register with Mendo.org to receive emergency alerts and make a plan as to where to go in an emergency. Consider buying communicators and high-frequency radios for upgrades and better information resources. Regulate water usage, and trees and brush around the house. On June 16, he and his staff will hold an emergency management training with Point Arena City Manager Paul Anderson and his staff. There will be another training session later this month in Gualala.

**Killmer:** The County is doing sea level rise resiliency evaluation on how climate change and rising ocean levels will affect the Coast. He plans to submit a grant proposal to expand the program. His staff is also helping with countywide fire and disaster preparations.

## 6. **Permit Applications:**

- a. **THP #1-19-00082-MEN-AM#7:** A select cut adjacent to Slick Rock Creek and Morrison Gulch within THP area 1113.700302; approximately 3.65 miles Northwest of Anchor Bay (Juengling, Murphy).

**Murphy** showed a map of area. **Juengling** gave a short description of the project.

**Murphy:** The THP was originally 90 acres, then it was expanded to 170 acres. The Botanical and Archæological surveys are pending. The THP may have been approved before coming to GMAC; The receipt another project approved before GMAC could comment was disturbing to him.

The plan states there is no ecological impact but there is. It's located less than a quarter mile from the coast; it drains into Morrison Gulch and Slick Rock Creek; the west-facing slope's ground elevations vary from 120 to 800 feet and have from 5% to 70% grade. The species and numbers of trees to be cut were listed. No GMAC Member has walked or seen the land.

**Finley:** Both Slick Rock Creek and Morrison Gulch look like seasonal creeks. According to California Fish and Game, nothing can be done within 100 feet of any seasonal creek. Slick Rock Creek looks like a seasonal, riparian corridor area as well.

**Lewis:** The roads have tractor crossings over the seasonal creeks with culverts on some of them. He wondered if this had been addressed by Fish and Game?

**Juengling** needed to talk with the THP's neighbors to ask their opinion of the plan. GMAC has to become more involved with THPs.

**Murphy:** There are residents within 1,000 feet of the project who should have been notified. The THP has been pending for a few years and contains a large amount of plan evaluation, comments, research, and terms of art. The document's over 1,000 pages and needs list of acronyms definitions of the terms of art. The owner wasn't notified about GMAC's addressing the project.

**It was moved by Murphy, seconded by Mayer and carried 4 YES (Hess, Juengling, Mayer, and Murphy); 0 NO; 2 ABSTAINMENTS (Finley and Lewis), and; 1 ABSENT (Evans) that the Item be tabled until July 7 so these issues can be addressed.**

## 7. **Council Matters:**

### a. **Old Business:**

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### **AT&T/Anderson Cell Tower Update**

**Hess** retracted the apology he made last month for not writing the AT&T/Anderson letter to County. It hadn't been assigned to him and he thought it had.

**Murphy:** The tower was approved as Monopine tower (see May5 Minutes).

**Finley:** One reason GMAC denied the permit was, because of extreme fire danger and the facility being unmanned, a compressor fire wouldn't be detected in a timely manner.

### **b. Bower Park Maintenance (Evans, Mayer)**

**Mayer:** Janell Rau of the *Mendocino County General Services Agency* said they divided the tree-removal work into two sections. The first section is finished; the second is being done now and will finish in a week or two. Caretaker facilities are being cleared and will be assessed when this is completed. They will remove stumps and replant trees; there are no plans in place after work is completed.

A needs assessment was issued stating Priority 1 work is: tree removal, \$175,000 of which \$64,000 has been done, and; the caretaker area clean-up, \$146,000 has also been done. Priority 1 stump removal for \$75,000 has yet to be done but is planned.

Priority 2 and 3 items have not funds allocated but costs would be: spillway repair, \$142,000; Community Room upgrade, \$375,000; tennis and basketball courts repaved, \$215,000; parking lot repaved, \$75,000; amphitheater repair, \$45,000; ball park field and access, and *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) upgrades, \$270,000; replace water pipes, \$2.075 million, and; replace electrical, \$1.5 million. It's not known if all the work has to be finished before the park can open. The safety assessment may be done after the tree work is accomplished.

Priority 1 work is over \$826,000 and Priority 1.5 work is \$895,000. The *American Recovery Plan* funding can be used for this but whether the County will use it or not is at question. It's a fact the County can't pay for these repairs from their own coffers. Mayer will attend the County Budget workshops on June 07 and 08, giving a report July 7.

**Juengling** asked what will happen to the wood; if it would be put through a chipper, piled on the road for anyone to take, or donated to seniors via the Senior Center. **Mayer** didn't know.

**Hess:** The County needs to be clear on what has to be finished before the park is safe and can open.

**Mobert:** Let the County know about resident volunteers working to upgrade the park. The area has many people from schools, sports organizations, service clubs, etc. who would be happy to help bring the park into operation and continue with future upkeep.

**Mayer:** He will mention the subject at County Meetings. They probably won't let volunteers help until the tree work is finished but after that, they may. Evans has been speaking with Supervisor Williams on a special tax assessment area to fund ongoing park expenses. This could be pursued in the future by residents rather than the County.

**Lewis** volunteered to be a member of the Parks Committee with Evans and Mayer; Juengling appointed him as a member.

### **c. Gualala Community Service District (GCSD) Plans:** (Juengling) None.

### **d. GCAP Ad Hoc Committee: Caltrans Streetscaping Project** (Juengling, Murphy)

**Juengling:** The committee met briefly during the month.

**Murphy:** The *California Coastal Commission* will be meeting with CalTrans staff; they will let the committee know what transpired. *Mendocino Council of Governments* (MCOG) may make the Streetscaping Plan an Action Item on a future Agenda but on their Monday, June 6 Agenda, CalTrans' report is only a non-agenda item. He has asked MCOG if GCAP Committee Members could speak to the issue at one of their meetings but he hasn't heard so far.

Murphy was told there was no CalTrans director assigned to GCAP project anymore; staff is very busy and hasn't had the time to address it; there is a limited budget for their work, and; there's no threat that the project will fall off the time schedule unless funding can't be found. This may bring the elimination of the planned, fourth public-input meeting, which isn't needed since the majority of residents agree Alternate Plan 4A should be used rather than Alternate Plan 4C.

**Juengling:** MCOG has asked GMAC for a letter of support for the round of *Alternative Transportation Plan* (ATP) grant applications.

**Murphy:** An ATP grant would allow for sidewalks, bike lanes, landscaping, etc. If there isn't ATP funding, CalTrans has a \$24 billion budget with plenty of funding to complete Gualala's project.

### **e. Housing & Economic Development Standing Committee:** (Murphy) None.

### **f. Public Electric Vehicle Charging Station in Gualala Report:** (Hess)

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**Hess** contacted Janet Orth of MCOG who met with CalTrans staff about CalTrans and the *California Energy Commission* (CEC) receiving grant monies from the Federal *National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure* formula program for \$384 Million for chargers throughout the state. These have to be built on designated corridors and Highway One is a recognized corridor. The CEC wants fast chargers no greater than 50 miles apart. The only fast charging station between Bodega Bay in Sonoma County and Westport in Mendocino County is in Fort Bragg at Harvest Market. CalTrans and the CEC is in the process of designing a program designating the criteria for applicants to qualify for 80% funding with 20% paid by applicant/owners of the organization managing the station. California will definitely meet the Federal deadline of August for applying. The monies can be applied for by private or public entities, or charging Companies. Wherever it's located, it has to be publically accessible with four chargers per site.

**Mobert:** Will these chargers be up to international standers for fast chargers.

**Hess:** Yes they will. The County applied for money for a fleet of charging stations, he asked if they receive it?

**Killmer:** The County hasn't received conformation yet; maybe by next month.

**g. Telecommunications Committee:** (Hess, Murphy)

**Murphy:** There were 18 views of the May 5, 2022 meeting. This is probably because there have been no exciting items on the Agenda lately. County planners and Supervisors do view the meetings though.

**h. Water Ad Hoc Committee:** Update on Water Forum and Distribution (Hess, Juengling):

**Juengling:** Responses were received from David Bower, President of *North Gualala Water Company* (NGWC) to GMAC's questions. Grants for a public water company still need to be researched.

The *US Geologic Survey* (USGS) website now lists the flow in the river at 10.7 cubic feet per second (CFS). He can see it falling to below one CFS as it did in the fall of 2021. A reservoir is really needed to retain water resources during the rainy season.

**Finley:** Have *Gualala Community Service District* (GCSD) become a water service district that absorbs NGWC, thus it would become public.

**Juengling:** At the moment, they have their hands full with sewer issues. The district could expand in the future if it pleased. He will talk with Director Troyan about limits to GCSD' services.

**Hess:** the GCSD can create a reservoir and make water available to NGWC.

**Juengling** appointed Finley to the Water Ad Hoc Committee; Finley, Hess, and Juengling now comprise the committee.

**Murphy:** There are lots of options for GCSD. He shared a screen showing a GCSD map and will contact LAFCO to see what the limits of GCSD are.

**Juengling:** The fall Water Forum is stalled at present.

**8. Permit Applications:** None

**THP #1-08NTMP-009-MEN** (Bower LP); Approximately 0.8 Miles Northwest of Gualala: Adjacent to Big Gulch, 700 feet west of Robinson Gulch, Sections. 21, 22, 27, 28. (Recorded CDF 4-28-22):

**Juengling** gave a short history of the plan, which is in perpetuity once granted, and where it was located. Juengling, Mayer, and Finley will walk/see the property.

**Murphy** sent CalFire link for viewing THP plans.

**9. Administrative Secretary Mobert's Report:**

**Mobert** worked 18.12 hours in May; materials were \$3:60, for a total of \$320.65.

**10. Vice Chairman Murphy's Report:**

**Murphy** is presently selling his house in the GAMC service area and may leave the county, but nothing is certain at this time. He will continue to own property in the area and take an interest in local issues.

**11. Chairman Juengling's Report:**

**Juengling** was happy to see new Members interest in GMAC and its continuing efforts and work for the community. He thanked new Members for their ideas and Murphy for all the work he does organizing meetings.

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**12. Adjournment:**

**It was moved by Finley, seconded by Murphy, and carried 5 YES (Finley, Hess, Juengling, Mayer, and Murphy); 0 NO; 1 ABSTAIN (Lewis), and; 1 ABSENT (Evans) that the meeting adjourn at 8:24p. m.**

DRAFT Minutes prepared by Administrative Secretary Mobert

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