

Ebbetts Pass Property Owners Council

Minutes February 5, 2020

Meeting called to order by **Bob Polakov** at 9:30am at the Ebbetts Pass Fire House

December 2019 minutes approved as written.

Jackie Sullivan gave a lovely tribute for her husband, **Tom Sullivan**, a previous very active participant in EPPOC, Independence Hall, and many other volunteer positions in Arnold, who recently passed away. Tom was a giving person who did much for Arnold over his lifetime.

No comments made during the Open Forum.

Jill Holstein gave a financial report and we have just under \$400 in the treasury. Love Creek has not paid their dues, but all other dues have been collected.

Josh Wilkerson of the CHP gave a report. There has been some petty theft incidents reported. Our previous Calaveras County Sheriff deputy, Joel, is now in Alpine County. There have been more speeding incidents and a break-in at Quik Serve.

Mike Johnson, the Ebbetts Pass Fire Chief, gave a report that included a good economic report after the passing of the new increase in fees. They are able to have more men and women on the streets caring for our Community. **Denny Clemens** will now serve as the EPPOC representative with the passing of Tom Sullivan. Denny is on the Ebbetts Pass Board of Directors. The hand-held radios that the Fire Department uses have been upgraded due to a grant.

There is a new Cal Fire Battalion Chief. **Brenton Brown** will now represent Cal Fire at our meeting. Chief Brown was unable to attend the February meeting. Chief Brown is also a certified prevention officer which will help in writing citations.

CCWD was represented by **Michael Minkler** who is the General Manager. Reach 1, which is the repairing of the water pipes between Avery and Forest Meadows, was delayed last year due to a lava cap in the Forest Meadows area. With the good weather this year, they hope to start up again in early March if Cal Trans will allow it. Some of the underground piping on Meko Drive will be replaced this summer. There will be some water tank replacements also this summer. The treatment plant off of Hunter Dam Road will also have repair work done to it. There was the potential for major water shortages during the PG&E power outages last year. With the likely chance of more power outages, CCWD is working to solve this potential problem. CCWD also is active in making their land holdings safer in case of fire.

Merita Callaway, our District Supervisor, gave an informative report on the County activities. Signs will be put up to help with the road problems on Murphys Drive and at Blagen Road. The work and signs on Blagen will not occur until after Labor Day. The voting for Calaveras County will be entirely by mail this year and the ballots have been mailed out. Completed ballots can be left at the Arnold Library and the Save Mart in Angels Camp. The County is working on some capital improvement projects. They are also looking for funding for a new District Attorney's office. Cannabis was another important topic presented. There are currently 79 applications for commercial growing in Calaveras County. The County is trying to eliminate illegal growing of Cannabis as well as the black market growing and selling of Cannabis. The County is looking at doing an artistic mosaic at the Arnold Library this year. Merita also brought up the problems with people driving too fast in the area.

Our guest speaker this month was **Ron Dwelley**. Ron is a longtime Calaveras resident that was looking for volunteers to help with this year's Census. Ron brought someone else who is helping organize and get the Census in good order. April 1st is Census Day. There were many problems discussed of taking a Census in a rural area. If you have a Post Office box, the census has to be taken at the person's residence or online. There are basically 10 Census questions that a person has to answer, but there are multiple additional questions included after each question is asked. To become a Census taker you need to contact Ron Dwelley. A Census taker will not call you up and do the Census on the phone. The Census is looking to find additional people to take the Census. The pay is \$18.00 an hour plus car expenses.

Bob then thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 11:05 am.

Minutes taken by Craig Stone, edited by Laura Baughman