



MEETING MINUTES

Upcountry Community Council was held at Veterans Hall, Pioneer on March 11, 2019

6:00 pm - **Call to order and Flag Salute** – Chairperson Jeff Brown

6:03 pm - **Approval of minutes** – Minutes approved and seconded

Reports

6:04 pm - **Sergeant John Silva, Amador County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES)** – Sergeant Silva overviewed the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services. Close relationships are key to making the Amador County OES run smoothly. He praised the volunteer DSW organizations such as the Fire Services, Faith-based organizations, ACART, Search and Rescue. Code Red is a very important notification system that is now in place that provides notification by phone (landline and cell) when an emergency event occurs. The OES office maintains the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan which is necessary for grant money. An RFP will be put out this week for all of the incorporated and unincorporated areas. FEMA and Cal OES toured the County last week to review the storm damage so that money will be allotted to Amador County. An in-depth discussion on Evacuation and Emergency Preparedness was shared.

7:00 pm - **Jeff Brown, Amador County Supervisor District 3** - Reviewed the Agenda for the Board of Supervisors meeting tomorrow and reviewed today's Tree Mortality Working Group meeting.

7:05 pm - **Rich Farrington, Amador Water Agency** – Mr. Farrington discussed the upcoming AWA Board meeting. AWA is 1 of 6 water agencies who are part of Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority. UMRWA was awarded a grant for fire reduction, an erosion control grant was applied for in the Power Fire area, and are working on a grant for the low-income areas of Amador and Calaveras County. An education program that UMRWA has supported "Stewardship Through Education," a hands-on program for school kids to learn about environmental issues and forest fire prevention. Awa also applied for a grant for cleaning up 4 marijuana grow sites in the Power Fire area. A letter opposing the water tax. A new bill was introduced by a Southern California Senator (SB474) to take our water. A coalition is being formed to oppose this. GreenGen is proposing a hydroelectric facility between Bear River and Upper Bear River to generate power during the day and pump water supplies during night hours. Due to PG&E's bankruptcy, AWA has hired an attorney to be sure the bankruptcy judge knows we rely on PG&E for our water supplies. Questions and answer followed.

7:20 pm - **Mark Biernacki – 88 Hwy Safety Committee** - Nothing to report.

7:21 pm - **Phil Fondale - Transportation Report** –Mr. Fondale read the report provided by Mr. Reinoehl and is found on the uccamador.org page under "Reports

7:25 pm - **Richard Lockwood – Bylaw Committee** – Mr. Lockwood reviewed the feedback from the February meeting and how it was added to the new bylaws. Bylaws and name change information are located on the uccamador.org website.

7:35 pm - **Jeff Brown, UCC Chair** – A joint fundraiser is in the works to support UCC/D3CC and ACART. Suggestions and help are appreciated. Future speaker ideas were discussed.

7:40 pm - **Meeting Adjourned**