



MEETING MINUTES

Upcountry Community Council was held at Veterans Hall, Pioneer on September 10, 2018

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

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

Reports

6:05 – **Battalion Chief Ryan Hamre, Amador Fire Agency** – In September, Walt White is coming on board as a Fire Chief. New engine 5141 will be in service this month. Fire hydrants checks has been completed in upcountry. Land next to Station 11 (Mace Meadows) has been purchased for additional space and possible turnaround.

6:10 – **Tamara Garner, Amador County Behavioral Health – Therapist** - This is Suicide prevention week and Month. The Amador County Behavioral Health is commissioned by the Medi-Cal for emergency crisis situations. Mental health 5150 criteria is that the patient is a danger for themselves and others. Pier support managers are available to be contacted and a visit to an ailing person to do an assessment. Amador County does not have a psych hospital. Amador county is ranked 4th highest suicide rate, per capita, in the State of California for 2018. Gun locks are available at various places in the county (see Uccamador.org for list). Safe Talk is a 4-hour class starting in November to train people in the public eye (bartenders, EMS, Police, community club leaders, etc.).

6:45 – **Jeff Brown, UCC Chair** – Gave an informational overview of the Federal fire incident page and how to use the page. This page is extremely helpful when tracking and getting up to date information on large fires and complexes. Located at: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/>

6:55pm – **Rich Farrington, AWA** – Grant for \$5mil has been procured and the fire hydrants on Buckhorn Ridge Rd will begin next summer. AWA received another grant and low interest loan to replace the 2 old water tanks located up the hill from Buckhorn Water Treatment Plant. PG&E has implemented a new program to shut off power in cases of fire danger. AWA is looking for funding for 22 new generators. For the second time the proposed water tax has died, but AWA has appealed to Assemblyman Frank Bigalow and Senator Tom Berryhill. Questions and answers followed.

7:12 pm - **Highway 88 Safety Committee Mark Biernacki and Richard Lockwood:** A Traffic information study (TIS) was done before Dollar General safety in the Buckhorn area was conducted prior to Dollar General being built and was not conclusive. The 40 MPH is valid through 2019 and a new study is due. Richard requested the UCC to back their request for a new study.

7:15 pm **Gary Reinoehl, - Transportation Report** – Social Services Technical Advisory Committee has position available for a youth representative. Amador transit is reviewing a list of annual local events that AT may be able to provide shuttle service. ACTC was awarded \$51,093 for their Low Carbon Transit Operations Program. A briefing was provided by staff on the Highway 16 relinquishment. County staff briefed the commission on the Pine Grove Highway 88 Improvement Project. (full report available on www.uccamador.org)

7:25 pm **Amador County Planning Commission – Caryl Callsen** Unable to attend. Jeff Brown read email from Ms. Callsen of what is on the agenda for the September 11th meeting.

7:30 - **Lynn Morgan Supervisor D3** – Unable to attend. Via text message, a very brief summation of Board of Supervisor special meetings of last week and the upcoming agenda for tomorrow's Board of Supervisor meeting.

7:32 – **James Marzano, Upcountry Resident** – Candidate for School Board introduced himself as a long time Pioneer resident, Football Coach, and a volunteer PE teacher. James is an advocate for our children.

7:40pm **Meeting Adjourned**