

Rosamond Municipal Advisory Council



Minutes of Meeting – October 17, 2019

1. **Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.** There were approximately 25 people in attendance.
2. **Flag Salute.**
3. **Roll call of the Directors and Attendance:** Directors Bill Parkman, Brennan Riley, Donna Morris, Lisa Checkley and Dennis Shoffner were in attendance. New Director Seaneen McArdle was introduced by the District 2 Supervisor's Representative Laura Wyatt. After introduction, Ms. McArdle was seated with the rest of the RMAC Directors.
4. **Adopt Agenda:** A motion was made by Dennis Shoffner to adopt the agenda and seconded by Seaneen McArdle. Vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.
5. **Approve Minutes:** A Statement for the Record regarding the cancelation of the September 19, 2019 meeting and the Minutes for the August 15, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved by motion from Donna Morris and seconded by Brennan Riley. Vote was 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.
6. **Community Leader Reports:**
 - A. Kern County Sheriff's Office: Sgt. Anton provided report. CFS-EK: 1833/ROS: 762, ARR-EK: 74/ROS: 31, RSP-EK: 237/ROS: 117.
 - B. California Highway Patrol: Lt. Williams provided report.
 - C. Assemblyman Tom Lackey: Brandon Roque, Field Representative for Assemblyman Tom Lackey was in attendance.
 - D. Kern County Supervisor's representative: Laura Lynn Wyatt briefed the community on County funding and items of discussion at the East Kern Economic Alliance.
 - E. Rosamond Community Services District: Gregory Wood advised that wastewater treatment expansion will begin mobilization soon. The groundbreaking ceremony will be next month.
 - F. Rosamond Chamber of Commerce: Jack Miller spoke and advised that the first event at the Rosamond Chamber of Commerce Event Center will be held on October 26, 2019. "Diamond Boo!" will start at 6:00 p.m.
 - G. Southern Kern Unified School District: Superintendent Gaines reported that another installment on the Kern County funding had been made and that the remaining balance on the loan was \$1,350,000.00. She added that they anticipated making another payment prior to the end of the school year in 2020. Ms. Gaines also advised that funding had been obtained to permit the construction of 6 new kindergarten classrooms at Rosamond Elementary. In closing, she informed the community that the 2019 Homecoming would be October 25, 2019 including the 23rd edition of the Powderpuff Football game.
 - H. Antelope Valley Citizens for Responsible Use of Water: Randy Scott is excused.
 - I. Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB): No representative in attendance.
 - J. Others – None.
7. **Guest Speaker(s):** Lorelei Oviatt, AICP, Director, Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, Bakersfield, CA. Lorelei opened with a statement that her presentation was on the upcoming Cannabis Propositions that will be on the March 2020 ballot. She advised that Kern County voters in March will have two options to choose from if they would like to see the ban on medical marijuana outlets in unincorporated areas overturned. **The first**, a citizen-led measure qualified for the ballot that would, if passed by voters, automatically allow any medical marijuana retail business that was in operation before Jan. 1, 2018, to reopen. It also allows them to relocate to commercial or industrial zoned areas. **A second measure**, put forth by the Kern County Board of Supervisors in answer to the first, would allow for medical marijuana retail outlets in industrial zones with a conditional use permit, a process that requires a public hearing and can stipulate additional requirements. The Board of Supervisors believed that that particular proposal (by the citizen group) did not adequately address concerns we have for community participation. She added that the Board did not initiate the ballot measure because it was looking to overturn the ban, approved in October 2017, she said, but to counteract concerns with the first measure. With the arrival of a retail medical marijuana business providing delivery service in Cal City and another preparing to open in Arvin, Supervisors felt the medicinal needs of residents could be met. Lorelei advised that the citizen-led measure would have the biggest impact on the communities of Rosamond and Oildale; in Rosamond, 21 retail outlets could reopen if it passed. She added that Oildale has had about the same concentration of outlets.
The **biggest difference between the two ballot measures is the Conditional Use Permit**, she noted, which opens the business to public input. The communities have had no say whatsoever in the previous locations and operations of the medicinal cannabis operations that Rosamond has experienced. There's absolutely no public hearing for those; there's absolutely no public permit for those. Residents have a say in where many other types of businesses locate through the permit process and they should have the same input to marijuana businesses.
Lorelei noted that under the county proposal, medical marijuana businesses would be restricted to industrial zones, which would eliminate the problem of these businesses in the downtown Diamond Street area of Rosamond. Most of the industrial zoned land in Rosamond is along Sierra Highway such as where the now-closed AVDC was located. The county proposal also has setbacks from more sensitive locations such as schools, churches, libraries and the like, than the other proposal, and signage requirements to limit their public presence. We're going to regulate how they interact with the community. The

Rosamond Municipal Advisory Council - Minutes for October 17, 2019 Meeting

citizen-led proposal also allows for cultivation, manufacturing and testing, activities which the county measure does not permit.

In closing, she advised that either measure will need 50% plus one of the votes cast to pass. Critics of the county's move have accused them of trying to split the vote to prevent the citizen-led measure from reaching the required threshold to pass. Lorelei advised that she did not think that was a fair assessment. Despite the county-wide ban on commercial marijuana activities, outlets have continued to operate in Rosamond past the deadline for their closure. The county's efforts to shutter these outlets are ongoing, from law enforcement actions to confiscate their inventory to legal proceedings. In some cases, the businesses simply reopen after county officials close them. Those that are operating now would not be legal under the county's proposal should it pass. Full details regarding the ordinance and related matters can be found at:

<https://kernplanning.com/cannabis-land-use-ordinance/>.

8. **Community Announcements:** None.

9. **Public Comment Period:** None.

10. **Business Meeting - Committee Reports - Ad Hoc Committees have been established for the following Action Items.**

- A. **New/Revised Crosswalks and Upgrades to Signalized Crosswalks** – Director Parkman distributed a draft copy of the proposed letter to the Directors of the Council and advised, if approved at the November 21st meeting, it will be forwarded to the District 2 Supervisor, Kern County General Services and Kern County Public Works.
- B. **Waste Management Services – Transfer Station/Bulk Trash Pickup** – Lisa Checkley took note of the event conducted by the Rosamond Community Services District and added that RMAC is looking to schedule another event shortly after the first of the new year.
- C. **Community Swimming Pool/Skate Park** – Representatives from Parks and Recreation will be invited back to the November RMAC meeting to discuss P&R plans for 2019 and 2020. Director Parkman advised that Kern County General Services will take the lead on the Proposition 68 grant request for funding a skate park in the Rosamond area due to the significant workload that grant requests require and, for which, the RMAC is not financially equipped to handle.
- D. **New Community Bank:** Director Parkman advised that this matter is a dead issue at present due to financial considerations relative to the investment in construction of new banks by the banking industry. The Council will periodically explore this issue with the East Kern Economic Alliance (EKEA).

11. **Old Business**

- A. **Secondary Access Road 10th Street West/Patterson Road:** Director Parkman distributed a draft copy of the proposed letter to the District 2 Supervisor, Kern County General Services, Kern County Public Works-Roads and other stakeholders and advised that if approved by the Council at the November 21st meeting, it will be promptly forwarded.
- B. **Administration and office space, files, furnishings and equipment** – No update.
- C. **RMAC Special Vacancy Notices:** One position has been filled and one remains open for appointment.
- D. **Rosamond Municipal Advisory Council 15th Anniversary – March 6, 2021** – Any suggestions from the community regarding how to observe and celebrate the 15th Anniversary are solicited.
- E. **Long and Short Term Goals for 2019/2020/2021.** No update.

12. **New Business**

- A. **December 2019 RMAC Meeting – 19 December 2019 proposed cancelation.** Matter will be voted on in the November 21st session of the Council.
- B. **Disaster Preparedness: Earthquake, Fire, Civil Unrest.**
- C. **Street Lighting – Survey for adequacy.**

13. **Directors Agenda Referrals:** None.

14. **Director's Comment:** None.

15. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Donna Morris and seconded by Brennan Riley. The vote to adjourn was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. The next meeting will be held as determined by the Council at the November 21st meeting.

California Government Code, Section 31010: The Board of Supervisors of any county may by resolution establish and provide funds for the operation of a municipal advisory council for any unincorporated area in the county to advise the board on such matters which relate to that area as may be designated by the board concerning services which are or may be provided to the area by the county or other local governmental agencies, including but not limited to advice on matters of public health, safety, welfare, public works, and planning. Unless the board of supervisors specifically provides to the contrary, a municipal advisory council may represent the community to any state, county, city, special district or school district, agency or commission, or any other organization on any matter concerning the community. The board may pay from available funds such actual and necessary expenses of travel, lodging, and meals for the members of the council while on such official business as may be approved by the board.