

EPPOC Draft Minutes

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025, 9:30-11:30 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Fld4cz8DVio6U1LYk4HCqBzWptoiMcsnMBBvQRpRvO7HuFAQO4x77IWvO7Z9RCgR.CbPhbTmlnvfN7hZd>
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I find it easier to watch the video of the meeting by downloading it to my computer than to stream it online. It's easier to stop and start and move back and forth to different times. Once you open the link above and enter the password, you'll see a link in the upper right corner to download the video to your computer. I suggest you do that.

- Introductions
- Approval of May 2025 minutes – Minutes approved
- Speaker this month: Our speaker at our June meeting was Emma Minehart, the Director of the Calaveras County Historical Society & Museum – Emma gave an excellent talk about the Historical Society. Society created in 1952 by Judge Smith. Not many residents of Calaveras know that there is a historical society or two museums in San Andreas. The museums are in the old courthouse and the old dairy building. The museums focus on the people and industry of Calaveras. They offer school tours and are focusing on preservation of the history and artifacts. There are four hundred and sixty members of the society, mostly older folks. Historical Society website: www.historicalcalaveras.com
Emma's email: historicalcalaveras@gmail.com
Emma's excellent presentation is from 01:29:40 to 01:43:00
- Update by Woodward and Curran on the Calaveras River Watershed Resiliency Plan by Katie Evans – Katie presented earlier this year and this is an update. California Department of Water Resources has provided a grant and Woodward and Curran is working to develop a watershed plan based on technical and community input. Their plan is to develop a water management plan based on the technical modeling and community input. They are looking at what hydrology will look like depending on different climate modeling. Attached is a document on the work to date. Specifically, Katie asks that folks [visit their website](#) to review what is being done and to provide input. Watch Katie's presentation from 00:55:30 to 01:07:44.
- Marcie Powers provided an excellent debriefing on the Calaveras Fire & Film & Forum Festival – Key learnings are that forest fires are started by people 85% of the time. It happens that more often fires start in communities and spread to the forest than from the forest to communities. That in addition to defensible space by thinning the forest around our homes, the importance of “home hardening” was explained. Going forward Red Cross is interested in bringing fire hardening to the homes around the State Park to protect the Giant Sequoias from a fire that starts in an adjacent community. In Marcie's talk she mentioned a June date to work on presenting fire hardening to the homeowners who are adjacent to the Park, but that has been rescheduled for tentatively October. Please watch Marcie's discussion from 00:30:00 to 00:33:30.
- Finally, EPPOC wishes to thank Vida Kenk for her excellent presentations to EPPOC and her service to Calaveras Big Trees Association. Please see her presentation below!
- Reports:
 - EPPOC Treasurer's Report – Laura Baughman – treasury \$305.10.
 - EPPOC Chairperson's Report – Eric Davis – acknowledged Memorial Day

- District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty – at a Sierra Conservancy meeting
- Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus – no report
- Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson – reported that the small fire station #3 in Hathaway Pines was originally designed around a volunteer fire structure. EPFD is now looking for a location to build a modern fire station #3. They have looked at a location near the Heliport and also a piece of land near Forest Meadows. Since Forest Meadows does have calls for ambulance services, a location of Station #3 would provide faster response times.

No fireworks are allowed in the Ebbetts Pass Fire District.

Firefighters annual BBQ after the parade on July 5th sets up about 4 or 5pm.

There will be a Gann Limit required vote in August to maintain the current funding. It is not a request for increased funding, just authorization to spend the money the citizenry is already given Ebbetts Pass Fire District. It will be Measure and will need a 50% plus one vote. The Chief provided an excellent detailed explanation of what the Gann limit is and what it would mean if it did not pass or did pass.

Watch Mike's an excellent talk from 00:07:00 to 00:19:02.

- CHP–Resident Deputy Joshua Wilkenson, Commander Tim McCollister – no report.
- Sheriff's Department – no report.
- CalFire – Dennis Lange – Chief Johnson provided the CalFire report. Burning halted at all elevations on Monday June 9th.
- Friends of the Calaveras Library, Arnold Branch – Martha Rubin – lots of activity at the Arnold Library in June. **Please see attached flyer and watch Martha's presentation in the video from 00:20:35 to 00:23:20.** Many programs including on June 10th the reading program starts. Weekly lunch at the library starts on Wednesday June 11th (free for children). Made \$4,100 at the Memorial weekend book sale! Martha is also going to start teaching seniors about using technology.
- Debriefing on the Be Fire Wise Preparedness Event – Martha Rubin – thanks to everyone for the excellent event. We are a Firewise community! There are only ten in Calaveras County and Martha is visiting other communities in Calaveras to help them get the word out.
- CCWD –Kelly Gerkenmeyer, Jeffrey Robertson – no report
- County Office of Emergency Services – Bajit Singh – no report
- Calaveras Public Health – Evita Olson – no report
- CalWaste – Jillian Goss – no report
- FOAM Friends of the Arnold Meadow – Colleen Dienger
- FOCAS – Kim deArrillaga & Christine Albertine
- California Big Trees State Park – Heather Reith – no prescribed burns this year.
- **Calaveras Big Trees Association – Vida Kenk** –Memorial Day weekend was beginning of weekend activities and daily activities from June 16th to August 17th. Please look at Vida's attachment for activities. Please check white board for daily activities. Bruce McClelland offers bird walks each Thursday morning at 9:30am. Junior (7 to 12 years) and Little Rangers (3-6 years old with parent) program – see attachment for times. Guided tours of the North Grove start daily on June 16th. Guided tours of the South Grove on weekends Friday Sat and Sunday. Two types of astronomy nights with telescopes and the other by Doc Nancy who talks about the Constellations and stories about those Constellations from different cultures. Many other programs including book club, State Parks Week with different daily themes, the Lava Bluffs guided hikes, Fire and Forest Community Through Time, Kids Career Day, June 24th is CBTSP's 94th Birthday, CBTA

annual meeting, Arnold Independence Day Parade, a Walk Through Time, Seminar about John Muir, STEAM days program (science, tech, engineering, arts, and math), teachers' program, more programs in August and September. Vida is terming off the CBTA Board because she will have served three consecutive two-year terms. Vida has done an incredible job presenting at EPPOC on behalf of CBTA and a consummate job serving CBTA for many many years. Congratulations Vida! Debbie McGee will be providing EPPOC reports starting at our next meeting which is in August. Please watch from 00:35:00 to 00:51:30 and see Vida's document of activities attached to the email that distributes these minutes.

- Calaveras Council of Governments – no current representative
 - Great Arnold Business Association – Karen Strand – no report.
 - Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach – ARTA had its first “Run the Rim” event with three distances, 10k, half marathon, and the 22-mile length that covered the entire Arnold Rim Trail through San Domingo Canyon and the Interface. All activities are posted to 00:51:45 to 00:54:30.
- Open Forum: What's on your mind that is not on the agenda?
 - Adjournment: 11:30 am (approximately)