

EPPOC Draft Minutes

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025, 9:30-11:30 am

Link to watch the Zoom video of this May 7th meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/abMXDHRv-p2rt0RWMegrQObTNWj2nd3uu9CuOiklSKvf5h2tdB84cXxYHlv7bBp8.ThCbgaS3SQdwijHU>

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- April 2025 minutes approved
- **Speaker this month: Samantha Lukow, MHA, Executive Director, Hospice of Amador & Calaveras** – Sam gave an incredible compassionate introduction to the services offered by Hospice of Amador and Calaveras. Hospice of Amador & Calaveras in existence for forty two years. It is non-profit, unlike many of the current for-profit hospice corporations. Hospice is not for the last few days of life; it is for at least six months. Qualification elements are assessed to see if hospice is appropriate at that point in time. She spoke passionately about the difference between for-profit and non-profit hospice corporations. Laura asked how hospice is contacted. 80% of hospice referrals come from family and friends. **I cannot do justice to her superb lucid presentation so please watch from 53:20 to 1:05:15 (12 minutes total) in the video.**
- HOA report(s) of the month...
...month by month, we are inviting all the EPPOC HOAs to present their successes and challenges... This month we will hear from Forest Meadow's Manager Scott Deveraux – Scott provided an excellent report explaining how Forest Meadows is dealing with increased costs. They have done a 30 year reserve study, they have hired a new CPA firm to do their required annual audit and many other issues including thirty projects that are on the list of things to do. I highly recommend that those who are on HOA Boards of Directors to watch his presentation from 33:50 to 42:50 in the video of the meeting.
- Reports:
 - EPPOC Treasurer's Report – Laura Baughman everyone has paid up - \$305.10
 - EPPOC Chairperson's Report – Eric Davis – no report
 - District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty – Martin thanked Martha for organizing the Fire Wise event at Independence Hall. Martin is seeking grants for the Friends of the Arnold Meadow project for the County to acquire the meadow as a park. Martin also mentioned the Calaveras Forest & Fire Film Festival & Forum on May 31st from 12 to 5pm at the Bret Harte High School Theater first come first served. Amazing line of speakers, panel discussions, three thousand dollars of giveaways for the audience.
 - Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus
 - Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson – Chief Johnson is looking for a location of Fire Station 3 to build a new unit. Have been looking at different locations including possibly by Forest Meadows. Permit burning started May 1st.
 - CHP–Resident Deputy Joshua Wilkenson, Commander Tim McCollister – no report
 - Sheriff's Department – no report
 - CalFire – Dennis Lange – no report
 - Friends of the Calaveras Library, Arnold Branch – Martha Rubin – Martha thanked everyone for attending the Fire Wise meeting that she organized. She announced the annual Memorial Day book sale but I apologize for not completing these minutes until after Memorial Day.
 - Debriefing on the Be Fire Wise Preparedness Event – Martha Rubin

- CCWD –Kelly Gerkenmeyer – new Board member is named Jeffrey Robertson who replaces Bertha Underhill. Golden Mussels showed up in the Delta in October 2024. CCWD is monitoring for invasion in waters it controls. Coming to District 3 is work on wastewater and also hydraulic masterplan.
- County Office of Emergency Services – Bajit Singh
- Calaveras Public Health – Evita Olson
- CalWaste – Jillian Goss
- FOAM Friends of the Arnold Meadow – Colleen Dienger
- FOCAS – Kim deArrillaga & Christine Albertine
- California Big Trees State Park – Heather Reith – fire team all passed the PAP test, walk 3 miles with 45-pound pack in 45 minutes. Preparing for prescribed burns for this Fall. North Fork and Beaver Creek are stocked with trout. Parkway opened to South Grove. Campsites all open by 15th of May. Heather and the team that planned the South Grove prescribed burn last year were awarded a special award for the planning and execution.
- Calaveras Big Trees Association – Vida Kenk – fourteen new docents trained at April 26th meeting. There are over one hundred docents. 107 children at Murphys Branch and 23 children at the Arnold Branch participated in nature presentations by Park staff. One can go to Library and check out a pass for free admission to Calif State Parks! The pass is like checking out a Library book except that it does not need to be returned after the time it is active. Reservations for campsites at the Park need to be made through reservecalifornia.com South Grove guided hikes are at 10am and takes about four hours. Astronomy nights have started and continue into October. Two types of programs, one with telescopes and another by Dr Nancy about the Constellations. Summer interns coming 20th of May. Bruce leads bird walks each Thursday mornings. June 24th is the 94th birthday of the Park. Stop by the Plaza at the Visitor's Center for a white board of today's activities. See Vida's attachment to the email for more details about all these programs.
- Calaveras Council of Governments – no current representative
- Great Arnold Business Association – Karen Strand – no report.
- Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach – Arnold Rim Trail Association is hosting Run the Rim on June 1st. Retired Park Rangers Doc Nancy and Mary Anne are leading gentle guided nature walks on the Arnold Rim Trail. Go to [ARTA's Event Page](#) for dates, times, and details.

. Open Forum: What's on your mind that is not on the agenda?

- Daniel Tulipani mentioned there are three intersections on Highway 4 that are problematic. The first is turning left coming out of the parking lot that has Big Trees Market because cars are heading east on Highway 4 and there is limited visibility. He also mentioned cars leaving the Lube Room and Camp Connell General Store have limited visibility. He believes that CalTrans might help with speed limits and also flashing signs.

He would also like to invite SPI to contribute to our area. Also mentioned that CalFire is supposed to monitor SPI.

Finally Dan mentioned that he wished that PG&E could attend to answers questions that we might have. Martin mentioned that he has a contact with PG&E.

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. Adjournment: 10:45am