

## EPPOC Draft Minutes

### Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, 9:30-11:30 am

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/pK9gnrodD2-8EoooKXqvdK9qjTskmArEp\\_Hf73EWQOik8FjQ7GCS\\_mzfcbFWxGBR.A-XeVogrUI2GpRD9](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/pK9gnrodD2-8EoooKXqvdK9qjTskmArEp_Hf73EWQOik8FjQ7GCS_mzfcbFWxGBR.A-XeVogrUI2GpRD9)

- Passcode: 8Lm67?&8

The above link and passcode are to access the recording of the meeting. I find it easier to watch the video of the meeting by downloading it to my computer first 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 August 2025 minutes
- **Speaker this month: Teresa Hitchcock, Calaveras County Chief Executive Officer** – Teresa explained that Calaveras County has a different charter than some other Counties in California and therefore have different rules they must follow. Teresa then explained the annual Budget in detail, the various components of the County Strategic Plan, the specifics of the new Animal Services building, and the plan for the new District Attorney facility. All these elements of her talk were supported by a wonderful PowerPoint.

I highly recommend watching Teresa's excellent presentation from 00:00:47 to 00:15:48 in the video because the PowerPoint provides wonderful detail. Nice to have a succinct fifteen-minute distillation that is easy to understand.

- Reports:
  - EPPOC Treasurer's Report – Laura Baughman - \$375.10 in EPPOC Treasury
  - EPPOC Chairperson's Report – Eric Davis
  - District 3 Board of Supervisors – Martin Huberty – report on old Arnold golf course acquisition of County appraisal has been obtained and funding sources currently being explored, he spoke about animal shelter responsibilities,
  - Calaveras County Public Works – Monica Remus – The road crews were helping with the clean up after the recent fire. Also, that two bridge replacements are occurring in other parts of the County. She also covered the other projects that Public Works is covering.
  - Ebbetts Pass Fire District – Chief Mike Johnson – the Chief spoke about the lightning fires in the foothills. Big news this report is that EPFD has acquired a piece of land across from Forest Meadows for the eventual building of EPFD Station 3. The Chief thanked Scott Deveraux of Forest Meadows for his help and support. Also, the Gann Limit Proposition passed by a 90.6% majority which allows the money already allocated in the past to continue to be spent.
  - CHP–Resident Deputy Joshua Wilkenson, Commander Tim McCollister
  - Sheriff's Department
  - CalFire – Dennis Lange

- Friends of the Calaveras Library, Arnold Branch – Martha Rubin – Martha reported that the Arnold Library raised \$3,200 in the Labor Day Book sale. There will be workshops in the future helping folks manage smart phones and other technologies.
  - Debriefing on the Be Fire Wise Preparedness Event – Martha Rubin
  - CCWD – Kelly Gerkenmeyer, Jeffrey Robertson
  - 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 – Activities winding down in the Park.
  - Calaveras Big Trees Association – Paul Prescott reported that the summer season has ended and that off-season activities are on weekends. Saturdays at 10 am are the meadow walks which meet at campsite #16 in the North Grove and also on Saturdays the North Grove Hike which meets at the Cabin Tree at 11:30am. Still doing South Grove guided trail hike meeting Sundays at 10am in the South Grove Parking Lot. Thursdays at 9:30 are bird watching walks meeting at the Visitors Center. The last astronomy night is October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Overlook at 6:30pm. Vida commented that there are over 100 volunteers including trail maintenance volunteers from CBTA who actively participate in maintaining the Park.
  - Calaveras Council of Governments – no current representative
  - Great Arnold Business Association – Karen Strand
  - Arnold Rim Trail Association– Steve Lauterbach - Steve explained that ARTA will be seeking a grant to help bring trails that are not on the Forest Service map onto the map and to realign some of the trails that are on the Forest Service map but not built to current Forest Service standards. They are working closely with the wonderful land managers to whom they report at the Calaveras District of the Stanislaus National Forest on the project.
- Open Forum: What's on your mind that is not on the agenda?  
Martha announced that the County is going to have an event November 1<sup>st</sup> at the Fair Grounds about winter safety and asked us to save the date.
  - Mary Boblet brought up the issue of pets in pools that are in HOAs and health code compliance.
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  - Adjournment: 11:30 am (approximately)

