

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee**  
**Friday June 18, 3:00 – 5:00 PT**

**1. Call to order and roll call**

- a. Present: Marie Jones, Susan Sher, Randy MacDonald, Jessica Stull-Otto, Eileen Mitro, Cathy Monroe, Tess Albin-Smith, Ellen Drell, Michael Potts, Richard Hubacek,
- b. Not Present: Sandy Marshall, John Nickerson
- c. Members of the public present: Mary Sneider, Mo Mulheren, Carrie Durkee, James Schoonover, Peter McNamee

**2. Review of Minutes- The Minutes of May 21<sup>st</sup> were reviewed with the following recommended changes:**

Minutes were not approved. The chair was directed to bring the minuted back with revisions for the next meeting.

**3. Public Comment on Non Agenda Items**

- a. Carrie Durkee asked for support from the MCCAC at the next BOS meeting regarding the \$2 million allocation from the BOS for climate improvements to public facilities.
- b. Michael Potts indicated that he was resigning from the post of vice chair due to conflicts that he was having with the County. His resignation was accepted with concern and many committee members expressed gratitude for his service and for the wisdom that he brought to the work. He left the meeting at this time.
- c. Richard Hubacek and Jessica Stull-Otto were welcomed as full new members of the committee.

**4. MCOG Community Outreach regarding the Regional Transportation Plan.**

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/2017-regional-transportation-plan-adopted>

- a. Nephel Barret, Executive Director of MCOG, provided a brief presentation regarding the update of the Regional Transportation Plan. The update is due in 2022 and the RTP guides the award of significant funding amounts for transportation projects in the County. Nephel encouraged members of the MCCAC to complete the on-line survey and use the interactive map to indicate transportation needs and problems in the County.
- b. In response to questions from Susan, Richard and Cathy, she further noted that:
  - ✓ the RTP will include a comprehensive list of transportation funding recommendations
  - ✓ Public comments will be accepted through the end of June.
- c. The following comments were provided by committee members:
  - ✓ Randy recommended that a subcommittee be formed to evaluate the Sonoma County Climate Mobility Plan to see if there are elements that should be adopted by Mendocino County.
  - ✓ Cathy noted that the conversion of the NCRA to the great redwood trail should be included in the RTP.

- ✓ Jessica asked that the plan look at jobs/housing balance especially for communities like Round Valley and Covelo.
  - ✓ Havier committed to working with MCOG on transportation issues related to the tribe.
- d. Loretta Ellard provided a presentation on the Local Road Safety Plan.

**5. Discuss the proposed \$2 mil allocation of PG&E/COVID recovery funds to climate related projects.**

Susan introduced this item by recommending that the County dedicate at least \$2 million of Covid recovery funds to Climate Change adaptation and mitigation. The Grass Roots Institute has lead the charge in requesting that some portion of the \$17 million coming to Mendocino County from the American Rescue Plan Act be dedicated to climate activities in Mendocino County. Their proposal is focused on: 1) increasing the number of electric vehicle charging stations, installing PV on County buildings, and funds for capital improvement projects.

The Committee approved the Grass Roots Institute recommendation to the Board of supervisors and directed Cathy and Marie to speak at the next BOS meeting in support of the effort. It was noted that Michael Potts had already submitted a letter of support for the initiative from the MCCAC. Cathy indicated that she would send an additional letter asking that the BOS identify a line item in the budget specific to this request for \$2 million for Climate mitigation and adaptation.

**6. Discuss letter of Comment to California Resources Agency re Gavin's 30 by 30 executive order.**

The committee directed Marie to bring this item back for discussion at our next meeting.

**7. Discuss Progress on First Priorities Doc and RTP recommendation.**

The committee discussed the draft recommendation for the RTP that was prepared by Jessica Stull-Otto and Cathy Monroe. There was disagreement within the committee about whether re-establishing rail connections in Mendocino County was the correct recommendation at this time. Susan moved that the transportation recommendations be adopted by the Committee as reworded during the meeting. This was seconded by Cathy. The recommendation was adopted with affirmative votes by: Cathy, Marie, Susan, Randy, Tess, Jessica and Richard. Havier voted against approval..

**8. Discuss Drought Policy and MCCAAC Policy Goals with Regard to Adaptation to Drought.**

There was a general discussion about drought with no recommendations or action taken. The general discussion included the following techniques to address the drought: rain catchment, gray water systems, conservation, create a County-wide water agency. Committee members also observed that droughts would be more common in the future.

**9. July 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 is the next meeting.**

**10. Adjourned at 5:00 pm.**