

Board of Supervisors, July 29, 2014 – Mark E. Smith, Mt Murphy SAC, Garden Valley  
Public Comment

Today I speak not only as the representative of the Mt Murphy Bridge SAC, but as a citizen of El Dorado County, the United States of America, and a former United States Marine.

It is not the Board I speak to today, but the Citizens of El Dorado County and beyond.

Over the past several months I have brought this Board irrefutable physical, audio, and first hand evidence that proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that our County is involved in a conspiracy to defraud the public in the matter of the Mount Murphy Bridge. I repeatedly asked the Board to do the right thing and at least look into these allegations. Instead they awarded the contractor another \$100,000.

Further, this Board has repeatedly denied the citizens their 1<sup>st</sup> amendment right to free speech in this very chamber, and has done so again today.

The BOS continues their egregious policy of “rule by consent calendar”, whereby they pack dozens, sometimes almost 50, complex, expensive items of legislation into one giant package, where the public is allowed only three minutes to comment on all of them combined. No individual discussion – in fact, no discussion at all. Many of the items slip through unnoticed. Few if any have proper cost accounting. King George never had it so good.

The rule of law no longer applies here. The Board, through County Counsel, issues edicts out of order, publishes opinions via the newspaper, violates the privacy laws of Human Resources according to their own testimony and...I could go on virtually forever.

This Board is so bad I've named them the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

When will it stop? It will stop when you, citizen, when you care enough to come down to the Board of Supervisors Meetings starting at 0900 on Tuesday mornings and voice your opposition to all of this lawbreaking. It will end when you become a Watchdog and Guardian of Freedom. And that's just phase one.  
(call Fridays 621-5390 to verify)

Sure, I'd like to just enjoy the fruits of Liberty like most people. Rights are great with they are given to you. But now, today, right here in El Dorado County, the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are running roughshod over everything a real patriot calls sacred.

Right here in El Dorado County, Democracy as we know it is on the verge of complete collapse because some people, corrupted by money and power, have forgotten the real meaning of the words CITIZEN, CONSTITUTION, LAW, and JUSTICE.

Well, Patriots. Well, Citizens. It's time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their County. For if not now, when? What are you waiting for...the complete collapse of civilization as we know it? I have news for you – unless you act, and act quickly, that end may not be so far away.

Ben Franklin said, "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately". The time has come for us to hang together. Not next month or next year, but every Tuesday at 0900, 330 Fair Lane in Placerville.

I will be here waiting for you, doing my duty for god and my country. That is, unless they hang me separately before you get here. You see, Marines never quit, and this is one fight I intend to win.

Thank You.

Attachments (1):

1. This document



Last week the Sand Fire was ignited in Sheriff D'Agostini's community. It has garnered national attention. Your own rural neighborhood may be next at risk.

The current drought and Sand Fire is exemplary of Coloma resident's concerns about another wildfire on Mt. Murphy in the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park. We've had five arson fires on Mt. Murphy within an eight year period. One of them was started by an automobile igniting dry grass just like the Sand Fire.

During the last Mt. Murphy Bridge Stakeholders Committee meeting held May 28<sup>th</sup> at Grange Hall the vitally critical topic of an emergency evacuation plan was deliberately obfuscated and avoided to the dismay of residents.

For years the county has been ignoring Coloma-Lotus resident demands for increased code/law enforcement and a Community Evacuation Plan. Petitions were submitted to the County in 1988 and again in 2001 addressing our concerns, yet certain documents were destroyed and others mysteriously "disappeared" from county records.

At the beginning of our initial August 2011 meeting with Sheriff D'Agostini, Lt. Bryan Golmitz and MGD Park Superintendent Jeremy McReynolds the Sheriff said, ***"You need a new Board. All of them. Hold their feet to the fire. Mine too. I work for you."***

Since then our elected officials appear to be more concerned about grant funding to build bridges to no-where, whitewater parks (such as Henningson-Lotus Park), trails, and other tourist amenities that will increase revenues meanwhile ignoring or minimizing the practical aspects of public safety and appropriate land management. It's a matter of priorities; just follow the money...

Many of us find it disturbing that firefighters have been laid off this year and respective fire stations placed on "brown-out" due to budgetary considerations. Some of those firefighters have publicly voiced their frustrations to this Board and during community meetings.

Even more troubling was the slick presentation provided by the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Services during the June 17<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting yet it was openly stated that individual Community Evacuation Plans do not exist. There's something very wrong with this picture...

We can't say we weren't warned as stated in this July 13, 2013 article I'm submitting into the public record entitled, ***"Rim fire's rapid spread cited as cautionary tale for residents in Amador, El Dorado counties."*** This excerpt states in part:

As the Rim fire continues to burn in the Stanislaus National Forest, officials with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in Amador and El Dorado counties say such fires could occur in their jurisdiction.

The Rim fire is burning in terrain similar to that found in Amador and El Dorado counties, and residents are advised to be prepared and not ignore the risk. Fire officials say people need to recognize how quickly a wildfire can spread.

Officials caution residents not assume that because their neighborhood doesn't have a history of fire or they live in a home with manicured landscaping that they can't become the victim of a wildland fire.

Coloma represents the heart and lifeblood of El Dorado County. It also has a sordid history of Mt. Murphy arson fires and poorly maintained roads with insufficient egress in the event of an emergency. We pray it won't take another catastrophic fire to spur into taking the long overdue and necessary preventative action to ensure the safety of its residents.

**Mr./Madam Clerk:** Please enter these documents into the public record.

1. This transcript
2. 9/13/13 Rim Fire article

**From:** Mike

**Sent:** Monday, July 28, 2014 10:06 AM

**Subject:** Fwd: Rim fire's rapid spread cited as cautionary tale for residents in Amador, El Dorado counties

The Sand fire is what some of us have been warning about long before the Rim fire:  
Lets learn from this and get to work!

**We were warned.**

**September 13, 2013**

[Rim fire's rapid spread cited as cautionary tale for residents in Amador, El Dorado counties](#)

As the Rim fire continues to burn in the Stanislaus National Forest, officials with the [California Department of Forestry](#) and [Fire Protection](#) in Amador and El Dorado counties say such fires could occur in their jurisdiction.

The Rim fire is burning in terrain similar to that found in Amador and El Dorado counties, and residents are advised to be prepared and not ignore the risk. Fire officials say people need to recognize how quickly a wildfire can spread.

"I imagine the residents of Tuolumne County never thought it could really happen to them, or that the Rim fire could have burned 255,848 acres -- 400 square miles -- in 28 days, but it has with ferocity that one seldom sees," Kelly Keenan, chief of Cal Fire's Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Unit, said in a written statement. "With 80 percent of the fire contained, the third largest wildfire in the state's history is still spotting ahead of itself and causing [Yosemite National Park](#) to close four of its campgrounds and the Stanislaus National Forest to close two of its ranger districts, not to mention the road closures in the area."

Patrick McDaniel, a forester and fire behavior analyst with Cal Fire's Amador-El Dorado Unit, said the Rim fire illustrates the intensity of a wildland fire and how quickly it can increase in size. At its height, Aug. 22 and 23, it was burning an average of 36 acres every minute for a total of 51,754 acres in 24 hours, he said.

To illustrate how quickly a wildfire can move, fire officials cited statistics from the Rim fire:

- Aug. 17, 3:25 p.m., the fire is reported.
- Aug. 18, about 15 hours after the first report, the fire is 200 acres with no containment.
- Aug. 19, at 7 a.m., the fire has quadrupled in size to 800 acres.
- Aug. 20, at 7 a.m., the fire has grown to nearly 13 times its size in 24 hours, to 10,170 acres.
- Aug. 21, at 7 a.m., the fire has grown more than 50 percent and has burned 16,228 acres.
- Aug. 22, at 7 a.m., the fire more has than tripled its size in 24 hours, for a total of 53,866 acres.
- Aug. 23, at 7 a.m., the fire has nearly doubled in size again, to 105,620 acres, with 2 percent containment.
- Aug. 24, at 7 p.m., the fire has grown an additional 24,000 acres to 129,620, with 7 percent containment.
- Sept. 13, at 7 a.m., the fire was 255,858 acres with 80 percent containment.

Officials caution residents not assume that because their neighborhood doesn't have a history of fire or they live in a home with manicured landscaping that they can't become the victim of a wildland fire.

"The truth is, every year we witness a neighborhood with 'no fire history' subject to a catastrophic fire and million-dollar homes with manicured landscaping destroyed in wildland fires," Keenan said.

Information on how to increase [fire safety](#), create defensible space and prepare for disasters is available online at [www.ReadyForWildfire.org](http://www.ReadyForWildfire.org), [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov), or [www.preventwildfiresCA.org](http://www.preventwildfiresCA.org).