



Public Comment #14

EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

BOS RCUV 2/5/21

**Public Comment 2/9/2021 Consent Calendar Item 14**

1 message

Nicole Gotberg &lt;ngotberg@yahoo.com&gt;

Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 6:43 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: bosthree@edcgov.us

I would like to request that item 14 district 2 specific appointment to the veterans affairs commission on the February 9, 2021 meeting agenda be pulled from the consent calendar for discussion. As per the January 5, 2021 meeting motion that passed 3-2, Supervisor Turnboo was to review the concerns raised by members of the public and report back on his findings to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) prior to a vote by the BOS on his nominee's appointment. If this is on the consent calendar there is no way for him to present those findings for a discussion prior to a vote.

During the BOS Meeting on January 5, 2021, the district 2 nominee, Mr Cockrell was the second to last speaker to call into public comments and having listened to the concerns of the community on his appointment he could have taken the opportunity to address them and say that he is not a member of the Proud Boys and when he made the white power hand gesture he did not know what it meant and now that he knows he is sorry he did it. However, Mr. Cockrell choose not to say any of those things and instead after confirming that he was the person dressed up as Santa. said he denounced the emails, thereby dismissing the concerns of the community including veterans he would be representing if he was appointed to the veterans affairs commission. This shows a lack of the political acumen and diplomacy needed to be a good commissioner. It also leaves doubts as to if he is a member of the Proud Boys and/or believes in white supremacy or not. Any consideration of appointing Mr Cockrell should be contingent upon him making a public statement that he has no association with the Proud Boys and is sorry for making a white power hand gesture. If he does not do this and is still appointed by the BOS it will hurt tourism and our businesses because EDC will be portrayed by the media as a community where our local government supports extremism and racism.

I also have an additional concern as Mr Cockrell's application states that he is a small business owner of Sam's Town Cyclery and yet there is no business license associated with this name found when searching the EDC business license lookup website. There are business licenses for a number of other bike shops located in EDC. Perhaps the license for Sam's Town Cyclery is listed under a different business name, or it is missing from the EDC online searchable database for some reason, but I would recommend checking this prior to considering appointing him to a commission.

Thank You,  
Nicole Gotberg  
Placerville Resident, District III



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## Objection to Chris Cockrell nomination to Veteran Affairs Commission

---

Stephanie Carlson <steph2472@yahoo.com>

Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 6:08 PM

Reply-To: Stephanie Carlson <steph2472@yahoo.com>

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, "Cc:" <bosone@edcgov.us>, bostwo@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us

I would like to add my two cents and am in complete agreement with Mr. Connolly on the request to reject Mr Cockrell's nomination to the Veteran's Commission. I am also a Veteran and I too swore an oath to this Country. I think there must be better candidates than those who support or even are perceived to belong to hate groups.

Find a Veteran who actually supports freedom for all.

Regards,

Stephanie Carlson  
4380 Patterson Dr., Unit 199  
Diamond Springs, CA 95619  
530.409.9716

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Joseph Connolly <retqmcs@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2021, 05:42:50 PM PST

**Subject:** Fwd: Objection to Chris Cockrell nomination to Veteran Affairs Commission

Hi all: I'm writing to share my latest objection to Chris Cockrell's nomination to the El Dorado County veteran affairs commission. For those new to the conversation, he is a local business owner and former Army MP who is trying to get seated on the commission. Some speculate he is running as an effort to add more right wing power to that committee, and to local veterans affairs, and has support for that. Please read my letter for background, and if you can, please submit a letter of objection or join in the Board of Supervisors meeting by phone or Zoom next week, to make your objections on the record. The meeting is February 9th, and the deadline for input is February 8th by 4 p.m. Pacific Time. (See details on pages 2, 4 of the attached agenda).

Please share this effort with other veterans who may be opposed to someone of Chris' character and potential Proud Boys affiliations. The upcoming vote follows a January vote that was initially 3-2 for him, then postponed to this month. Besides sharing your objection with the Board clerk, you can also send it to each supervisor's office, as I did below. Many thanks, as always.....Joe

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Joseph Connolly <retqmcs@gmail.com>

**Date:** Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 12:00 AM

**Subject:** Objection to Chris Cockrell nomination to Veteran Affairs Commission

**To:** <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

**Cc:** <bosone@edcgov.us>, <bostwo@edcgov.us>, <bosthree@edcgov.us>, <bosfour@edcgov.us>, <bosfive@edcgov.us>

[Quoted text hidden]

---

**4 attachments**

 **Objection\_Cockrell nomination\_Feb. 2021.pdf**  
89K

 **Cockrell\_Application.pdf**  
90K

 **Cockrell\_Parler.pdf**  
5545K

 **Agenda.pdf**  
128K



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## No Proud Boy

1 message

---

**Sarvenaz Asiedu** <sarvenaz.moshfegh@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 8:28 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: bosone@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us

Public comment, February 9, 2021 meeting agenda Item 14-21-0147 Consent Calendar District II Appointments. I request to pull this item to the agenda for discussion.

I am opposed to the appointment of Chris Cockrell to the Veterans Affairs Commission. On December 5th, 2020, Chris Cockrell dressed up as a Santa and with a group identified as the "Hangtown Proud Boys" displayed a white power hand gesture in downtown Placerville. This video was widely circulated and can easily be accessed online.

<https://fb.watch/3roF9w6GkO/> Since this time Mr. Cockrell has NOT denounced the Proud Boys NOR has he denied that he is a member of the organization. There is ample evidence that Mr. Cockrell follows the Proud Boys both locally and nationally. Mr. Cockrell's association with the Proud Boys should be swiftly and unanimously condemned by the board. The Proud Boys have been identified as one of the players in the January 6, 2021 insurrection at the U. S. Capitol. Because of the violent, and extremist nature of the group the Proud Boys have been added to Canada's list of terrorist organizations. NO ONE affiliated with the Proud Boys should be considered for ANY appointment to ANY county seat.

Perhaps even more concerning is the Board of Supervisor's attempt to suppress public participation in governance. After a strong public response in opposition to the nomination of Mr Cockrell at the January 5, 2021 meeting the Board is now discussing changing their policy to eliminate the requirement for a board vote to appoint nominees. In essence, each supervisor appoints whomever they choose to county commission seats with no discussion. This is anti-democratic in nature and does not reflect the will of the community.

--

Man is least himself when he talks in his own person; give him a mask and he will tell the truth. - Oscar

Wilde

The road does not exist, the traveler creates the road by travelling. - Antonio Machado

An actor must interpret life, and in order to do so must be willing to accept all the experiences life has to offer. In fact, he must seek out more of life than life puts at his feet. - James Dean



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

**Public comment, February 9, 2021 meeting agenda Item 14. 21-0147**

1 message

---

**Heidi Mayerhofer** <hmayerhofer5@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 9:40 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: bosthree@edcgov.us

Good morning. Please include this letter in the Supervisors' meeting packet of 2/9/21.

Dear Supervisor Thomas,

I am writing to request that you pull Item 14. 21-0147 from the consent calendar. The appointment of Chris Cockrell to the Veteran's Affairs Commission deserves to hear comments. When this was last before the board, it was decided that further research into the candidate's background needed to be done by Supervisor Turnboo and results reported at the Feb. 9th meeting. I am not clear about how this item has been placed on the consent calendar again and now it appears that the process of board nominees is turning into straight up appointments by individual Supervisors. This is not good governance as it takes away the opportunity for constituents to voice their concerns and the checks and balances provided when all Supervisors have a vote in appointments. I know that you were not in support of this candidate at the last meeting and I hope you will continue to oppose this appointment. It simply would not look good for El Dorado County to have someone with known ties to a group that participated in the insurrection at the US Capitol and that is widely considered to be a terrorist organization sitting on an EDC Commission. Let's not forget that he had an opportunity to denounce his affiliation with the Proud Boys at the last meeting. He did not. That silence spoke volumes.

Sincerely,  
Heidi Mayerhofer  
Resident, District 3

Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## Consent Calendar Item 14- Meeting 2/9/2021

1 message

Ruth Michelson &lt;ruthmichelson@sbcglobal.net&gt;

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 10:51 AM

To: BOS Clerk EDC &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

Clerk of the Board- I would like this email to be forwarded now to all BOS members and be a part of the Board packet for the 2/9/2021 Board of Supervisors meeting. Thank you.

Dear Supervisor Turnboo-

I see that Mr. Cockrell's appointment to the Veteran's Affairs Commission is on the consent calendar 2/9/21, and am surprised that it was placed there. I am making the request that this item be pulled from the consent calendar for discussion.

I remember that Supervisor Hidahl made the recommendation by official motion that you review the 200 pages of concerned citizens emails regarding this matter, and report back to the Board regarding points made in these letters during the Feb 9th meeting. Why was this item even on the consent calendar, which generally means that no discussion occurs, and the items are voted for in a block?

Also of concern is that Mr Cockrell's application is not an attachment to the Consent Calendar item. I see that in several other commission nominations on the same agenda, applications are part of the record. Knowing that this nomination has been controversial, it seems this application needs to be made public for transparency and good governance. I request that you post his application as an attachment to this item Consent Calendar item. Thank you.

I have had opportunity to view Mr Cockrell's application, and I have a few questions; 1) what does it mean to be a member of New Morning Youth and Family (Services)? I worked there for 9 years, and it is and always has been a non-profit organization and I have not been aware of anyone with membership status, whatever that is. 2) Mr Cockrell has the words "Big Brother, Big Sister" standing alone; what does this mean? Is he a Big Brother in that program? Also, 3) This being a non-partisan position answering to a non-partisan Board of Supervisors, I'm questioning why the applicant states he is a member of the El Dorado County Republican Party. Is that beneficial to his consideration for the position?

I listened intently when Chris Cockrell called into the Board meeting discussing his nomination. I so wanted to hear him denounce the Proud Boys, apologize for making the hand symbol, denounce his possible involvement in the organization. It's pointless to argue if Proud Boys are racist or not, or what the hand signal actually means. But, they are a self-avowed vigilante justice group, and they have taken clear anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim stances (which, by the way, are racist.) It was clear to all who were listening to Chris Cockrell, he said none of what we had hoped for. He said the weekend was "all about Christmas" for him, but never cleared his connection with the Proud Boys. I think we all know after January 6th, what exactly the Proud Boys organization is all about. Insurrection, violence, and taking down the peaceful transfer of power and other processes of our democracy.

I understand that part of the input being considered in this appointment is getting opinion from current Veteran's Affairs Commission members. In general, one Vet will not say something disparaging about another Vet, and they've been put into an unfair position to even be asked.

Please don't put them in this awkward position. What they will say is a foregone conclusion; it will be supportive.

It was noted in early January an additional position was posted on the Board website for the Veteran's Affairs Commission Alternate for your District 2. Please review any and all applications that are submitted for either of these positions two positions, and fairly consider them in the selection process.

In closing, Mr Turnboo, I'd like to address your comments about wanting to see the good in all people. Yes, I think that is admirable for all of us to do; it's the only way for us to unite and move forward best we can. However, that does not dismiss ours, and your, responsibility to discern who best represents us as a community and the values we would like to bring forward.

These are difficult times with challenging issues. It is a privilege and not a given to represent the citizenry; both in elected positions and in voluntary ones. We must think long and hard about who we are as a community and what we represent to ourselves and the larger audience. Our local actions have garnered nationwide and international attention of late. People need to earn respect of the people they represent, and I suggest that if nominees can't pass this litmus test, their nominations be put on hold. There will always be future opportunities once a person elects to right their course.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Ruth Michelson  
District 4  
35 year resident and business owner



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## Remember

1 message

---

**HANNAH LYNN DEMERSON** <hldreddogii@yahoo.com>

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 11:34 AM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us

Public comment, February 9, 2021 meeting agenda Item 14-21-0147 Consent Calendar District II Appointments. I request to pull this item to the agenda for discussion

Please remember that our U.S. veterans fought a World War to combat the Nazi Party's white supremacy. Now the board is considering a member of the openly white supremacist group "Proud Boys" to represent veterans! As a Placerville resident and wife of a Marine Corps veteran, I insist that this is UNACCEPTABLE.

Rescind the nomination of Chris Cockrell to the Veterans Affairs Commission.

Choose a veteran with acceptable qualifications and one with respect for the humanity and diversity of the county.

Hannah Lynn Demerson  
(408)307-3834





EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

## Public comment, February 9, 2021 meeting agenda Item 14-21-0147 Consent Calendar District II Appointments

1 message

Nora McDaniel &lt;noramc@mcdanielmfg.com&gt;

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 12:02 PM

To: Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>, John Hidahl <bosone@edcgov.us>, Lori Parlin <bosfour@edcgov.us>, Sue Novasel <bosfive@edcgov.us>, Wendy Thomas <bosthree@edcgov.us>, George Turnboo <bostwo@edcgov.us>

I am writing to you in regards to the request for public comment, February 9, 2021 meeting agenda Item 14-21-0147 Consent Calendar District II Appointments. I request to pull this item to the agenda for discussion. I am opposed to the appointment of Chris Cockrell to the Veterans Affairs Commission.

On December 5th, 2020, Chris Cockrell dressed up as a Santa and with a group identified as the "Hangtown Proud Boys" displayed a white power hand gesture in downtown Placerville. This video was widely circulated and can easily be accessed online. <https://fb.watch/3roF9w6GkO/> Since this time Mr. Cockrell has NOT denounced the Proud Boys NOR has he denied that he is a member of the organization. There is ample evidence that Mr. Cockrell follows the Proud Boys both locally and nationally. Mr. Cockrell's association with the Proud Boys should be swiftly and unanimously condemned by the board. The Proud Boys have been identified as one of the players in the January 6, 2021 insurrection at the U. S. Capitol. Because of the violent, and extremist nature of the group the Proud Boys have been added to Canada's list of terrorist organizations. NO ONE affiliated with the Proud Boys should be considered for ANY appointment to ANY county seat.

Perhaps even more concerning is the Board of Supervisor's attempt to suppress public participation in governance. After a strong public response in opposition to the nomination of Mr. Cockrell at the January 5, 2021 meeting, the Board is now discussing changing their policy to eliminate the requirement for a board vote to appoint nominees. In essence, each supervisor appoints whomever they choose to county commission seats with no discussion. This is anti-democratic in nature and does not reflect the will of the community.

As a resident of Shingle Springs, I am sickened by the good 'ol boy network within our county and implore you to lead by example, denouncing racism in all its forms and pursuing democracy in every manner possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

*Nora R. McDaniel*



[noramc@mcdanielmfg.com](mailto:noramc@mcdanielmfg.com)

6180 Enterprise Drive, Suite D

Diamond Springs, CA 95619

(530) 626-6336



EDC COB &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

---

## Objection to Chris Cockrell nomination to Veteran Affairs Commission

1 message

---

**Kirsten Vincent** <kirsten.vincent@live.com>

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 4:06 PM

To: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: "edc.cob@edcgov.us" &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;, "bosone@edcgov.us" &lt;bosone@edcgov.us&gt;, "bosfour@edcgov.us" &lt;bosfour@edcgov.us&gt;, "bosfive@edcgov.us" &lt;bosfive@edcgov.us&gt;, "bosthree@edcgov.us" &lt;bosthree@edcgov.us&gt;, "bostwo@edcgov.us" &lt;bostwo@edcgov.us&gt;

I am firmly opposed to the appointment of Chris Cockrell to the Veterans Affairs Commission. The photo of him dressed as Santa with a group of Proud Boys not only went viral and made it's way around California to my concerned family members, it struck fear into the hearts of myself, my family, and small business owners downtown. As people with diverse beliefs and backgrounds, we felt unsafe walking downtown that day. I have checked the other public comments linked in your agenda and there is copious evidence of his racist and white supremacist views. I am shocked and saddened that he would even be considered for public office. Can you find no one better? I challenge you to at least try.

I am also exceedingly concerned and strongly opposed to the motion to eliminate voting for nominees, moving to an appointment system. I know you believe in democracy, as I'm sure you are strong proponents of the constitution; why would you ever make a move to eliminate voting?

I look forward to seeing your response to this, I believe you will listen to the people and do the right thing.

Thank you for your service, now is the time to do something.

Best,

Kirsten Vincent

Placerville, CA

(650) 773-9605