



PC 8-10-17  
Item # 5  
Debra Ercolini <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>

(38 pages)

## Please post to 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update

6 messages

Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:03 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, Jim Mitrisin <jim.mitrisin@edcgov.us>, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, charlene.tim@edcgov.us, jvegna@edcgov.us, brian.shinault@edcgov.us, gary.miller@edcgov.us, James Williams <james.williams@edcgov.us>, jeff.hansen@edcgov.us, Michael Ranalli <michael.ranalli@edcgov.us>, Debra Ercolini <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>

Cc: john.hidahl@edcgov.us, sue.novasel@edcgov.us, brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us, shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us, barry.smith@parks.ca.gov, Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>, Roger Trout <roger.trout@edcgov.us>

Please post to Legistar and the 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 the attached notarized Affidavit mailed certified USPS today to Supervisor Michael Ranalli relevant to the River Management Plan.

*Melody Lane*

**Founder – Compass2Truth**

As history teaches us, if the people have little or no knowledge of the basics of government and their rights, those who wield governmental power inevitably wield it excessively. After all, a citizenry can only hold its government accountable if it knows when the government oversteps its bounds.

ML Ranalli Affidavit.pdf  
11615K

Char Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:08 PM

To: Debra Ercolini <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>

Please post this public comment to the August 10, 2017 Planning Commission agenda, item #5. Thank you.

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Char Tim**

Clerk of the Planning Commission

**County of El Dorado**

Planning and Building Department

2850 Fairlane Court

Placerville, CA 95667

(530) 621-5351 / FAX (530) 642-0508

charlene.tim@edcgov.us

ML Ranalli Affidavit.pdf  
11615K

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**Debra Ercolini** <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:47 PM

To: melody.lane@reagan.com

Cc: Noah Triplett &lt;noah.triplett@edcgov.us&gt;, Vickie Sanders &lt;vickie.sanders@edcgov.us&gt;, Laura Schwartz &lt;laura.schwartz@edcgov.us&gt;

Your public comment has been received for the Summer 2017 updated River Management Plan that is agendized for the Planning Commission's August 10, 2017 meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

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

From: **Melody Lane** <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:03 PM

Subject: Please post to 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, Jim Mitrisin &lt;jim.mitrisin@edcgov.us&gt;, Donald Ashton &lt;don.ashton@edcgov.us&gt;, charlene.tim@edcgov.us, jvegna@edcgov.us, brian.shinault@edcgov.us, gary.miller@edcgov.us, James Williams &lt;james.williams@edcgov.us&gt;, jeff.hansen@edcgov.us, Michael Ranalli &lt;michael.ranalli@edcgov.us&gt;, Debra Ercolini &lt;debra.ercolini@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: john.hidahl@edcgov.us, sue.novasel@edcgov.us, brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us, shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us, barry.smith@parks.ca.gov, Vickie Sanders &lt;vickie.sanders@edcgov.us&gt;, Roger Trout &lt;roger.trout@edcgov.us&gt;

[Quoted text hidden]

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Debra Ercolini  
Development Aide II

County of El Dorado  
Community Development Services  
Planning and Building Department  
2850 Fairlane Court  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 621-7674 / FAX (530) 642-0508  
debra.ercolini@edcgov.us

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 **ML Ranalli Affidavit.pdf**  
11615K

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**Roger Trout** <roger.trout@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 4:17 PM

To: Debra Ercolini &lt;debra.ercolini@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: David Livingston &lt;david.livingston@edcgov.us&gt;

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

From: **Melody Lane** <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 1:03 PM

Subject: Please post to 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, Jim Mitrisin &lt;jim.mitrisin@edcgov.us&gt;, Donald Ashton &lt;don.ashton@edcgov.us&gt;, charlene.tim@edcgov.us, jvegna@edcgov.us, brian.shinault@edcgov.us, gary.miller@edcgov.us, James Williams &lt;james.williams@edcgov.us&gt;, jeff.hansen@edcgov.us, Michael Ranalli &lt;michael.ranalli@edcgov.us&gt;, Debra Ercolini &lt;debra.ercolini@edcgov.us&gt;

Cc: john.hidahl@edcgov.us, sue.novasel@edcgov.us, brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us, shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us, barry.smith@parks.ca.gov, Vickie Sanders &lt;vickie.sanders@edcgov.us&gt;, Roger Trout &lt;roger.trout@edcgov.us&gt;

[Quoted text hidden]

--

**Roger Trout**

Community Development Services  
Director of Planning and Building Department

**County of El Dorado**  
2850 Fairlane Court  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 621-5369  
roger.trout@edcgov.us

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 **ML Ranalli Affidavit.pdf**  
11615K

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**Debra Ercolini** <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>  
To: Roger Trout <roger.trout@edcgov.us>  
Cc: David Livingston <david.livingston@edcgov.us>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 4:27 PM

I have this one already and I am getting ready to post. Thanks.

[Quoted text hidden]

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Debra Ercolini  
Development Aide II

County of El Dorado  
Community Development Services  
Planning and Building Department  
2850 Fairlane Court  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 621-7674 / FAX (530) 642-0508  
debra.ercolini@edcgov.us

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**Melody Lane** <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Wed, Aug 9, 2017 at 6:27 PM

To: James Williams <james.williams@edcgov.us>

Cc: john.hidahl@edcgov.us, sue.novasel@edcgov.us, brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us, shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us, barry.smith@parks.ca.gov, Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>, Roger Trout <roger.trout@edcgov.us>, edc.cob@edcgov.us, Jim Mitrison <jim.mitrison@edcgov.us>, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, charlene.tim@edcgov.us, jvegna@edcgov.us, brian.shinault@edcgov.us, gary.miller@edcgov.us, jeff.hansen@edcgov.us, Michael Ranalli <michael.ranalli@edcgov.us>, Debra Ercolini <debra.ercolini@edcgov.us>, Bill Deitchman <bdeit@parks.ca.gov>

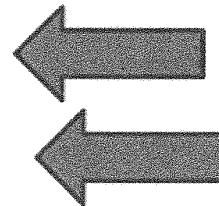
Hello Mr. Williams,

Please read ALL the documents that I submitted into the record for this agenda item, based on **truth, fact, evidence and valid law**.

If you actually listened as you claimed to the audio of the 7/25 Special RMAC meeting held in the MGDG, then you heard Nate Rangel falsely remarked RMAC "didn't have to respond" to my questions. FALSE! Note this KEY excerpt from the Ranalli Affidavit (also applies to Committee Reps/Commissioners):

The First Amendment guarantees the Right of free speech and the Right to petition government for **redress of grievances**, which, the oath taker, pursuant to his oath, is mandated to uphold. If he fails this requirement, then, he has violated two provisions of the First Amendment, the Public Trust and perjured his oath. By your own actions, pursuant to your oath, you have violated these First Amendment guarantees. By not responding and/or not rebutting, such as you have demonstrated, you, the oath taker denies the Citizen remedy, thus, denies the Citizen constitutional due process of law, as stated within the Bill of Rights. There is no legitimate argument to support the claim that oath takers, such as you, are not required to respond to correspondence or other public inquiries, which, in this case, act as petitions for redress of grievances, stating complaints, charges and claims made against them by Citizens injured by their actions. All American Citizens, can expect, and have the Right and duty to demand that you and other government officers uphold their oaths to the Constitution(s) and abide by all constitutionally imposed mandates of their oaths. This is an un-enumerated Right guaranteed in the Ninth Amendment, which I hereby claim and exercise.

Also, please be sure to pay particular attention to my inquiries regarding to your public posts on Debating EDC Politics. I see you replied on FB long before Nate Rangel's "hit piece" was published in the Mtn. Democrat this afternoon. Are you in cahoots with Rangel? Or perhaps with Sue Taylor & Lori Parlin who regularly pow-wow at Camp Lotus with Bill Center, Harry Mercado, and the rest of the River Mafia Mob? I find it odd you couldn't answer any of my questions below:



Melody Lane I was present for this RMAC meeting to witness the out-of-control River Mafia Mob violating the Brown Act once again under co-chair "Nate The Snake" Rangel (nickname given him in the early 1990s). Note Weitzman's very accurate depiction: "There was no County representative present at a very one-sided meeting that bordered on mob rule. While an official county advisory committee, their actions may have been beyond the law and their authority. It's called an "ultra vires act."

Like · Reply · 1 · August 7 at 2:34pm

James Williams Weitzman's letter is anything but "accurate".

Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 7:55am

Melody Lane I didn't see you in the audience James Williams. So how would you know anything about accuracy? It was a mob. The RMAC minutes are totally inaccurate, composed by Karen Mulvaney, a Bill Center/ARC shill.

Like · Reply · 1 · Yesterday at 10:25am

James Williams Melody Lane I didn't need to be at the RMAC meeting to know the accuracy of the river hit piece by Weitzman. All you have to know is the facts.

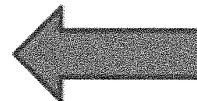
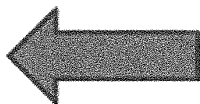
Like · Reply · 2 · Yesterday at 10:31am

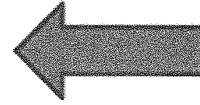
Melody Lane James Williams You should know by now that everything I say/post/submit is based on truth, fact, evidence and valid law. Like I said, I didn't see you at this River Mafia Mob meeting held in the MGDP Museum. The facts speak volumes as do your comments. Does Principle Agent Oath of Office mean anything to you?




Melody Lane ALL the BOS appointed River Management Advisory Committee representatives are in violation of their Principal Agent Oaths of Office and other unlawful actions. This applies as well to several of the Planning Commissioners. Note specifically the Gary Miller affidavit posted under "Files" on this page. Shiva Frentzen James Williams Don Ashton


Like · Reply · 1 · August 7 at 5:01pm








 Melody Lane The minutes from the July 25th Special RMAC meeting held in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum were just posted to the legistar calendar, and are totally FALSIFIED. The BOS, particularly Supervisor Ranalli, knows for a fact that RMAC reps, working in conjunction with county staff, have been falsifying River Management documents literally for decades, yet they continue to aid and abet their unlawful actions. That is a ripoff of all EDC taxpaying citizens.


Like · Reply ·  1 · August 7 at 5:31pm

 Melody Lane James Williams Take note. Where do you get your information about the "inaccuracy" of Weitzman's article??? From Sue Taylor Shiva Frentzen Don Ashton or Lori Parlin ?? Didn't see them at this illegitimate RMAC meeting either.

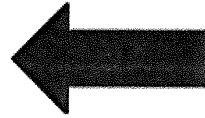
Like · Reply ·  1 · Yesterday at 10:29am


 James Williams Melody Lane I get my information from reading and reviewing the agenda materials. I prefer to get my information from the documents as apposed to word of mouth. I've also listened to several RMAC audio files. I'm listening to the audio from this meeting today as a matter of fact. For you to say the river hit piece was 'very accurate' is not truth.

Like · Reply ·  1 · Yesterday at 12:58pm


 Melody Lane James Williams You can't argue with truth, fact, evidence and valid law. Your public statement calling the Weitzman article a "hit piece", and accusing me of making an untruthful statement, is nothing more than your biased opinion making you unfit to hold public office. You weren't present for any RMAC meetings. And besides, you'll find the audios prove the TRUTH of my FACTUAL EVIDENCE submitted into the public record. Refer as well to the Ranalli, Shiva Frentzen and Gary Miller notarized documents posted as Files on this page AND to the Thursday Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update. So are you one of the River Mafia Mob shills, or just one of Ranalli's GOBs operating "ultra vires" under Ciccozzi's notoriously bad counsel?

Like · Reply · Yesterday at 3:49pm



 James Williams Melody Lane as usual you fail to stick to the subject and the facts and want to personally attack me instead. I do not have time for games these are serious matters that need attention to detail and proper analysis. I recommend that you spend some time reviewing the documents and you will see the inaccuracy in public statements made for yourself.

Like · Reply · Yesterday at 5:03pm

 Melody Lane James Williams No attacks; just the facts: As a public official, you have publicly made false accusations against me, but failed to specify exactly what you meant by "not truth." ALL the notarized documents, photos, audios, etc. I've submitted concerning the RMP are based on truth, fact, evidence and valid law. It is you James Williams, who has obfuscated and diverted the serious matters, aka Bureaucratic Shenanigans, for which you can be held personally liable for violating your authority & Principle Agent Oath of Office (ultra vires acts). Shiva Frentzen Lori Parlin Sue Taylor Don Ashton Fran DuChamp

Like · Reply · 5 hrs

*Melody Lane*

**Founder – Compass2Truth**

*"A Deceived Man Does Not Know He Has Been Deceived Until He Discovers The Truth." ~ Ron Davenport ~*

**From:** James Williams [mailto:james.williams@edcgov.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 9, 2017 3:31 PM  
**To:** Melody Lane  
**Subject:** Re: Please post to 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update

Hi Melody,

Thank you for your submissions for the RMP update item. I will review the documents.

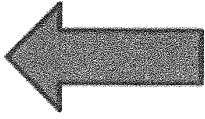
Thanks,

8/10/2017

Edcgov.us Mail - Please post to 8/10/17 Planning Commission Agenda Item #5 - RMP Update

James Williams

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**image001.png**  
1K



## AFFIDAVIT/DECLARATION OF TRUTH

To: Supervisor Michael Ranalli, District #4  
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

I, **Melody Lane**, the undersigned, hereinafter: Affiant/Declarant, make this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth of my own free will, and I hereby affirm, declare and solemnly swear, under oath, before a certified California Notary Public, that I am of legal age and of sound mind and hereby attest that all the information contained in this Affidavit/Declaration is true, correct and admissible as evidence.

This Affidavit/Declaration of Truth is lawful notification to you, and is hereby made and sent to you pursuant to the Federal Constitution, specifically, the Bill of Rights, in particular, Amendments I, IV, V, VI, VII, IX and X, and The Declaration of Rights of the California Constitution, in particular, Article 1, Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 21, 23, and Article 3 Section 1, and requires your written rebuttal to me, specific to each and every point of the subject matter stated herein, within 30 days, via your own sworn and notarized affidavit, using true fact(s), valid law and evidence to support your rebuttal.

You are hereby noticed that your failure to respond, as stipulated, and rebut, with particularity and specificity, anything with which you disagree in this Affidavit/Declaration, is your lawful, legal and binding tacit agreement with and admission to the fact that everything in this Affidavit/Declaration is true, correct, legal, lawful, and fully binding upon you in any court in America, without your protest or objection or that of those who represent you. See: *Connally v. General Construction Co.*, 269 U.S. 385, 391. Notification of legal responsibility is “the first essential of due process of law.” Also, see: *U.S. v. Tweel*, 550 F. 2d. 297. “*Silence can only be equated with fraud where there is a legal or moral duty to speak or where an inquiry left unanswered would be intentionally misleading.*”

**Affiant/Declarant hereby affirms that the following actions and events took place:**

On June 27, 2017, I sent you, District #4 Supervisor Michael Ranalli, via USPS certified mail, a letter which you received on June 28, 2017, and which I entered into the public record during the June 27, 2017 Board of Supervisors meeting. That letter, attached hereto and marked **Exhibit A**, was sent to inform you of these events and statements made by you, and also as an inquiry to ascertain whether you, Michael Ranalli, as District #4 Supervisor, support and uphold them or would rebut them.

Pursuant to the lawful notification contained in that letter, as I originally stated therein, and as cited and included by reference herein, you were required to respond to and rebut anything contained in the attached June 26th letter with which you disagreed, within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.

You failed to respond to that letter and thereby failed to rebut anything stated therein. Therefore, pursuant to the referenced lawful notification, you tacitly admit to all of the statements, charges and claims contained therein, fully binding upon you in any court, without your protest, objection or that of those who represent you.

Some of the things to which you admit include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) All actions by public officers conducted in the performance of their official duties either support and defend their Constitutional oaths of office, or oppose and violate them. On several occasions you've failed to show up for meetings, or lawfully respond to numerous verbal and written inquiries, including CA Public Record Act requests for information. The purpose of the meeting requests was to establish the facts surrounding your foreknowledge and approval of falsified information submitted by county staff to the Board of Supervisors, specifically concerning the River Management Plan, collusion, and serial meetings which the law specifically prohibits. Any enterprise, undertaken by any public official, such as you, other Board of Supervisors, or county staff, which tends to weaken public confidence and undermines the sense of security for individual rights, is against public policy. Fraud, in its elementary common-law sense of **deceit**, is the simplest and clearest definition of that word. You failed to provide honest public services pursuant to your oaths, and in so doing, you perjured your oath by violating my Constitutionally guaranteed Rights, in particular those secured in the Bill of Rights, including but not limited to my 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights. *See United States v. Dial, 757 R2d 163, 168 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir 1985) includes the deliberate concealment of material information in a setting of fiduciary obligation. See also USC Title 18, § 2071 – Concealment, removal, or mutilation generally.* By your unlawful actions, you acted in sedition and insurrection against the Constitutions, both federal and state, and in treason against the People, in the instant case, me.
- 2) You were present to witness the entirety of the September 14, 2015 River Management Advisory Committee meeting when representative, Adam Anderson, falsely accused me of using profanity. In reality, I was seated quietly in the audience audio recording the entire pre-orchestrated charade. During that meeting Planning and Development Director, Roger Trout, and Parks & Recreation Manager, Vickie Sanders, basically took over and proceeded to publicly vilify me. That particular episode was witnessed by four other individuals whom I requested be present and who are willing to testify to the unlawful, unconstitutional actions of you, the RMAC representatives, Roger Trout and Vickie Sanders. During a subsequent meeting you personally witnessed Roger Trout's audio recorded admission that the September RMAC meeting was a collaborative "set up" to discredit and permanently silence me for whistleblowing. Your knowledge of collusion and failure to lawfully respond to constituent concerns, or take corrective measures, permits the continuation of El Dorado County corruption. The First Amendment guarantees the Right of free speech and the Right to petition government for redress of grievances, which, the oath taker, pursuant to his oath, is mandated to uphold. You failed this

requirement, thus, you violated two provisions of the First Amendment, the Public Trust and perjured your oath.

- 3) On several other occasions too numerous to mention, I have publicly brought to your attention, and to the entire Board of Supervisors, evidence of unlawful and criminal actions by the "River Mafia Mob" and other county officials, including law enforcement. If a public officer, such as you, fails to act and correct the matter, then, he condones, aids and abets criminal actions, and further, colludes and conspires to deprive me and other Citizens of their Rights guaranteed in the Constitutions, as a custom, practice and usual business operation of his office and the jurisdiction for which he works. This constitutes treason by the entire jurisdiction against me, and based upon the actions taken and what exists on the public record, it is impossible for any public officer to defend himself against treason committed. *See: 18 USC § 241 - Conspiracy against rights See also: U.S. v. Guest, Ga. 1966, 86 S.Ct. 1170, 383 U.S. 745, 16 L.Ed 239.*
- 4) In violation of the Brown Act, you refused on numerous occasions to respond publicly to verbal inquiries regarding your jurisdiction, denied the public the right to pull an item from Consent for public dialog, and failed to respond to meeting requests for the purpose of resolving specific River Management Plan issues, Code & Law Enforcement concerns, and Public Record Act requests for information. Anytime public officers, such as you, pursuant to their oaths, violate Rights guaranteed to Citizens in the Constitutions, they act outside their limited delegated authority, thus, perjure their oaths, and by their own actions, invoke the self-executing Sections 3 and 4 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment; thereby vacate their offices and forfeit all benefits. In so doing, I was again harmed by your actions and deprived of due process.
- 5) The First Amendment guarantees the Right of free speech and the Right to petition government for **redress of grievances**, which, the oath taker, pursuant to his oath, is mandated to uphold. If he fails this requirement, then, he has violated two provisions of the First Amendment, the Public Trust and perjured his oath. By your own actions, pursuant to your oath, you have violated these First Amendment guarantees. By not responding and/or not rebutting, such as you have demonstrated, you, the oath taker denies the Citizen remedy, thus, denies the Citizen constitutional due process of law, as stated within the Bill of Rights. There is no legitimate argument to support the claim that oath takers, such as you, are not required to respond to correspondence or other public inquiries, which, in this case, act as petitions for redress of grievances, stating complaints, charges and claims made against them by Citizens injured by their actions. All American Citizens, can expect, and have the Right and duty to demand that you and other government officers uphold their oaths to the Constitution(s) and abide by all constitutionally imposed mandates of their oaths. This is an un-enumerated Right guaranteed in the Ninth Amendment, which I hereby claim and exercise.

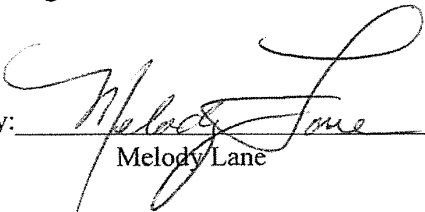
Lawful notification has been provided to you stating that if you do not truthfully and factually rebut the statements, charges and averments made in this Affidavit/Declaration, then, you agree with and

admit to them. Pursuant to that lawful notification, if you disagree with anything stated under oath in this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth, then rebut that with which you disagree, with particularity, within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof, by means of your own written, sworn, notarized affidavit of truth, based on true specific, relevant fact and valid law to support your disagreement, attesting to your rebuttal and supportive positions, as valid and lawful, under the pains and penalties of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and this state of California. An un-rebutted affidavit stands as truth before any court.

Your failure to respond, as stipulated, is your agreement with and irrevocable admission to the fact that everything in this Affidavit/Declaration of Truth is true, correct, legal, lawful, fully binding upon you, Michael Ranalli, as District #4 Supervisor, in any court of law in America, without your protest, objection or that of those who represent you.

Further Affiant sayeth naught.

All Rights Reserved,

By:   
Melody Lane

Date: 8/9/17

*Melody Lane*  
*Compass2Truth*  
*C/o P.O. Box 588*  
*Coloma, California [95613]*

(See attached California Notarization)

M.G.P

Attachments:

- Exhibit A – June 26, 2017 Letter to Supervisor Michael Ranalli, District #4

CC: Dist. #1 Supervisor John Hidahl  
Dist. # 2 Supervisor Shiva Frentzen  
Dist. # 3 Supervisor Brian Veerkamp  
Dist. # 5 Supervisor Sue Novasel  
EDC District Attorney Vern Pierson  
Media and other interested parties

# CALIFORNIA JURAT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document, to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )

COUNTY OF El Dorado )

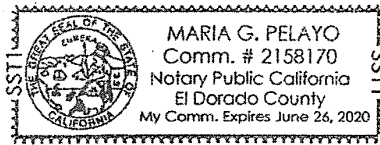
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017  
Date Month Year

by Melody Lane

Name of Signers

proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

Signature: Maria G. Pelayo  
Signature of Notary Public



Seal  
Place Notary Seal Above

## OPTIONAL

Though this section is optional, completing this information can deter alteration of the document or fraudulent attachment of this form to an unintended document.

### Description of Attached Document

Title or Type of Document: Affidavit/Declaration of Truth

Document Date: 8/9/2017

Number of Pages: 4

Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: \_\_\_\_\_

*Melody Lane  
Compass2Truth  
P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613*

June 26, 2017

Supervisor Michael Ranalli, Dist. #4  
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

Supervisor Michael Ranalli,

This letter is lawful notification to you, and is hereby made and sent to you pursuant to the national Constitution, specifically, the Bill of Rights, in particular, Amendments I, IV, V, VI, VII, IX and X, and the California Constitution, in particular, Article 1, Sections 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 21, 23, and Article 3 Section 1. This letter requires your written rebuttal to me, specific to each claim, statement and averment made herein, within 30 days of the date of this letter, using fact, valid law and evidence to support your rebuttal.

You are hereby noticed that your failure to respond within 30 days as stipulated, and rebut with particularity everything in this letter with which you disagree is your lawful, legal and binding agreement with and admission to the fact that everything in this letter is true, correct, legal, lawful and binding upon you, in any court, anywhere in America, without your protest or objection or that of those who represent you. Your silence is your acquiescence. See: *Connally v. General Construction Co.*, 269 U.S. 385, 391. Notification of legal responsibility is "the first essential of due process of law." Also, see: *U.S. v. Tweel*, 550 F. 2d. 297. "*Silence can only be equated with fraud where there is a legal or moral duty to speak or where an inquiry left unanswered would be intentionally misleading.*"

What I say in this letter is based in the supreme, superseding authority of the Constitution for the United States of America, circa 1787, as amended in 1791, with the Bill of Rights, and the California Constitution, to which all public officers have sworn or affirmed oaths, under which they are bound by Law. It is impossible for an oath taker to *lawfully* defy and oppose the authority of the documents to which he or she swore or affirmed his or her oath. My claims, statements and averments also pertain to actions taken by you regarding multiple violations of the River Management Plan, the California Ralph M. Brown Act, and your lack of response to constituents, in this case me, as required pursuant to your oaths. When I use the term "public officer(s)", this term includes you.

Since America and California are both Constitutional Republics, not democracies, they are required to operate under the Rule of Law, and not the rule of man. The Supreme Law and superseding authority in this nation is the national Constitution, as declared in Article VI of that document. In Article IV, Section 4 of that Constitution, every state is guaranteed a republican form of government. Any "laws", rules, regulations, codes and policies which conflict with, contradict, oppose and violate the national and state Constitutions are null and void, *ab initio*. It is a fact that your oath requires you to support the national and state Constitutions and the rights of the people secured therein.

During two meetings that I audio recorded, specifically on August 4, 2016, and again on May 17, 2017, you verbally affirmed that all public officers are required to abide by their oaths in the performance of their official duties. No public officer, including you, has the constitutional authority to oppose, deny, defy, violate and disparage the very documents to which he or she swore or affirmed his or her oath. All actions by public officers conducted in the performance of their official duties either support and defend the national and state Constitutions, or oppose and violate them.

*"The Oath of Office is a quid pro quo contract in which clerks, officials, or officers of the government pledge to perform (Support and uphold the United States and State Constitutions) in return for substance (wages, perks, benefits). Proponents are subjected to the penalties and remedies for Breach of Contract, conspiracy under Title 28 U.S.C., Title 18 Sections 241, 242. treason under the Constitution at Article 3, Section 3., and intrinsic fraud..."*

The Board of Supervisors has been regularly apprised that they are routinely receiving falsified information from the River Management Advisory Committee, Parks & Recreation, the CAO, and the Planning Commission. Despite frequent public testimony and evidence submitted into the public record of fraudulent information submitted by the aforementioned public agencies to the BOS, you have failed to take corrective action and the BOS voted unanimously to approve their recommendations. Any enterprise, undertaken by any public official, such as you and other Board of Supervisor members, which tends to weaken public confidence and undermines the sense of security for individual rights, is against public policy. Fraud, in its elementary common-law sense of **deceit**, is the simplest and clearest definition of that word. My claims, statements and averments also pertain to your actions taken regarding your failure to provide honest public services, pursuant to your oaths.

It is the duty of every Citizen to demand that government employees, such as you, specifically perform pursuant to the constitutional mandates contained within their oaths, thereby uphold and protect the rights of the people, as opposed to upholding and promoting the profits of a rapacious, destructive association that perniciously violates the rights of the people as its apparent routine custom, practice and policy.

Whenever constitutional violations are committed by public officers, there are constitutional remedies available to the people. Such remedies make those who violate their oaths, such as you, accountable and liable for their unconstitutional actions conducted in perjury of their oaths. When public officers take oaths, yet are ignorant of the constitutional positions to which they are bound by their oaths, and then fail to abide by them in the performance of their official duties, this suggests that they may have had no intention of ever honoring their oaths, and their signatures upon the oath documents constitute fraud. Fraud vitiates any action.

The preamble of the Ralph M. Brown Act states,

**“The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people do not yield their sovereignty to the bodies that serve them. The people insist on remaining informed to retain control over the legislative bodies they have created.”**

You've publicly stated three times during the January 5, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting, *“I'll meet with anyone...I've never refused a meeting.”* However, you have refused to respond publicly to verbal inquiries, denied the public the right to pull an item from Consent for public dialog, and failed to respond to my meeting requests for the purpose of resolving specific issues that have been perpetually avoided for years. Concerns have been expressed monthly, and sometimes weekly, particularly regarding the transparency and accountability of the **River Management Advisory Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Code & Law Enforcement, Coloma-Lotus Fire Council, and CA Environmental Quality Assurance (CEQA)**. Additionally CA Public Record Act requests for information have not been responded to as required by law. You have either been unresponsive to communications, relegated your comments to hallway conversations, or you've obfuscated and diverted any meaningful public replies whatsoever. (See U.S. versus Tweel above.)

For example, in 2016 and 2017 the following interrelated public meetings were all **cancelled** by county staff without explanation but with your foreknowledge:

**Parks & Recreation Commission:**

**2016:** January, April, June, August, September, October and December.

**2017:** April and June

**River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC):**

**2016:** February, March, July, August, September.

**2017:** January, February, March, and May. (June minutes not yet posted.)

**Planning Commission:**

**2016:** February, March, April, July.

**2017:** January



One example of your evasion occurred on October 4, 2016. You and Sheriff D'Agostini both failed to show up for a scheduled meeting, without explanation, and instead, CAO Don Ashton and county counsel Paula Franz appeared in your stead and represented you. They have no authority whatsoever to act as your spokespersons. **(See Exhibit A)**

Another example of evasion is the May 9, 2017 memo from Laura Schwartz, Deputy CAO, posted as Consent Item #6 to the 5/16/17 BOS agenda concerning two new appointments to the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). I requested this item be pulled from Consent, but you refused to pull it or dialog as required by the Brown Act, Sections 54954.2(a) and 54954.3:

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Please pull Item #6 from Consent for public discussion and dialog

1 message

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Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>

Mon, May 15, 2017 at 10:18 AM

To: Michael Ranalli <michael.ranalli@edcgov.us>

Cc: shiva.frentzen@edcgov.us, brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us, sue.novasel@edcgov.us, john.hidahl@edcgov.us, Jim Mitrisin <jim.mitrisin@edcgov.us>, edc.cob@edcgov.us, Donald Ashton <don.ashton@edcgov.us>, bosfive@edcgov.us, bosfour@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us

Supervisor Ranalli, et al:

There are several issues pertaining to the River Management Advisory Committee that have been perpetually swept under the rug of government bureaucracy. In the interest of public transparency and accountability, and pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54954.2(a) of the Brown Act, please pull Item #6 from Consent for public discussion and dialog.

Also ensure the entirety of this message, with attachments, is timely posted via the government distribution system.

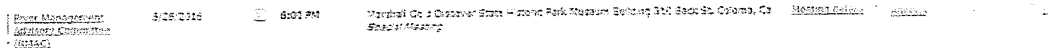
In her May 9, 2017 memo Ms. Schwartz states, *"...we recommend that this committee be dissolved and that the County encourage interested participants to form an ad-hoc committee...Over the past several months, the majority of RMAC members have stepped down from the Committee resulting in not enough members to reach quorum. Several meetings have been cancelled at the request of RMAC due to a lack of a quorum or no issues to discuss...The Chief Administrative Office recommends that the Board consider filling the vacancies noting that RMAC may be dissolved by the end of the year."* **(See Exhibit B)**

Despite sufficient members to constitute a quorum for monthly meetings, all evidence obtained through CA Public Record Act requests indicates that county staff has been colluding in cancelling RMAC meetings in an attempt to stall the River Management Plan updates. In actuality, the RMAC members have not stepped down; rather they have been participating in serial meetings which the law specifically prohibits. In fact, the ACAO's May 9<sup>th</sup> memorandum outlines the county's long range plan for RMAC, thus demonstrating that public meetings and workshops soliciting resident input are nothing more than fraudulent bureaucratic attempts to convince

Citizens that their input makes a difference in the management of the most valuable Sierra watershed.

Yet a third example is the May 26, 2016 Special Meeting requested by Nate Rangel scheduled to be held at 6:00 PM in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum. The only topic of this special meeting was the RMP Update. By 6:30, there were only three people in the room, including myself and one other member of the public. After waiting for a half hour, RMAC Representative Marilyn Tahl announced that she had no idea where everyone was. When it was apparent no meeting was going to take place, I exited the building. I was bid farewell by Chairman Nate Rangel seated outside the Museum casually talking to another individual

Although the RMAC meeting was never officially cancelled, the next day the meeting minutes appeared on the EDC Legistar calendar indicating that the RMAC meeting commenced immediately at 6:30 PM *after I had left the premises*. The stall tactics apparently were a strategic attempt to get me to leave so they could conduct the meeting without me. It is significant that the previously posted minutes have disappeared from the government website and the audio is "unavailable" and cannot be played. "Technical difficulties" appear to be a convenient frequent problem, especially when there are matters concerning government transparency and compliance with the law:



Authentic transparency and accountability in the administration of the RMP, and the public's right to address their grievances concerning the RMP, have been blatantly avoided literally for decades by the BOS. This was one of the topics addressed during our 8/3/16 meeting with you, CAO Don Ashton, and Planning Services Director Roger Trout. (See Exhibit C)

Note the specific item addressing the RMP Update was the only topic on the most recent June 12, 2017 RMAC meeting agenda. Significantly, the SOFAR Charter (RMP) was scheduled as Consent Item #9 on the June 20, 2017 BOS meeting agenda, but it was surreptitiously diverted to the June 27<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting Item #50. The same topic was also scheduled for the June 22, 2017 Planning Commission Item #4: **17-0659 WORKSHOP - Chief Administrative Office, Parks Division, requesting a workshop to discuss proposed changes to the El Dorado County River Management Plan (RMP). No action was to be taken by the Planning Commission.** Contrary to the posting made by Nate Rangel to the CL News, that Planning meeting was neither a workshop nor a hearing as Mr. Rangel publicly had communicated. Commissioner Gary Miller, who has a history of violating the Brown Act and abusing his Principal Agent Oath of Office, permitted Nate Rangel to speak for 15 minutes, meanwhile dialoging and asking him numerous questions. Notably, Chairman Miller denied other members of the public the same rights to dialog.

You've been made aware of numerous unlawful government practices within your district, yet you've failed to take any corrective action. In so, doing you've aided and abetted the perpetuation of government fraud, and are therefore culpable, complicit and liable.

Mr. Ranalli, you were not elected to maintain the dysfunctional status quo of El Dorado County via bureaucratic obfuscations and diversions. Public Service Ethics training as required by the Political Reform Act and AB1234 is mandatory of all elected officials. The ethics manual published by the Institute for Local Government repeatedly emphasizes the following:

- Must conduct public hearings in accordance with due process principles.
- Cannot retaliate against those who whistle-blow.
- Even though a course of action may be lawful under state law, it may not be lawful under federal law.
- The law provides only minimum standards for ethical conduct. Just because a course of action is legal, doesn't make it ethical/what one ought to do.
- Refrain from discussing or voting on a matter
- Transparency is an important element of public service.

By your actions and in some cases, inaction, it is clear that you have violated each and every one of these provisions on numerous occasions.

When you and other public officers violate the Constitutions, at will, as an apparent custom, practice and policy of office, you and they subvert the authority, mandates and protection of the Constitutions, thereby act as domestic enemies to these Republics and their people. When large numbers of public officers so act, this reduces America, California and the County of El Dorado to the status of frauds operating for the benefit of governments and their corporate allies, and not for the people they theoretically serve.

You have no constitutional or any other valid authority to defy the Constitution, to which you owe your LIMITED authority, delegated to you by and through the People, and to which you swore your oath. Yet, by your actions against me, committed repeatedly on the aforementioned dates and several other occasions too numerous to mention, you've deprived me and other members of the public their rights to address public officers and provide testimony. It is apparent the public's input has been reduced to irrelevancy, thereby demonstrating that public meetings are little more than predetermined outcomes designed to falsely give Citizens the impression of government transparency and accountability, while providing neither. This blatant fraud perpetrated by you and other elected/appointed officers against the people they are required to serve and who pay their respective salaries.

The Ralph M. Brown Act further states:

**§54954.3 Public's right to testify at meetings.** (c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law. Care must be given to avoid violating the speech rights of speakers by suppressing opinions relevant to the business of the body.

**As such, members of the public have broad constitutional rights to comment on any subject relating to the business of the governmental body.** Any attempt to restrict the content of such speech must be narrowly tailored to effectuate a compelling state interest. Specifically, the courts found that policies that prohibited members of the public from criticizing school district employees were unconstitutional. (*Leventhal v. Vista Unified School Dist.* (1997) 973 F. Supp. 951; *Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School Dist.* (1996) 936 F. Supp. 719.) **These decisions found that prohibiting critical comments was a form of viewpoint discrimination and that such a prohibition promoted discussion artificially geared toward praising (and maintaining) the status quo, thereby foreclosing meaningful public dialog.**

Where a member of the public raises an issue which has not yet come before the legislative body, **the item may be briefly discussed** but no action may be taken at that meeting. The purpose of the discussion is to **permit a member of the public to raise an issue or problem** with the legislative body or to permit the legislative body to provide information to the public, provide direction to its staff, or **schedule the matter for a future meeting.** (§ 54954.2(a).)"

Anytime public officers, pursuant to their oaths, violate Rights guaranteed to Citizens in the Constitutions, they act outside their limited delegated authority, thus, perjure their oaths, and by their own actions, invoke the self-executing Sections 3 and 4 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment; thereby vacate their offices and forfeit all benefits thereof, including salaries and pensions, as you did on several other occasions, which are now a matter of public record. Following are just a few examples:

- 1) On September 14, 2015, I requested four witnesses to accompany me to the meeting of the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). One of my witnesses was Parks & Recreation Commissioner, Kris Payne. After consultation with Parks & Recreation Manager Vickie Sanders, and at my request, the planned subject matter of the September RMAC meeting focused on Special Use Permits (SUP) and other violations of the River Management Plan. As is my custom, I personally audio recorded the meeting as I always do. You were present for the entirety of the meeting seated at the back of the room when RMAC business representative, Adam Anderson, falsely accused me of using profanity. As all four of my witnesses can attest, in reality I was quietly seated in the audience. This appeared to be the cue to the audience to launch their attack.

Planning Services Director Roger Trout then actively participated with some members of the community known as the "River Mafia" who then proceeded to take turns at publicly vilifying me.

In violation of the Brown Act and my constitutional secured inherent rights, I was not permitted by Chairman Nate Rangel to respond to any of their fraudulent accusations, nor would Vickie Sanders correct the minutes to reflect what actually transpired as I later requested in writing. You were apprised and requested by me to take action to correct the on-going deception, but you failed to respond to my phone calls or correspondence.

Then, during a meeting held April 1, 2016 in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park, with Superintendent Barry Smith and CSP RMAC representative Bill Deitchman, the issue of the September 14, 2015 RMAC meeting was on the agenda. Of primary concern was the fact that Bill Deitchman was not present for that meeting, yet it appeared he was in collusion with El Dorado County staff and other government agencies to unethically deprive the public of honest services. Contrary to public policy, the minutes of the September 2015 RMAC meeting reflect Mr. Deitchman's approval of the fraudulent meeting when he should have actually recused himself as being absent. Mr. Deitchman responded, "*County Counsel told us we don't have to be present to approve the minutes!*" (See Exhibit D)

**Significantly, on February 18, 2014 @ 3:38 PM, Noah Triplett had distributed to all RMAC representatives the following directive:**

*Ms. Lane submitted a doc. Cc'd to half the County Gov. today. You do not need to pull the minutes from consent and have her 3 three or 5 minutes allowed to speak. It is attached.*

*Whoever is the chair please let her know she can speak after the committee is done discussing whatever agenda item it is during public comment on whatever item she wishes to comment on **and you do not have to reply to her if you do not want to.***

**On August 7, 2015 @ 5:20 PM, Noah Triplett** distributed an email to RMAC representatives informing them the August 10, 2015 RMAC meeting had been CANCELLED without reason. The following exchange took place between Noah Triplett and RMAC Chairman Nate Rangel:

**On August 7 2015 @ 6:31 PM, Nathan Rangel wrote:**

*Hi Noah,  
I think it would be both prudent and courteous to at least check in with me prior to cancelling any of our meetings. That's what occurred in the past. Any reason why it didn't this time?*

**On August 7, 2015 @ 7:05 PM Noah Triplett replied:**

*Hi Nate,*

*I was understood that Vickie talked to you about the draft not being done and no need to agendize HLP property issues.*

*There's nothing for the agenda at this time.*

*Melody Lane wants us to put a SUP compliance item on the next meeting agenda for discussion.*

*I will confirm with you before cancelling another meeting.*

**On August 8, 2015 @ 5:21 AM Nathan Rangel responded:**

*Hey Noah,*

*No worries. No, Vickie didn't touch base with me. It's just that when we cancel a meeting I let the other members know the reason. I've got 4 emails asking why....I'll let them know.*

*Melody's item should be interesting! Take care and I'll touch base with you next week.*

It should be noted that in our audio recorded meetings with Parks & Recreation Manager Vickie Sanders and consultant Steve Peterson that we specifically requested confidentiality of these sensitive issues due to the personnel problems associated with Noah Rucker-Triplett and his association with the "River Mafia." It became apparent that Ms. Sanders did not honor her agreement, and thus violated EDC personnel protocols as well as her Oaths of Office. During our 8/3/15 meeting with you, concern was expressed about the history of retaliation, particularly against women in the river community, by the "River Mafia" and Parks & Recreation personnel. In addition to being entered into the public record during several BOS meetings, these frequent breaches in public policy were also brought to the attention of the Human Resources Director and County Counsel. **(See Exhibit E)**

The subject of the 9/14/15 RMAC meeting was also broached again during our 8/3/16 meeting with you, CAO Don Ashton, and Planning Services Director Roger Trout. A major concern was the absence of Roger Trout's "3 Strikes" policy concerning violations of Special Use Permits (SUPs) and the county's reticence to respond lawfully to Public Record Act Requests (CPRAs). No response has ever been forthcoming from you concerning any of these issues.

- 2) Previously mentioned was the Special RMAC meeting requested by RMAC Chairman, Nate Rangel, to be held May 26, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum regarding updates to the River Management Plan. By 6:30 Nate Rangel had not shown up, there still was no quorum, and it was apparent no meeting would take place, so I left the premises. Although the meeting wasn't officially cancelled, the meeting commenced immediately after I was persuaded to leave. The agenda for that meeting still appears, but the

minutes and the audio of the fraudulent 5/26/16 meeting have since disappeared from the government website

Just prior to the May 26, 2016 Special RMAC meeting I had submitted a CA Public Record Act request for the following information which was due 5/31/16:

Pursuant to my rights under the California Public Records Act (Government Code Section 6250 et seq.), I asked to obtain the following:

- Copies of all RMAC representative correspondence pertaining to the River Management Plan Update from January 1, 2016 through May 15, 2016.
- Copies of all Parks and Recreation correspondence between Vickie Sanders and consultant Steve Peterson from January 1, 2016 through May 15, 2016.
- Documentation proving the necessary 4/5 BOS vote substantiating the transfer of \$25,000 from the River Trust Fund for the River Management Plan Update.

You, and the entire BOS, were publicly apprised that the CPRA response was received two days late and was incomplete. Furthermore, the entirety of the requested correspondence between the RMAC representatives was never received by me, and what was actually received from Parks & Recreation Manager Vickie Sanders contained primarily blank pages. Contrary to our audio recorded conversations, Vickie's response to the CPRA *denied* her possession of *any* correspondence with consultant Steve Peterson whom she personally authorized and hired to update the RMP. Significantly, she also failed to produce the signed and dated contract with Mr. Peterson. Not surprisingly, the BOS unanimously voted, March 22, 2016, to authorize an expenditure of \$25,000 to pay Mr. Peterson out of the River Trust Fund (RTF), which trust fund Noah Rucker Triplett stated in an email was "flat broke".

Then, during the March 22, 2016 BOS meeting, I reminded you, and the other Supervisors, of their fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of El Dorado County, and the fact that Steve Peterson had been meeting behind closed doors with county representatives, BLM and CA State Parks long before the item had been put on the BOS agenda or the contract officially entered into with the consultant. Ms. Sanders and Mr. Peterson both confirmed during one of our audio recorded meetings that the county's plan was to take control away from RMAC and turn it over to CA State Parks and BLM who work in conjunction with American River Conservancy and other unaccountable non-government organizations (NGOs.)

We discussed during our 8/3/16 meeting that evidence obtained via CA Public Record Act requests reveals collusion with county staff to deprive the public of their right to public information, refusal to engage in dialog, or participate in the deliberation of public policy. Consequently, the decisions

made by you and the other Supervisors that are based on collusion and deliberately falsified information will ultimately adversely affect all EDC tax payers through unnecessarily expensive litigation, thus, undermining the public trust in local government. See USC Title 18, § 241 Conspiracy Against Rights. For example:

**In an email dated April 28, 2014 @ 3:21 PM, Noah Triplett informed all RMAC representatives:**

*"Vickie informed the committee that the County is looking at starting a more comprehensive update to the RMP beyond what was identified in the 5 year summary reports next year (July 2014). This update would include the River Rescue proposal and Institutional Proposal and anything else. The goal being to not piecemeal updates but to try and do it all at once. **This is also going to cost money since the County wants to use the consultant who did the 2001 RMP and as you know the RTF is broke.***

*The floodplain litter ord. was tabled indefinitely.*

*The alternate RMAC representative proposal was also continued. Maybe Stephen and Keith could get together and come up with a proposal since it sounds like there may be differences?*

*Please do not respond to all as that could be considered a violation of the Brown act."*

**In yet another email sent October 5, 2015 @ 1:58 PM to CA State Park RMAC representatives, Noah Triplett wrote:**

*"We received a public records request from Melody Lane which requests copies of correspondence between RMAC representatives and me.*

*I am seeking an opinion from County Counsel on whether I can I include the emails between you to because there is a confidentiality statement with your emails so she may have to request them from the State."*

- 3) It has also been brought to your attention during BOS meetings, and on numerous other occasions, that county staff is habitually falsifying reports and conducting what California Sunshine Laws and the Brown Act describe as "serial meetings", particularly as it affects the River Management Advisory Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, and the Planning Commission:

*The issue of serial meetings stands at the vortex of two significant public policies: first, the constitutional right of citizens to address grievances and communicate with their elected representatives; and second, the Act's policy favoring public deliberation by multi-member boards, commissions and councils. **The purpose of the serial meeting prohibition is not to prevent citizens from communicating with their elected representatives, but rather to prevent public bodies from circumventing the requirement for open and public***



**deliberation of issues.** *The Act expressly prohibits serial meetings that are conducted through direct communications, personal intermediaries or technological devices for the purpose of developing a concurrence as to action to be taken. (§ 54952.2(b); Stockton Newspapers, Inc. v. Redevelopment Agency (1985) 171 Cal.App.3d 95, 103.)*

**Serial meetings are explicitly prohibited.** *A serial meeting is a series of communications, each involving less than a quorum, but which taken as a whole involves a majority. Serial meetings may occur in various ways. Examples include members of the body communicating with each other and a staff member communicating with members of the body, to orchestrate a consensus. Unlawful serial meetings may occur through oral, written or electronic communications.*

By your own actions and the actions of other public officers, it is clear that you have violated all of these requirements in letter and spirit, thus, you have violated the law, the rights of the people and have perpetrated ongoing fraud as your usual custom, practice and policy of you and that of the other public officers.

- 4) Primary concerns that have been publicly addressed but ignored by you, and the BOS, regard to the topics of public safety and retaliation, particularly as it pertains to the River Management Plan, and the lack of SUP code and law enforcement. As you have been made aware, Public Record Act requests for information pertinent to the River Management Plan have been ignored, are late, or are insufficiently responded to as required by law. Just one example, as cited above, is Roger Trout's fraudulent "3-Strikes" policy which has been the topic of meetings with you, the Planning Commission and other county staff. You've been apprised that Commissioners Gary Miller and James Williams both stated in May 2017 that Roger's "3-Strikes" policy **does not exist**. *A policy that does not exist cannot be lawfully enforced.*

*Depriving the public of honest services is a federal crime.* My claims, statements and averments also pertain to your actions taken regarding your failure to provide honest public services, pursuant to your oaths. All public officers within whatever branch and whatever level of government, and whatever be their private vocations, are trustees of the people, and accordingly labor under every disability and prohibition imposed by law upon trustees relative to the making of personal financial gain from a discharge of their trusts. That is, a public officer occupies a fiduciary relationship to the political entity on whose behalf he or she serves and owes a fiduciary duty to the public. The fiduciary responsibilities of a public officer cannot be less than those of a private individual. You have failed your fiduciary responsibilities and duty.

Furthermore, any enterprise undertaken by the public official who tends to weaken public confidence and undermine the sense of security for individual rights is against public policy. Fraud, in its elementary common-law sense of **deceit**, is the simplest and clearest definition of that word [483 U.S. 372] in the statute. *See United States v. Dial, 757 R2d 163, 168 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir 1985) includes the deliberate concealment of*

*material information in a setting of fiduciary obligation. See also USC Title 18, § 2071 – Concealment, removal, or mutilation generally.*

On one occasion, October 4, 2016, your attendance was required at a meeting, but you and Sheriff D'Agostini both failed to show up. The topics included inconsistencies in responding to CA Public Record Act Requests as required by law, ethics issues, Brown Act violations and lack of Code/Law Enforcement in the Coloma-Lotus region of the South Fork American River.

Another example entailed a recent meeting request. Since you and your Administrator, Brenda Bailey, have been reluctant to respond to correspondence or meeting requests, I asked Marshall Gold Discovery Park Superintendent, Barry Smith, to coordinate a meeting to include you and DOT Director, Bard Lower. The meeting request made in my email dated March 19, 2017 specifically stated:

*“You are required to be responsive to constituent grievances and provide a method of resolution pursuant to your Constitutional Oaths of Office. The purpose of summoning you to this one-hour meeting is to transparently address inter-related issues and a viable plan of action to achieve resolution. Your personal participation is mandatory, not optional. That means no substitutes or additional personnel are permitted—not the CAO or Counsel—as has been the past practice.”*

The day of the meeting, May 17, 2017, Mr. Lower failed to show up, but despite the conditions set forth in the initial meeting request, you were accompanied by two representatives from the CAO's office. Consequently we found it necessary to terminate the meeting before it began. You were provided a copy of the prepared agenda which included the topics of *Public Safety and Retaliation*. (See Exhibit F)

The First Amendment guarantees the Right of free speech and the Right to petition government for **redress of grievances**, which, the oath taker, pursuant to his oath, is mandated to uphold. If he fails this requirement, then, he has violated two provisions of the First Amendment, the Public Trust and perjured his oath. By not responding and/or not rebutting, the oath taker denies the Citizen remedy, thus, denies the Citizen constitutional due process of law, as stated within the Bill of Rights. By your own actions, pursuant to your oath, you have violated these First Amendment guarantees. An American Citizen, such as I, can expect, and has the Right and duty to demand, that his government officers uphold their oaths to the Constitution(s) and abide by all constitutionally imposed mandates of their oaths. This is an un-enumerated Right guaranteed in the Ninth Amendment, which I hereby claim and exercise.

Furthermore, there is no legitimate argument to support the claim that oath takers, such as you, are not required to respond to letters or meeting requests, which, in this case, act as petitions for redress of grievances, stating complaints, charges and claims made against them by their constituents or by Citizens injured by their actions. When public officers harm the Citizens by their errant actions, as you have done, and then refuse to respond to or rebut petitions from Citizens, as you have also done, then,

those public officers, as are you, are domestic enemies, acting in sedition and insurrection to the declared Law of the land and ***must be opposed, exposed and lawfully removed from office.***

As stated previously, actions by a public officer either uphold the Constitutions and rights secured therein, or oppose them. By your stepping outside of your delegated authority you lost any "perceived immunity" of your office and you can be sued for your wrongdoing against me, personally, privately, individually and in your professional capacity, as can all those in your jurisdiction, including your supervisors and anyone having oversight responsibility for you, including any judges or prosecuting attorneys and public officers for that jurisdiction, if, once they are notified of your wrongdoing, they fail to take lawful actions to correct it, pursuant to their oaths and their duties, thereto:

*"Personal involvement in deprivation of constitutional rights is prerequisite to award of damages, but defendant may be personally involved in constitutional deprivation by direct participation, failure to remedy wrongs after learning about it, creation of a policy or custom under which unconstitutional practices occur or gross negligence in managing subordinates who cause violation." (Gallegos v. Haggerty, N.D. of New York, 689 F. Supp. 93 (1988)).*

If those superiors referenced above fail to act and correct the matter, then, they condone, aid and abet your criminal actions, and further, collude and conspire to deprive me and other Citizens of their Rights guaranteed in the Constitutions, as a custom, practice and usual business operation of their office and the jurisdiction for which they work. This constitutes treason by the entire jurisdiction against me, and based upon the actions taken and what exists on the public record, it is impossible for any public officer to defend himself against treason committed. *See: 18 USC § 241 - Conspiracy against rights and 18 USC § 242 - Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law. See also: U.S. v. Guest, Ga. 1966, 86 S.Ct. 1170, 383 U.S. 745, 16 L.Ed 239.*

Supervisor Ranalli, your choice is very simple. You can either uphold your oath and the rights and best interests of the people, or violate your oath and your duties to the people. As stated previously, anytime you perjure your oath, defy the authority of the Constitutions and step outside of the lawful scope of your duties and authority, you are personally liable. In fact, the national Constitution provides remedy for the people when public officers, such as you, perjure their oaths, which remedy, in part, can be found at the referenced Sections 3 and 4 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Pursuant to the constitutional mandates imposed upon them, by and through their oaths, there is no discretion on the part of public officers to oppose the Constitutions and their oaths thereto, nor to be selective about which, if any, mandates and protections in the Constitutions they support. The mandates and protections set forth in the Constitutions are all-encompassing, all-inclusive and fully binding upon public officers, without exception, as they are upon you.

If you disagree with anything in this letter, then rebut that with which you disagree, in writing, with particularity, to me, within thirty (30) days of the date of this letter, and support your disagreement with valid evidence, fact and law.

Your failure to respond, as stipulated, is your agreement with and admission to the fact that everything in this letter is true, correct, legal, lawful, and is your irrevocable agreement attesting to this, fully binding upon you, in any court in America, without your protest or objection or that of those who represent you.

Sincerely,

All Rights Reserved



Melody Lane

Attachments:

- Exhibit A – 10/4/16 Meeting Agenda
- Exhibit B – 5/9/17 CAO Dissolve RMAC Memo
- Exhibit C – 8/3/16 Ashton/Ranalli/Trout Meeting Agenda
- Exhibit D – 4/1/16 MGDG Meeting Agenda
- Exhibit E – 11/12/14 & 8/3/15 Meeting Agendas
- Exhibit F – 5/17/17 Meeting Agenda

Cc: Supervisor Brian Veerkamp  
Supervisor Sue Novasel  
Supervisor Shiva Frentzen  
Supervisor John Hidahl  
D.A. Vern Pierson

Tuesday October 4, 2016 @ 2:30 PM  
Don Ashton, Mike Ranalli, Paula Franz

ABSENT

- I. CPRAs - FOIA
  - A. Guide to CPRAs
  - B. Government PRA Tracking system – COB Discrepancies
  - C. Legal vs. Lawful
  
- II. Ethics & HR policies
  - A. Brown Act Violations
  - B. Transparency & Accountability
    - 1. BOS
    - 2. EDSO
    - 3. CAO
  
- III. Obstacles - Bureaucratic Shenanigans
  - A. Communication breakdown
  - B. Fees - Resolution 113-95 v. AB1234
  - C. Code/Law Enforcement policy inconsistencies
  
- IV. Follow up - Target date

**EXHIBIT A**



5/16/17 JAS JH-6

# County of El Dorado

Chief Administrative Office

Parks Division

330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667-4197

Phone (530) 621-5360  
Fax (530) 642-0301

Don Ashton, MPA  
Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 9, 2017  
TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Laura Schwartz, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
RE: River Management Advisory Committee

## Background

In 2001, the Board adopted Resolution number 065-2002 establishing the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). The committee consists of seven members appointed by majority vote of the Board of Supervisors. The RMAC was formed to provide a forum for the discussion of river use issues, ideas or conflicts among persons or groups with an interest in the South Fork of the American River. The committee is advisory to the Board of Supervisors.

El Dorado County Chief Administrative Office, Parks Division entered into a contract with Environmental Stewardship and Planning on July 28, 2014. The purpose of this contract was to prepare a redlined revision of the River Management Plan (RMP). This plan has not been updated since 2001 and since that time the County has fifteen years of data to support the recommendations made in the redlined version. One of the recommendations from the consultant was specifically related to the River Management Advisory Committee (RMAC). The recommendation was as follows:

### **5. Dissolve the RMAC.**

The most significant change that we propose is to dissolve the RMAC. This committee has done some very good and dedicated work since its inception in 1984, but has evolved into more of a community-focused, rather than River-focused organization. Because of the lack of substantive issues that require deliberation and the wide-ranging interests of the RMAC, we recommend that this committee be dissolved and that the County encourage interested participants to form an ad-hoc committee. This committee could be supported by the County in same manner as the Rubicon Oversight Committee that has successfully conducted ad-hoc meetings for over 10 years.

**EXHIBIT B**

17-0528 E 1 of 3

The draft Redlined Version of the RMP was posted to the County website on February 10, 2016 for public comments. On February 18, 2016 a public meeting was held at the Coloma Grange with the consultant present to answer any questions. The recommendation for the dissolution of RMAC had the most comments from the public as they were not in support of this recommendation.

Staff concurs with the recommendation of the consultant. RMAC was formed by Resolution of the Board and not by the RMP; therefore all references to RMAC have been removed from the plan. The reporting structure and recommendations are addressed in the revised plan.

Timeline

The timeline for the Redlined Version of the RMP has changed many times. The public comment period was extended from March 18, 2016 to April 15, 2016. RMAC then requested that they have a separate deadline as they wanted to review the public comments before they made their comments. RMAC's comment period was extended to May 26, 2016. It was requested that the deadline be extended again. It was extended to June 14, 2016, giving RMAC an opportunity to discuss at their June 13, 2016 meeting.

Comments were received during the busy river season and staff did not review the comments until the river season was complete. Staff compiled the draft plan and sent the Administrative Draft to County departments for comment on January 13, 2017. Staff received comments from Roger Trout of the Community Development Agency and Jim Byers of the Sheriff's Department. Staff met with County Counsel on April 18, 2017. Their comments were addressed and incorporated into the draft.

This is the proposed schedule to complete this project.

* Planning Commission Workshop	June 24, 2017	* 6/22/17
Planning Commission Project Description & Initial Study Approval	July 2017	
Board of Supervisors-Project Description & Initial Study Approval	July 2017	
CEQA Document Prepared	August 2017	
30 Public Comment Period for CEQA Document	September 2017	
Prepare Final Document	October 2017	
Planning Commission Approval	November 2017	
* Board of Supervisors Approval	November 2017	

Issue and Recommendation

Until the new River Management Plan is approved and adopted, RMAC is still an advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission. Over the past several months, the majority of RMAC members have stepped down from the Committee resulting in not enough members to reach to quorum. Several meetings have been cancelled at the request of

RMAC due to a lack of a quorum or no issues to discuss. Per the resolution, the County posted notices of vacancies and received applications to fill the vacancies.

The Chief Administrative Office recommends that the Board consider filling the vacancies, noting that RMAC may be dissolved by the end of the year.



**Agenda**  
**8-3-16 @ 4 PM**  
**Don Ashton – Mike Ranalli – Roger Trout**

- I. RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN
  - A. RMAC Representation
    - 1) EDSO
    - 2) MGDGP
    - 3) Resident
  - B. Brown Act Violations
    - a. 9/14/15 meeting (attendees)
    - b. MGDGP Rep. Bill Deitchman – absent/approved minutes
    - c. 5/26/16 MGDGP Special Meeting
    - d. 7/11/16 Lotus Fire House > 8/8/16
  - C. RMP Update
    - 1) EDSO Revisions
    - 2) BLM/CA State Parks
    - 3) Ranalli strategy
  
- II. CODE/LAW ENFORCEMENT
  - A. EDSO Jurisdiction
  - B. SUPs
    - 1) Code Enforcement coordination w/EDSO (John Desario replaced Jim Wassner)
    - 2) Documentation
    - 3) Complaint process > responsibility?
    - 4) Consequences/Revocations
    - 5) Retaliation
  
- III. CPRA's
  - A. Oaths of Office
  - B. CAO/County Counsel
  - C. Violations – Late/non-compliant responses
  
- IV. FOLLOW UP
  - A. Remedy & Expectations
    - 1) CAO
    - 2) Mike Ranalli
    - 3) Roger Trout
    - 4) EDSO
  - B. Next meeting target date:

**EXHIBIT C**

**4/1/16 MGDPA Agenda  
Barry Smith**

- I. EDSO & CSP
  - A. Public Safety meeting w/Mike Ranalli, Roger Trout, CSP, Sheriff D'Agostini
  - B. Notice & Demand
  - C. Mt. Murphy Road
    - 1) DOT
    - 2) Fencing repairs
    - 3) No Parking signs
    - 4) Hang gliders
    - 5) Trespassers
  
- II. Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council
  - A. Tim Kulton & Deborah Kruze
  - B. Bill Deitchman – Project Manager
  - C. CPRA – County Counsel
  - D. Coloma Resort
    - 1) Annual fireworks
    - 2) Code/law enforcement
    - 3) Mt. Murphy Bridge egress
  
- III. RMAC
  - A. No EDSO representative
  - B. Bill Deitchman – approval of 9/14/15 minutes
    - 1) No response
  
- IV. Citizen Complaints
  - A. Jeremy McReynolds
  - B. Suzie Matin
  - C. Bill Deitchman (?)
  
- V. CL News
  - A. CF15-5698 & CF15-5793
  - B. Censoring Committee

**EXHIBIT D**

Wednesday November 12, 2014 @ 10:00 AM

Robyn Drivon/Paula Franz *Famela Unrr*

- I. CPRAs - FOIA
  - A. CAO - Ross Branch
  - B. Process - Coordination, logging, tracking
  - C. Spreadsheet Discrepancies
  - D. EDSO
  
- II. Brown Act – Bagley Keene Act Violations
  - A. BOS Agendas
  - B. Censoring/minimizing info.
  - C. Technical Difficulties
  
- III. Obstacles - Bureaucratic Shenanigans
  - A. Communication breakdown
  - B. Resolution 113-95 v. AB1234
  - C. Fees - Paper v. electronic copies or CD
  - D. Code/Law Enforcement inconsistencies
  - E. Diverted responses/lack of response
  
- IV. Solutions – Follow up
  - A. 10/21 CPRA presentation – publish CPRAs to government website?
  - B. Transparency/Accountability
  - C. Right-to-know v. media blackout

**EXHIBIT E-1**

8/3/15 RMAC Meeting

Parks & Recreation – Vickie Sanders

I. Personnel Issues

- A. Noah Rucker
- B. RMAC minutes/Brown Act violations/Audio recordings
- C. Conspiracy/harassment/discrimination
- D. Remedial action

II. Next RMAC Meeting

- A. Rescheduled Date?
- B. May 2010 Brown Act – Ciccozzi/Briggs/Mtn. Demo
- C. Wording of agenda > Bullying
- D. EDSO

**EXHIBIT E-2**

May 17, 2017

Michael Ranalli, Bard Lower, Barry Smith (MGDP)

- I. Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council
  - A. Bill Deitchman, Tim Kulton, Deborah Kruse
  - B. CL News
    - 1) Media
    - 2) Rural Communities Coalition
  
- II. Public Safety
  - A. Trespassing
  - B. Hang gliders
  - C. Egress
  - D. DOT – Cal Trans
    - 1) Mt. Murphy Road maintenance
    - 2) Hwy 49
  
- III. River Management Plan (RMP = River Mafia Politics)
  - A. RMAC representation
    - 1) EDC Parks & Recreation
    - 2) Falsified reports & data
  - B. MGDP – BLM – American River Conservancy
  - C. SUPs – Code & Law Enforcement
  - D. Jurisdiction
  - E. Retaliation
  
- IV. Remedial Action
  - A. Oaths of Office – Principle Agent Oaths of Office
  - B. Accountability
  - C. Follow up

**EXHIBIT F**

Tuesday October 4, 2016 @ 2:30 PM  
Don Ashton, Mike Ranalli, Paula Franz

- I. CPRAs - FOIA
  - A. Guide to CPRAs
  - B. Government PRA Tracking system – COB Discrepancies
  - C. Legal vs. Lawful
  
- II. Ethics & HR policies
  - A. Brown Act Violations
  - B. Transparency & Accountability
    - 1. BOS
    - 2. EDSO
    - 3. CAO
  
- III. Obstacles - Bureaucratic Shenanigans
  - A. Communication breakdown
  - B. Fees - Resolution 113-95 v. AB1234
  - C. Code/Law Enforcement policy inconsistencies
  
- IV. Follow up - Target date

Whoever controls the water controls the people. RMAC is, and always has been out of control for decades. They've always used their positions as a bully pulpit. That's why I brought in law enforcement years ago after river residents were threatened for voicing their concerns. Noah Rucker, Vickie Sanders, Roger Trout & RMAC reps have a penchant for falsifying RMP data and other public documents. The following examples from materials entered into the record are all based on truth, fact, evidence & valid law:

Adam Anderson – RMAC business rep Villa Florentina B&B

1. Blatantly LIED @ 9/14/15 RMAC SUP Meeting (accused me of profanity)
2. 3/22/17 Planning meeting for Villa Florentina SUP revocation - falsely targeted me on his PP presentation = QUIET ZONE OF SOFAR
3. 7/25/17 Special RMAC meeting in MGDGP accused me of creating a disturbance.

May 26, 2016 Special Meeting requested by Nate Rangel scheduled to be held at 6:00 PM in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum. The only topic of this special meeting was the RMP Update. By 6:30 there were only three people in the room, including myself and one other member of the public. It was apparent there was no quorum. As soon as I left the building, the meeting commenced, but the minutes and audio later disappeared from Legistar. CSP rep Bill Deitchman was NOT present for that meeting, but he had approved those minutes. During a subsequent meeting with CSP personnel Bill claimed "County Counsel told us we don't have to be present." WRONG! Mike Ciccozzi is notorious for giving bad counsel.

Here's another example from a Planning Commissioner:

*"I don't really need to explain to you what I did...I don't need to justify myself to you. You get what I give you!...I suggest you make a complaint to the BOS & have me removed. That would break my heart!...There isn't a 3 strikes policy! I know there's no such policy!...There is nothing in the Brown Act that says you can talk 3 or 5 minutes. One of the unique things about being a Chairman is you don't get to tell me what I can do!...Sounds like you are threatening to take me to court...County Council was right there. I assure you, that if I was in violation of the Brown Act he would have said something."*

During the 7/25/17 Special RMAC meeting held in the MGDGP Museum Nate Rangel erroneously claimed RMAC "didn't have to respond" to my questions. That too is

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2017 AUG 10 PM 3:08

FALSE. Note this KEY excerpt from the Ranalli Affidavit also applies to all public officials, including Committee Reps & Commissioner's Principle Agent Oaths of Office:

The First Amendment guarantees the Right of free speech and the Right to petition government for **redress of grievances**, which, the oath taker, pursuant to his oath, is mandated to uphold. If he fails this requirement, then, he has violated two provisions of the First Amendment, the Public Trust and perjured his oath. By not responding and/or not rebutting, the oath taker denies the Citizen remedy, thus, denies the Citizen constitutional due process of law, as stated within the Bill of Rights. There is no legitimate argument to support the claim that oath takers are not required to respond to correspondence or other public inquiries, which, in this case, act as petitions for redress of grievances, stating complaints, charges and claims made against them by Citizens injured by their actions. All American Citizens, can expect, and have the Right and duty to demand that government officers uphold their oaths to the Constitution(s) and abide by all constitutionally imposed mandates of their oaths.

The minutes for the 7/25th Special RMAC meeting held in the Marshall Gold Discovery Park Museum for the RMP Update contain numerous errors and falsifications. There was no county representative present to maintain order over the mob, and Nate Rangel acting in tandem with Adam Anderson, failed dismally to abide by the Brown Act and Roberts Rules of Order. Karen Mulvaney acted as Mr. Rangel's personally appointed "scribe" during the meeting which was authorized by Parks & Rec Manager, Vickie Sanders. The audio is impossible to understand, let alone transcribe, and the majority of the speakers never identified themselves. Therefore approval of the RMAC minutes, any recommendations, or actions taken by the committee/commissioners is "ultra vires" and in violation of your Principle Agent Oaths of Office.

Note Noah Rucker's comments in Ranalli affidavit obtained via PRA, "River Trust Fund is flat broke." It's a fact that the mgt. of RMP turned over to BLM & CSP - a done deal.

Last, the June 22, 2017 PC workshop/hearing (?) Rangel was permitted to speak and dialog for 16 minutes about the \$20M rafting business. *2 yrs ago*  
*Victoria P. Rubicon*  
You'll recall his effusive comments re: RMAC formation & Bernard Carlson "good and respected friend." NOT!

Bernard Carlson recent comments after Taxpayers re: Rangel "haven't talked 4-5 years." Generally described Nate as a liberal subversive, and had nothing good to say about him.

Consider carefully the legal ramifications of your decisions about the RMP. Questions?



## CALIFORNIA BROWN ACT

### PREAMBLE:

"The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people do not yield their sovereignty to the bodies that serve them. The people insist on remaining informed to retain control over the legislative bodies they have created."

### CHAPTER V.

#### RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC

§54954.3 Public's right to testify at meetings. (c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law. Care must be given to avoid violating the speech rights of speakers by suppressing opinions relevant to the business of the body.

As such, members of the public have broad constitutional rights to comment on any subject relating to the business of the governmental body. Any attempt to restrict the content of such speech must be narrowly tailored to effectuate a compelling state interest. Specifically, the courts found that policies that prohibited members of the public from criticizing school district employees were unconstitutional. (Leventhal v. Vista Unified School Dist. (1997) 973 F. Supp. 951; Baca v. Moreno Valley Unified School Dist. (1996) 936 F. Supp. 719.) These decisions found that prohibiting critical comments was a form of viewpoint discrimination and that such a prohibition promoted discussion artificially geared toward praising (and maintaining) the status quo, thereby foreclosing meaningful public dialog.

Where a member of the public raises an issue which has not yet come before the legislative body, the item may be briefly discussed but no action may be taken at that meeting. The purpose of the discussion is to permit a member of the public to raise an issue or problem with the legislative body or to permit the legislative body to provide information to the public, provide direction to its staff, or schedule the matter for a future meeting. (§ 54954.2(a).)

Larry Weitzman

(Distributed at hearing by Larry Weitzman) PC 8-10-17  
Item # 5  
(3 pages)

**From:** Larry Weitzman <weitzman@directcon.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 29, 2017 8:06 PM  
**To:** 'Melody Lane'  
**Subject:** FW: Costs of "Policing American River, etc."

2017 AUG 10 PM 3:06  
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**From:** Jon DeVille [mailto:devillej@edso.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2017 5:05 PM  
**To:** Larry Weitzman <weitzman@directcon.net>  
**Subject:** RE: Costs of "Policing American River, etc."

Mr. Weitzman,

Here are some rough numbers regarding river law enforcement activities for EDSO.

Patrolling the Rivers is carried out by many groups in the Sheriff's Office. Our Patrol unit, West Slope & East Slope Search and Rescue units, Boat unit, Dive unit, Coroner's unit, Investigations unit, and other units depending on the circumstance, all take part in law enforcement activities related to the River.

At this point we are limited in what information we have available to determine how much it costs to patrol the River. In the new FENIX accounting system we will be able to track costs related to various law enforcement activities better.

The Sheriff's Office has a Boating and Waterways Unit that is used to Patrol the Lakes and Rivers in the County which costs on average over **\$400K**. These expenditures are largely paid for from Boat Property Taxes and the California Parks and Recreation Boat Grant.

Our Dive Team is the main unit that responds to drownings and body recoveries in our County's waterways, and it costs an estimated **\$30K** in training, equipment and Overtime.

Due to the Dive Team Unit being a collateral duty, Costs for Straight time Dive activities are not tracked separately. This system limitation will be corrected with the County's new financial system. It is estimated that it costs us roughly \$35,000 for each dive recovery. We would need more time to accurately determine the average number of dive call outs a year, but we estimate that there are 5-10 each year. **\$350,000K**

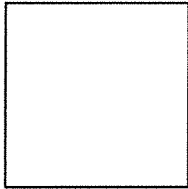
The West Slope and South Lake Tahoe Search and Rescue (SAR) Team's are also very critical to our River law enforcement activities. We have one full time Deputy in South Lake Tahoe and use our Office of Emergency Services unit to carry out Search and Rescue missions on the West Slope. The costs of our SAR units are roughly **\$400,000** each Fiscal Year.

We also do not have the information readily available to track the call-outs directly related to River patrol activities. We would have to get down to the detail call level to get this information gathered which would take a considerable amount of time for our Crime Analyst to determine.

Staffing the River on the weekends with (2) Deputies \$70,000

Our top step, fully incentivized (education pay, POST pay, holiday pay etc) Deputy, costs an estimated \$169,665 in salary and benefits.

If we were to staff (2) Deputies, 10 hrs. a day, on Saturday and Sunday, for 15 weekends on the American River it would cost **\$48,942**.



Tow Vehicle: \$6,000 to rent for the summer and \$1,000 in fuel = **\$7,000**

For an additional patrol, we would need an additional vessel, trailer and tow vehicle:

Small Boat & Trailer: Estimated, **\$7,000**

Tow Vehicle: \$6,000 to rent for the summer and \$1,000 in fuel = **\$7,000**

**Total Cost \$70,000\***

\*These figures include a rental truck because County Fleet doesn't have spare tow vehicles. Cost to shuttle the Deputies back and forth using EDSO STARS (at no cost) is included in this estimate. Please consider that hiring additional patrol staffing to fill additional river positions would make this number much higher. Additionally, very few, if any of those personnel have the training and experience to handle this kind of detail. Training, equipment and other costs would need to be added.

Thanks  
Jon

Jon DeVille  
Chief Fiscal Officer  
El Dorado County Sheriff's Office  
530-621-5691  
[devillej@edso.org](mailto:devillej@edso.org)

(Distributed at hearing by  
Larry Weitzman)

2017 AUG 10 PM 3:07  
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PC8-10-17  
Item # 5

The Balancing Act, July 28, 2017

Pay to Play

I want my readers to understand about county government functions. Services that provide a general benefit, like public safety (Sheriff, D.A., P.D., Probation) roads, infrastructure, zoning, business licensing and parks, to a lesser extent, provide a general benefit to all county residents and should be paid for by the general population and the general fund. I did mention licensing, but that should be self-funded, whereas fines and penalties aren't intended to fund public safety.

As to building and safety, those are supposed to be self-funded just as the requirements we place on builders with respect to on and off-site improvements for housing developments and charge huge traffic impact mitigation fees to provide for most of that. El Dorado County already has taxes on the tourist and recreation industry in the form of a 10-percent tax on hotels/motels and other temporary lodging called the transit occupancy tax. It raises millions of dollars and helps pay for the extra services required as a result and although it is general fund money, it's an excuse to fund things like the EDC visitor's bureau, festivals and other tourist and business draws. South Lake Tahoe makes bank on their TOT.

El Dorado county is blessed with incredible beauty and topography making it a playground for the semi adventurous and adrenalin junkies alike. We have one of the best recreational rivers in the country, the American. It is a magnificent show of nature, its power and beauty. It flows through the Marshall Gold Discovery Park. The South Fork of the American River (SOFAR) flows like the financial aorta of EDC. (suggested rewording)

As a result, it has spawned a huge industry, commercial rafting. It's been ongoing for decades with some years drawing over a 100,000 people who want the thrill of running rapids like Troublemaker. It is a rush. And that's only one of several that will get your heart rate going. With the paddling required, it will add to your cardiovascular conditioning, too. For this year about 70,000 are expected to run the river with a commercial raft company. About the same amount of people do the river in their own kayaks, and rafts.

As a result of all this activity several problems are created. First is the public safety that has to be provided, emergency response teams, noise issues, crime issues, code enforcement, huge environmental issues and water quality concerns. Most of this falls on the EDSO. Just last week, they had their elite team of seven divers, all deputies, scouring the Cosumnes River looking for person reportedly missing spending hundreds of hours including overtime looking for this individual. On top of that, the taxpayers are spending about \$30,000 a year on a bus shuttle subsidy, purely to benefit the commercial rafting industry. An educated guess as to the total dollar amount spent on these river issues exceeds \$one million. That's could be a lot of road fixing money. Rafting is not a priority, the roads are. But almost all of this money comes from the general fund.

In looking at rate schedules from the various outfitters, the average cost for a river trip is over \$100 a person. One outfitter listed cheapest run at \$95 for a half river run on a weekday. On the weekend that goes up by \$20 and any other trip goes up from there. Rafting the river is about the price of Disneyland, and Disneyland does it all: policing, environmental, cleanup, maintenance and shuttle buses.