

8-5-14 Public Comment by Lori Parlin

Where do the people go when their own government has sabotaged them? You, Supervisors Veerkamp, Mikulaco, and Briggs, our representatives, sabotaged us last Tuesday. Why did you let 2 individuals manipulate you and the process to single out our initiative among all the others? After all the assurances you've given us over the past couple of months that you would not derail our efforts, why did you sandbag us?

This ~~is after~~ <sup>is on top of</sup> all of the mistrust that is already looming in our county and after you wrote that fluff piece about the renaissance in El Dorado County government. How insulting!!!

This is your chance to remedy the situation. Please use your authority to put a time sensitive, emergency item on today's agenda, or schedule a special meeting for this Friday, to hear the item regarding the Reinstate Measure Y/Yellow petition.

Here is a timeline of events that leads up to today, and why we think this qualifies as an emergency item:

#### Detailed History of Events

April 25, 2014 - Local Voter Control in El Dorado County published a Press Release stating that they were demanding that the El Dorado County Sheriff and District Attorney take action to address complaints from citizens that the Region Builders' paid signatures gatherers were committing fraud during their signature gathering.

May 13, 2014 - Members of Local Voter Control in El Dorado County (LVC-EDC) appeared before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to request that 30-day reports be ordered to help save time in the process to put initiatives on the ballot.

The request was made because the paid signatures gatherers hired by Region Builders had derailed the local volunteer signature gathering efforts.

The BOS agreed that the Region Builders paid signature gatherers had negatively impacted the local signature gathering process, and ordered a report to summarize the

effects of all the initiatives so that none of the initiatives would be delayed in getting to the ballot.

Supervisor Veerkamp asked me what reports I wanted, and Supervisor Briggs said that we'd have to order one on #5 to be fair. All of you were very concerned about the Region Builders initiative because it had the potential to do great harm to our county and its funding. But you chose to put it on the ballot and let the voters decide. Supervisor Briggs said that he was always on the side of the residents, and would not want to frustrate any initiative process and that it should go to the voters.

The Board assured the public that we should continue collecting signatures and that they would not do anything to impede us from getting our initiatives to the ballot.

June 10, 2014 -The BOS received certification of the signatures gathered by Rural Communities United and Region Builders and voted to put both of the initiatives on the ballot without ordering an additional 30-day report. Members of LVC-EDC asked for clarification to ensure that the summary report on all of the initiatives was still in progress so that the LVC-EDC initiatives would not be delayed when their signatures were presented to the BOS for certification.

The BOS assured the public that the summary report on all of the initiatives was still in progress and the timeline toward getting signatures certified was still on track.

July 22, 2014 - County Counsel asked the BOS for more time to complete the summary report on all of the initiatives. Members of LVC-EDC again asked for clarification that the summary report was still in progress and that the extension to complete it by August 26th would not impede getting the LVC-EDC petitions on the November ballot.

July 29, 2014 - Despite all previous assurances by the Board that they would not impede the process of putting the initiatives on the ballot, the BOS singled out the Reinstate Measure Y initiative and ordered a 30-day report. Since there is not enough time to

complete a 30-day report before the August 8, 2014 deadline, ordering the 30-day report, in effect, impedes the initiative from getting on the November 2014 ballot.

I got flooded with emails and phone calls asking why the Board singled out our initiative. I didn't have answers.

August 1, 2014 -I was asked to request that the Supervisors put it back on the agenda for reconsideration. Without enough time for public notification required for the Brown Act, my understanding is that it would have to be an emergency, time sensitive item to place it on the agenda with a Board vote. To qualify as an emergency, there has to be something unknown about the item at the time that the agenda was posted.

When the agenda was posted on Friday, August 1, the initiative proponents did not know that Supervisor Brigg's son, Alex Briggs, was a consultant for the Region Builders/Fix Local Roads initiative, and was in the Board room during the meeting on July 29. The question has been raised: Why didn't Supervisor Briggs recuse himself from voting on this initiative that is in direct competition with his son's initiative? Another question has been raised: Why didn't Jim Moore divulge that he has worked for Region Builders as a pollster and has a business relationship with them?

We would like for you to either vote right now to put the item on today's agenda because of the time sensitive, emergency nature of the item, or to hold a special meeting on Friday, August 8, to hear the item.

This is your last chance to correct the wrong that happened last week.

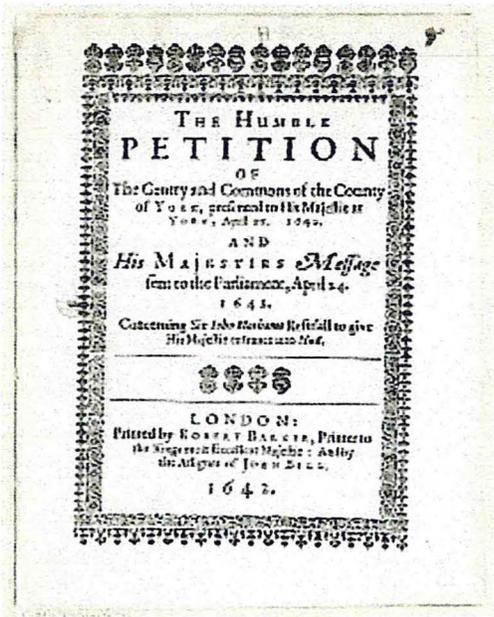


Comment on July 29 BOS Agenda Item #28, File #14-1054

Me

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

## First Amendment: Freedom of Petition (1791)



Individuals have the right to petition the government in order to express their views and ask for change. The Founders brought with them a strong tradition of petitioning government in the face of tyranny: The [Magna Carta](#) included limited protection for petitioning, and the [Petition of Right](#) reminded the King that he was not above the law. [Founders](#) like [John Dickinson](#) urged the colonists to petition the British Crown rather than separate from England. The [Declaration of Independence](#) charged the king with ignoring those petitions: "In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury."

Throughout American history, citizens have exercised and fought for this First Amendment right. John Quincy Adams fought for years to

convince Congress to repeal the Gag Rule and hear thousands of anti-slavery petitions. Historical leaders including Angelina Grimke, Susan B. Anthony, and Martin Luther King, Jr. encouraged citizens to petition government to expand political and civil rights. Petitioning government is a method of [individual efficacy](#) that all citizens can use in their everyday lives.

<http://billofrightsintitute.org/>

Honorable Members of the Board:

I stood up for the right to petition a government in order to express the citizen's views for change. I have never told people what to vote. I even stood up for the other petitions right to go to ballot. I have been surrounded by people, accosted at my car, called names, and lied about in the BOS chamber.

Please refresh your memories on the detailed history of events:

### Detailed History of Events

April 25, 2014 - Local Voter Control in El Dorado County published a Press Release stating that they were demanding that the El Dorado County Sheriff and District Attorney take action to address complaints from citizens that the Region Builders' paid signatures gatherers were committing fraud during their signature gathering.

May 13, 2014 - Members of Local Voter Control in El Dorado County (LVC-EDC) appeared before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to request that 30-day reports be ordered to help save time in the process to put initiatives on the ballot.

The request was made because the paid signatures gatherers hired by Region Builders had derailed the local volunteer signature gathering efforts.

The BOS agreed that the Region Builders paid signature gatherers had negatively impacted the local signature gathering process, and ordered a report to summarize the effects of all the initiatives so that none of the initiatives would be delayed in getting to the ballot. The Board assured the public that we should continue collecting signatures and that they would not do anything to impede us from getting our initiatives to the ballot.

June 10, 2014 - The BOS received certification of the signatures gathered by Rural Communities United and Region Builders and voted to put both of the initiatives on the ballot without ordering an additional 30-day report. Members of LVC-EDC asked for clarification to ensure that the summary report on all of the initiatives was still in progress so that the LVC-EDC initiatives would not be delayed when their signatures were presented to the BOS for certification. The BOS assured the public that the summary report on all of the initiatives was still in progress and the timeline toward getting signatures certified was still on track.

July 22, 2014 - County Counsel asked the BOS for more time to complete the summary report on all of the initiatives. Members of LVC-EDC again asked for clarification that the summary report was still in progress and that the extension to complete it by August 26th would not impede getting the LVC-EDC petitions on the November ballot.

July 29, 2014 - The two initiatives circulated for signatures by LVC-EDC were brought before the BOS to receive the certification of signatures and put the initiatives on the ballot. Despite all previous assurances by the Board that they

would not impede the process of putting the initiatives on the ballot, the BOS ordered a 30-day report on the Reinstate Measure Y initiative. Since there is not enough time to complete a 30-day report before the August 8, 2014 deadline, ordering the 30-day report, in effect, impedes the initiative from getting on the November 2014 ballot.

Dear Supervisors Briggs, Veerkamp, and Mikulaco,

As a resident of El Dorado County, I am requesting that you put the Reinstate Measure Y (yellow) initiative on the August 5, 2014 agenda for reconsideration of your actions on July 29, 2014. I am asking that you respect the efforts of the local signature gatherers and follow through on your previous assurances to let the voters decide the fate of these initiatives. On May 13<sup>th</sup> Members of Local Voter Control in El Dorado County (LVC-EDC) requested reports, so this would not happen—that a report would be called for at the last min. taking away the right to go to ballot. The BOS had time to do reports way back then. I must have more faith that the population can read and decide on their own, because the people have spoken, and the BOS needs to listen to all of them, not just a select few. Let the people decide, put it on the 2014 ballot.

Thank you,  
Fran DuChamp  
Pollock Pines

P.S. With all due respect, I find it odd that the government being petitioned, gets to decide the fate of said petition. From someone who believes in the government, because that is what I was taught. That even though it is not perfect...it was designed to protect its citizens. To listen to their collective voices.

43. 14-0674

Supervisor Santiago requesting:

- 1) Board discussion on whether the Board should order a report on one or more of the five initiatives as authorized by Elections Code 9111, and if so, when should the report be completed; and
- 2) Direct staff accordingly upon conclusion of discussion.

*Public Comment: L. Parlin, K. Payne, E. Lowrey, F. DuChamp, B. Staddy, S. Staddy, P. Frantz, R. Pimentel, F. Murton, M. Wilbur, T. Costello, S. Parlin*

A motion was made by Supervisor Mikulaco, seconded by Supervisor Briggs directing staff to return to the Board by July 22, 2014 with an overview of the five remaining initiatives to include the fundamentals of what each initiative does and a basic overview of the effects on the General Plan.

Yes: 5 - Briggs, Santiago, Mikulaco, Veerkamp and Nutting

### TRANSCRIPT (5/13/2014 Meeting Video)

#### County Counsel's Clarification Prior to BOS Vote on Motion:

*"I'll clarify that, if I may. You want an informational only, not partisan, not argumentative, not taking sides, and you want that under the auspices of Elections Code 9111 (a)(8)."*

25. 14-0674

At the request of County Counsel, the Chief Administrative Office is requesting a continuance for providing a report on the five initiatives to the Board by July 22, 2014, as directed at the May 13, 2014 Board meeting. If granted, staff believe that a 30 day continuance would allow for final compilation of data and give sufficient time for review prior to returning to the Board within a 14 to 30 day window.

*Public Comment: K. Payne, S. Taylor*

A motion was made by Supervisor Veerkamp, seconded by Supervisor Briggs to Continue the matter of providing the report on the qualified initiatives to August 26, 2014.

Yes: 4 - Briggs, Santiago, Mikulaco and Veerkamp

### TRANSCRIPT (7/22/2014 Meeting Video)

#### County Counsel's Clarification Following Reading of Agenda Item 25

*"Thank you, Madam Chair, if I could jump in here. It's fairly self-explanatory. I did want to point out that there's the 30-day report under the Elections Code, but the Board has decided this is not an Elections Code Report at this point, it's an informational report for the benefit of the public . . . I don't propose to make any major revisions to the Board's original concept on what this Report would look like. It's simply proposed to give us a chance to spend a little quality time making it better."*

Board of Supervisors, August 5, 2014 – Mark E. Smith, Mt Murphy SAC, Garden Valley  
Public Comment

Last week during public comment I named this Board the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. Little did I know how fully they would live up to that name until Item 28 when they crushed our civil rights and killed proposition 2, the “Restore Measure Y” petition.

Just how did they kill our civil rights? At least six different ways.

Under the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right of the people to free speech, when they continued throughout the session to dictate what could be said, when, and by whom. This is a pattern of behavior in this chamber.

Under the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right of the people to petition the government for redress of grievances. In this case, they totally eliminated this right for almost 10,000 citizens of this county.

Under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, guaranteeing the equal protection of the laws. In this case they treated competing amendments preferentially and “Restore Measure Y” with a totally different set of scales. This is the essence, the very foundation, of tyranny.

Under the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Amendments, where rights not specified are retained by the people. Here they just squashed the life out of the democratic process countywide, with no regard for due process.

Finally, under the 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment, where they have denied or abridged the right to vote to all citizens in this county who are 18 years of age or older. They have singlehandedly removed our right to vote, even though 10,000 of us signed according to law.

So who are the Four Horsemen? They are War, Pestilence, Famine, and Death. That just about describes what the policies of this Board are doing to this County.

Making War on the citizens of this county by taking away their choice, corrupting the execution of public business, and eliminating all vestiges of confidence in government.

Causing Pestilence in the form of civil and moral decay by virtue of corrupting every visible process the citizen sees, like a disease to the body politic.

Creating Famine of character by paying lip service to democratic principles, all the while undermining true transparency and violating the sacred oath of office and constitutional principles.

Leaving us with the Death of our republic, for no form of government can exist in a vacuum where no one has faith in equal justice under the law, where the ballot is no better than the bullet, and corruption is required to accomplish even the most mundane of daily tasks.

But surely I must be exaggerating. Things can't be that bad. All I know is that the more light I shine, the more rats I uncover. And these rats and their agents are proud of what they are doing...crushing free speech, suppressing free elections, creating and supporting fraud, all the while giving lip service to the principles of true democratic process.

It's not what you say that counts, it's what you do. Actions speak louder than words. Last week this Board, these Four Horsemen drove a stake through the heart of County Democracy and became a tyrannical oligarchy. They placed their jackboots on the throats of every citizen in this County. It remains to be seen how long <sup>they</sup> it will remain there.

As for myself, I choose to stand up to Tyranny, to fight until due process and real, verifiable, honest, transparent government is returned to our County. I can only hope that my fellow citizens will do the same.

Attachments (1):

1. This document
2. Email Sunday August 3, 2014 Subj: Please Pull from Consent August 5, 2014

**Mark**

**From:** Mark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 03, 2014 9:02 PM  
**To:** 'edc.cob@edcgov.us'; 'bosone@edcgov.us'; 'bostwo@edcgov.us'; 'bosthree@edcgov.us';  
 'bosfour@edcgov.us'; 'bosfive@edcgov.us'  
**Subject:** Please Pull from Consent August 5, 2014

**Importance:** High

BOS and Clerk of the BOS:

Please pull from the Agenda Consent Calendar for full public consideration and comment the following scheduled for August 5th, 2014 :

#1: 14-1071

#7: 14-1079 *asked to rescind pull from consent 8:45 Am 8/5/14 ms*

#13: 14-0978

#22: 14-1068

I would remind you once again that the consent calendar is for those items for which detailed public review is not necessary. However for these items detailed above public review is necessary, and the people have the right to have their business heard in the public square.

Mark E. Smith

E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

*"They're on our right, they're on our left, they're in front of us, they're behind us; they can't get away this time!"*

*Chosin Reservoir, Korean War*

Col. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC

CPRA – stack no response, insufficient response, late response, delayed response

Camp Lotus Fire CPRA – no response

Brown Act violations – public has “broad constitutional liberties” – only opportunity to dialog with legislative body.

Mtn. Demo article – Missing the Point

Public Service Ethics – excerpts

Complaint driven county – Don’t shoot the messenger!

Who’s really the problem?

Address the solutions

Solution is simple – do what’s right

Initiative email

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

1. This transcript
2. Camp Lotus fire CPRA – no response
3. BOS July 2 Mtn. Demo article CPRA
4. Mtn. Demo Missing the Point – Brown Act Violations
5. Public Service Ethics excerpts
6. Initiative email



# Compass2Truth

*Citizens Serving God in Truth and Liberty*

P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613  
(530) 642-1670  
melody.lane@reagan.com

July 18, 2014

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
EDC Clerk to the Board/CAO

## CA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST

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

- Documentation substantiating the total amount of County resources utilized to put out the Camp Lotus fire ignited on July 6, 2014.

If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, I ask that you provide a signed notification citing the legal authorities on whom you rely.

To avoid unnecessary costs of duplication, electronic copies are acceptable and may be emailed to [melody.lane@reagan.com](mailto:melody.lane@reagan.com). It is requested that your determination be made within **10 days** as stipulated within the California Public Records Act, **Government Code 6253(c)**.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.



Melody Lane  
Founder – Compass2Truth

Dec 8/11 - No Response



# Compass2Truth

*Citizens Serving God in Truth and Liberty*

P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613  
(530) 642-1670  
melody.lane@reagan.com

July 22, 2014

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
EDC Clerk to the Board/CAO

## CA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST

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

- All correspondence, written or verbal, identifying the agent(s) authorized to compose and submit on behalf of the Board of Supervisors the My Turn: El Dorado County on the Move to Drive Innovation article published in the Mountain Democrat on July 2, 2014.

If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, I ask that you provide a signed notification citing the legal authorities on whom you rely.

To avoid unnecessary costs of duplication, electronic copies are acceptable and may be emailed to [melody.lane@reagan.com](mailto:melody.lane@reagan.com). It is requested that your determination be made within **10 days** as stipulated within the California Public Records Act, Government Code 6253(c).

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.



Melody Lane  
Founder - Compass2Truth

Dec 8/5 - <sup>8/11</sup> postponed till 8/15 - see attached  
reply to  
RofS  
2 OF 10



# The County of El Dorado

## Chief Administrative Office

330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667-4197

Terri Daly  
Chief Administrative Officer

Phone (530) 621-5530  
Fax (530) 626-5730

August 1, 2014

Ms. Melody Lane  
P.O. Box 598  
Coloma, CA 95613

RE: Public Records Act request July 22, 2014  
*Request Received July 22, 2014*

Dear Ms. Lane:

The Chief Administrative Office has received your Public Records Act request dated July 22, 2014. Your request regards the following item(s):

- (1) All correspondence, written or verbal, identifying the agent(s) authorized to compose and submit on behalf of the Board of Supervisors the My Turn: El Dorado County on the Move to Drive Innovation article published in the Mountain Democrat on July 2, 2014.

Under California Government Code § 6253(c), the County has ten (10) days to determine whether the records you have requested are "disclosable public records in the possession of the agency" and "notify the person making the request of the determination and the reasons therefor." This correspondence acts as official notification for your request.

The County has identified some documents pertaining to your request. The County continues to search to see if there are more documents than the ones so far retrieved. As that process continues, County Counsel is reviewing the documents to determine if there are any legal exemptions which may apply.

Although the Government Code does not stipulate time limitations on the delivery of documents, the County will produce the requested information not later than August 15, 2014.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (530) 621-5106 or [ross.branch@edcgov.us](mailto:ross.branch@edcgov.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Branch".

Ross Branch  
CAO Analyst

## Melody Lane

---

**From:** Ross Branch <ross.branch@edcgov.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 01, 2014 4:31 PM  
**To:** Melody Lane  
**Subject:** Public Records Request - Mt. Democrat Editorial  
**Attachments:** Request.pdf; CPRA determination letter.pdf

Ms. Lane,

Please see the attached response to your PRA request re: the Mountain Democrat editorial. Thank you

--

**Ross Branch**  
**Policy Analyst/PIO**  
**Chief Administrative Office**  
**El Dorado County**  
**(530) 621-5106**

NOTICE: This e-mail and any files transmitted with it may contain confidential information, and are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

Any retransmission, dissemination or other use of the information by persons other than the intended recipient or entity is prohibited.

If you receive this e-mail in error please contact the sender by return e-mail and delete the material from your system.

Thank you.

## Melody Lane

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**From:** Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 04, 2014 9:47 PM  
**To:** ross.branch@edcgov.us; norma.santiago@edcgov.us  
**Cc:** Terri Daly; edc.cob@edcgov.us; Joe Harn; Sheriff DAgostini; bosfive@edcgov.us; bosone@edcgov.us; bosthree@edcgov.us; bostwo@edcgov.us; 'Ron Briggs'  
**Subject:** Public Records Request - Mt. Democrat Editorial  
**Attachments:** Request.pdf; CPRA determination letter.pdf; 7-18-14 Camp Lotus Fire.doc

Ross,

Ten days is more than sufficient time to determine the validity of this CPRA.

Additionally there has been no response to the Camp Lotus fire CPRA (attached) which was due 8/1/14.

You've heard this before, but it bears repeating: The distinct impression is one of avoidance, stonewalling, fraud, deception, abuse of the public trust, dysfunction and staff incompetence; in other words, more of the same old **B**ureaucratic **S**henanigans. The citizens of El Dorado County deserve more respect than that from our public servants.

Thanks in advance for your prompt written response to these concerns.

*Melody Lane*

Founder – Compass2Truth  
Conservatives Serving God in Truth and Liberty

***“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” ~ Martin Luther King ~***

**From:** Ross Branch [mailto:[ross.branch@edcgov.us](mailto:ross.branch@edcgov.us)]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 01, 2014 4:31 PM  
**To:** Melody Lane  
**Subject:** Public Records Request - Mt. Democrat Editorial

Ms. Lane,  
Please see the attached response to your PRA request re: the Mountain Democrat editorial. Thank you

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**Ross Branch**  
**Policy Analyst/PIO**  
**Chief Administrative Office**

# Missing the point

By [Mountain Democrat](#)

From page A4 | August 01, 2014 |

July 18 we stated unequivocally that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors violated the Brown Act. At issue was a My Turn column by all four members of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors printed July 2.

The violation came because there was no agenda item for the board members to approve the 864-word piece.

With no agenda item, the four supervisors had to have approved the opinion piece behind closed doors or by a serial meeting facilitated by an intermediary.

The Local Government Open Meeting Law, also known as the Brown Act, specifically states "... any use of direct communication, personal intermediaries or technological devices that is employed by a majority of the members of the legislative body to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken on an item by members of the legislative body is prohibited."

The operative word is "prohibited."

The county counsel's response July 22 was, gosh, it all was part of a closed session evaluation of the chief administrative officer and what a swell job she's doing.

That's not even a bunt. It's a swing and a miss.

County Counsel Ed Knapp, according to our reporter, said, "The board, in that closed session, prepared a letter, later given to the press, who later ran such as an op-ed piece."

We are not disputing that the board can't evaluate its CAO in a closed session and have nothing to report, assuming no raise was given or contract amended.

But it strains credulity that four supervisors would write a coherent opinion piece, type it and forward it to the Mountain Democrat while evaluating the CAO.

That's not even a pitch. It's a balk.

The county counsel further said, "County Counsel did not believe there was a reportable action, however, because the press has inquired, the county counsel reported the letter was authorized by the Board of Supervisors."

Well, duh.

We figured the board approved it, since all four of their names were affixed to the opinion piece. Now it is clearly stated that the four supervisors acted in closed session to approve the opinion piece. To affix their names to it, to claim it as their own four combined thoughts they would have had to approve it. Whether it was an actual formal vote, a general consensus, some winks and nods or exclamation about what great writing this was, it all adds up to a vote to 1. approve the opinion piece, and 2. approve sending it to the Mountain Democrat.

That is separate and distinct from evaluating the CAO, though that evaluation was made public by the July 2 opinion piece.

The county counsel missed the point. Again, we call on the district attorney to investigate this, find out who the intermediary is, who really authored this and send a formal letter to the board to take corrective action for this "unlawful action by the legislative body."

FYI to the county counsel: Corrective action means agendaizing this and taking a vote in open session.

## What Happens if an Official is Disqualified?

- If an official is disqualified from participating on a specific agenda item under the conflict of interest rules established by the Political Reform Act, the official must:
- At the meeting, publicly identify the financial interest or potential conflict of interest in sufficient detail to be understood by the public.
- Not attempt to influence the decision in any way. This includes talking with colleagues or staff about the matter.
- Refrain from discussing or voting on the matter (ask for the item to be considered separately if it is on the consent calendar).

Here are a few miscellaneous items from the Public Service Ethics manual:

- A key element of public service ethics is the responsibility to do what's best for the community, even when it's not best for the decision-maker.
- 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.
- Because of the breadth of federal anticorruption law, avoid any temptation to walk closely to the line that divides legal from illegal conduct under state law. Even though a course of action may be lawful under state law, it may not be lawful under federal law.
- Cannot retaliate against those who whistle-blow.
- Cannot simultaneously hold certain public offices or engage in other outside activities that would subject them to conflicting loyalties.
- Allow the public to participate in meeting, listening to the public's views before decisions are made.
- The law is aimed at the perception, as well as the reality, that a public official's personal interests may influence a decision. Even the temptation to act in one's own interest could lead to disqualification, or worse.
- The statutory language could be clearer, but it appears that violation of these requirements constitutes misconduct in office. The usual penalty for misconduct in office is removal from office based upon grand jury proceedings and then judicial pronouncement.

## Melody Lane

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**From:** Melody Lane <melody.lane@reagan.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 03, 2014 8:12 PM  
**To:** ron.briggs@edcgov.us; brian.veerkamp@edcgov.us; ron.mikulaco@edcgov.us; bosfive@edcgov.us; bosone@edcgov.us; bosthree@edcgov.us; bostwo@edcgov.us; 'Ron Briggs'  
**Cc:** edc.cob@edcgov.us; norma.santiago@edcgov.us  
**Subject:** 8/5/14 BOS Agenda - Reinstate Measure Y (yellow) Initiative

Honorable Supervisors of EDC,

I am requesting that you put the Reinstate Measure Y (yellow) initiative on the August 5, 2014 agenda for reconsideration of your actions on July 29, 2014. This is a "golden opportunity" to demonstrate the quality of EDC leadership and commitment to your Constitutional oaths of office...

Over the past several months you have assured the public that you would not impede the progress of getting the initiative to the ballot. It is expected that all of the initiatives be treated equally and not differentiate this initiative from the others based on the concerns of a few individuals.

As County Counsel pointed out, there are legal and economic concerns about all of the initiatives. Therefore, I am demanding that you **respect** the efforts of your constituents, the local signature gatherers, and petition signers by following through on your previous assurances to **let the voters decide** the fate of these initiatives.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation,

*Melody Lane*

***"It does not take a majority to prevail... but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men." ~ Samuel Adams ~***