



County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board &lt;edc.cob@edcgov.us&gt;

21-0337

**2/23/21 BOS Open Forum - Public Comments**

2 messages

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

Tue, Feb 23, 2021 at 1:15 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us, Kim Dawson &lt;Kim.Dawson@edcgov.us&gt;, george.turnboo@edcgov.us

Cc: sue.novasel@edcgov.us, lori.parlin@edcgov.us, john.hidahl@edcgov.us, wendy.thomas@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, bosfour &lt;bosfour@edcgov.us&gt;, bosone@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bostwo@edcgov.us

Please enter the entirety of this correspondence into the 2/23/21 BOS Open Forum.

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George, I've known you for umpteen years and I've never known you to be dishonest. Last month you indicated that you had an open door policy and were willing to meet with any citizen, so on January 20<sup>th</sup> I emailed you about arranging a one hour coffee-klatch to discuss specific issues. On January 22nd I received a phone message from one of your two admins. "Hi Melody Lane. This is Mark Treat, one of George Turnboo's assistants, Supervisor District 2. We were kind of looking to talk to you and have a meeting. You mentioned in an email that you wanted to get some coffee at Denny's. George and I would like to sit down with you. We're trying to figure out what time we could meet up this Thursday, that's the day that I'll be in the office. This is my personal work phone, so you can give me a call back any time and we'll chat and schedule a meeting. Thank you very much and have a great day."

I emailed you back that Mark neglected to mention a time to meet as I'd specifically requested, and I clarified that this was intended to be a private meeting just between you and me. If this was agreeable, please confirm by responding and indicating the time you wished to meet, adding that I will prepare an agenda to keep us on track. I never received the courtesy of a reply from you or Mark Treat and Todd White.

On Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> I emailed you that the First Amendment guarantees the people the right to petition government for redress of grievances, so your failure to follow through with this meeting request indicates your first violation of your oath of office. That's a poor start to your new political career and indicative of your regard for citizens and your sacred oath of office.

Then on February 10<sup>th</sup> I dropped by the Recorder Clerks office to obtain copies of District #2 oaths of office, which by law, are to be made immediately available to the public. Since the Recorder Clerk didn't have them on file, I was directed to the Human Resources office.

Elizabeth pulled the corresponding HR files, but then disappeared out of sight. Several minutes later she returned and said that she couldn't release the HR information and directed me to speak with county counsel. I explained it was not necessary to discuss anything with county counsel. When I asked to speak

with Tomika, I was told she was not in the office, so Elizabeth offered to have me speak with technician Bill. Again Elizabeth disappeared for several minutes before she returned with a blank copy of an oath of allegiance and asked if this was what I was looking for. I replied Yes, so she again disappeared around the corner. Several minutes later Bill appeared and put me through the same routine. At this point it was obvious they were engaging in obstructionism. Then I inquired whether or not the fully executed oaths even existed. Bill refused to respond, so I asked if he was refusing me service, to which he replied yes. In so doing Elizabeth and Bill violated their oaths of office. The entire exchange took 20 minutes. The next day the Recorder Clerk emailed me the oaths for George Turnboo, Todd White and Mark Treat executed on January 4th. The real issues are the obstructionism, core values, and assaults on the Constitutional rights of the public.

It is apparent by today's Closed Session Item #36 that Tomika is not currently employed as the HR Director. But what is even more glaringly apparent is the fact that certain public officials are weaponizing cancel culture against citizens who courageously challenge the corrupt status quo. This was especially evident during recent Taxpayers Association meetings when Sheriff D'Agostini, Janelle Horne, and Ted Gaines were the guest speakers. Andy Nevis, and District #2 representatives Todd White and Gay Willyard colluded to deprive me of First Amendment rights to address the public officials and petition them for redress of grievances. Consequently they targeted me for retaliation during an illicit tribunal held at Ponderosa High School on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

George, you need to know that since Todd White became the Secretary of the Taxpayers Association, he has discriminated against me and abdicated his responsibility to include me in all speaker schedules and other Association correspondence. Furthermore, I do not appreciate his disrespectful slurs, especially when he called me a "f\*\*\*ing bitch" and told the other members of the Association to "just ignore her"--all captured on audio. These were just some of the issues I had intended to discuss during our meeting that never happened. Todd has consistently demonstrated his gross disrespect for a senior evangelical woman, not to mention being in violation of his oaths of office. He is not a good representative of your office. Your knowledge of Todd's wrong doing, and failure to take remedial action, makes you complicit and liable. You have a choice to make whether you are going to obey God, or obey county counsel who is running interference for you. Pursuant to my First Amendment rights under the Brown Act, I am entitled to a public answer as to how you want to handle this. Will you reconsider a 1:1 meeting, or do you refuse?

*Melody Lane*

**Compass2Truth**

"Our forefathers in faith did not retreat from involvement in society and politics. They did not turn civil government, the making, enforcement, and adjudication of laws, over to Satan and those who serve him. They did not surrender the ministry of civil government to those who are in rebellion against God." ~ Benjamin F. Morris ~



**Brown Act Rights of the Public.docx**

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To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Fyi

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Kim Dawson  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of El Dorado  
330 Fair Lane, Building A  
Placerville, CA 95667  
(530) 621-5393  
[kim.dawson@edcgov.us](mailto:kim.dawson@edcgov.us)

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# 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.

54954.2 E (3) No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3.

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).)