

COB

#19

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors meeting 4-28-2026

Good morning, members of the Board.

My name is Bret Preble.

I'm commenting today on agenda item #19, file #26-0723 #2c. Mosquito Fire Settlement.

Allocate \$8.5 million dollars in Mosquito fire settlement funds, \$400,000 to a shared fire services agreement and \$8.1 million dollars for projects that benefit the Mosquito Fire Footprint Area.

I've sent letters to the Board as a whole and personal letters to each of you. I hope you've had the chance to review them.

As evidenced by the fact that this issue has progressed through several board meetings and been put on this agenda, we can agree how important it is.

I back this funding allocation both for the benefit of Volcanoville and the Divide as a whole. Budget constraints have never allowed this level of support for our fire departments and fire hardening projects. I urge you to vote yes.

As I wrote in my letter to the board, I am passionate about the safety and security of our community and I pledge to donate my time and expertise to the County and the Board in any way including field work and ad hoc committees to provide the best possible outcome when utilizing the funding allocated to Volcanoville. I have worked with the DOT and my District 4 Supervisor in the past will continue to do so.

I'm asking you to show us the same compassion you've demonstrated in recent Board meetings and give us the best possible chance to survive the next catastrophic fire.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Bret Preble

El Dorado County
Board of Supervisors
330 Fair Lane, Building A
Placerville, Ca. 95667

Dear Members of the Board,

RE: 4-28-26 BOS Agenda Item #19, File #26-0723 Mosquito Fire Settlement:

I have written to you twice before and spoken once at a Board meeting about this agenda item. I am writing to you once more to voice my 100% support for the allocation of the Mosquito Fire Settlement funds to the Volcanoville community, and additionally, to the support of the GV, Geo, and MOS fire departments.

As I previously stated, we have fought for years to improve our community, but are understanding of the harsh realities of Budget. We now have an unprecedented opportunity to make life altering changes in the conditions under which we live in Volcanoville. I've added two items to the list of potential projects I've repeated below.

Regarding item #7:

I don't know the logistics of undergrounding electrical services or if it's even possible to partner with PG&E to accomplish it, but we can find out. Perhaps a 50/50 sharing of the cost can be worked out.

Regarding item #8:

As I stated to you in a previous letter, I am in complete support of funding a shared service agreement for our fire departments. I think it's a necessary step to provide the best fire protection we can for all Divide residents.

Don't think I am simply asking for you to give us these funds and then sit back and watch it happen. My work history is in construction project management and I am prepared to donate any time needed to perform tasks related to getting these projects done. I will do whatever work I am legally allowed to do in the planning, process, and coordinating of the items on the list below.

In addition, I will volunteer to serve on any and all ad hoc committees needed to gather information and develop feasibility studies for the work ahead.

I am passionate about our safety and security and have demonstrated my commitment to the community through my many volunteer activities including, STARS, Georgetown Cert, Georgetown Firewise Council, Volcanoville Firewise Council, and a decade long tenure on the Bear State Property Owners Association BOD.

In partnership with the El Dorado National Forest, I am independently working on developing a helipad in Volcanoville that will be used for both air evac and firefighting aircraft. This will be completed regardless of your decision concerning the Mosquito funding.

In conclusion, let me mention your actions in regard to the Grizzly Flats residents. I was at the meeting where you voted to help fund and support the residents there and was overcome with emotion as were many in the room including the members of the Board. Only one resident in Volcanoville has succeeded in building a new home in Volcanoville. His family is still struggling with his lawsuit against PG&E.

Most others have simply decided to move away because of the heartbreak associated with losing their home or the economic reality of rebuilding. It is too late for them. The forest will regrow, some homes may be rebuilt, and some properties will be sold and redeveloped, but Volcanoville will never be the same. Our biggest blessing is that we had not one life lost in this terrible tragedy.

Give us our best chance to survive. Help us avoid losing lives or homes in the first place. I humbly ask you to vote yes to allocate the Mosquito Fire Settlement funds to the area affected by the fire.

Volcanoville.

Respectfully,

Bret Preble-Parliamentarian, BSPOA
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Georgetown, Ca. 95634
530-334-0300

Project List:

1. Substantial resurfacing on the entire road.
2. Widening the road where feasible to improve safety and emergency access.
3. Clearing and improving drainages, particularly in areas where no work has been done for many years.
4. Exploring and advancing the development of a secondary ingress/egress route.
5. Developing a helicopter landing area in Donaldson Park (discussions with the national Forest Service are currently underway.)
6. Additional removal of hazard trees left standing after the fire where no funding currently exists.
7. Consideration of special funding for improvements and seasonal staffing of the Georgetown Fire Department's Station 63 in Volcanoville during peak fire season.
8. Significant undergrounding of electrical services.
9. \$400,000 allocation for a Shared Services Agreement between Garden Valley, Georgetown, and Mosquito Fires Departments.

EDC Vision Statement: Exceptional quality of life with a strong sense of community, historical heritage, rural character, managed growth, and opportunity for all.

EL DORADO VALUES = SENIOR DAY CARE (SDC)

Questions to consider before ending EDC's 38 years of exceptional service to our most vulnerable elders:

What is the net county cost budgeted in FY 2025-26? for the SDC program?

16 participants receiving a \$168 daily "subsidy" suggests that no fees are being collected.*

How did SDC costs increase by 119K to 700K for FY 25-26 from FY 22-23 costs of 581K? **
(FY 25-26 CPI+aide wage increases could account for about a 60K increase from FY 22-23 costs.)

Has the SDC program been fully staffed each month to date in FY 25-26?

What is the current staffing ratio for SDC?

Is there a pool of aide applicants for SDC? ***

What is the waiting list monthly average to date for the SDC program in FY 25-26?

What are the SDC program's actual income and expenses to date for FY 25-26?

What are the SDC program's actual income and expenses for the FY 21-22, 22-23, 23-24, 24-25?

What are the budgeted line items, supervisors, assistants, etc for the SDC program for FY 25-26?

What is the location, availability and fees for private providers of SDC in EDC?

How many of the current SDC participants are planning to transition to private providers?

Is the BOS going to rescind Resolution 62-2025 which established the current SDC fees?

* <https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/files/assets/county/v/1/documents/services/assistance-programs/seniors/adult-day-services/the-club-edh-rate-increase-letter.pdf>

BOS approved ongoing 20% subsidy is about \$34 (168X20%=34)

** <https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/files/assets/county/v/30/documents/government/human-resources/salary-schedule.pdf>

*** <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/edcgov?keywords=program%20aide>

**** <file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/B%20-%20Resolution-1.pdf>