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Agenda item 39 on 4/30/2019

1 message

Mon, Apr 29, 2019 at 1:14 PM

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

Regarding item agenda item 39 on 4/30/2019 file # 18-1754, I have some questions and comments:

2) Authorize the use of standard rolling stock on the section of track from Milepost (MP) 142 to MP 144.8 (El Dorado Road to Missouri Flat Road)

- How much will operating rolling stock on this section cost?
- How will these costs be funded?
- Will the non-profit El Dorado Western Railway Foundation be covering 100% of the costs associated with this operation?

3) Approve reinstallation of At-Grade Crossing equipment at the Forni Road railroad crossing.

- How much will this cost?
- How will these costs be funded?
- Will the non-profit El Dorado Western Railway Foundation be covering 100% of the costs associated with this project?

4) Authorize the repair of tracks at Rustling Pines Road in Shingle Springs for a total of \$17,000 with \$6,000 from the Museum Trust Fund (donations from the community), \$11,000 General Fund approved in the FY 2018-19 Library budget.

- According EDWRF's accounting, they have \$26,000 in the bank. Why is El Dorado Western Railway Foundation EDWRF not covering these costs?
- Why is the public being asked to pay for a private crossing?
- Does this mean that the El Dorado Western Railroad cannot afford their program?
- How much is this excursion train operation going to cost???
- This spending of public funds on an excursion train is in direct conflict with the SPTC Master Plan that says no public funds are to be spent on excursion trains.
- This item was not asked to be approved at the Park & Rec commission. In the March 2019 Park & Rec commission meeting, the museum director stated the program is self-sustaining, has been for 8 years and we expect it to continue to be self-sustaining. This item contradicts what the Park and Rec commission was informed.

Item 4 would be the first time the EDC BOS knowingly approved general fund spending for the excursion train program, El Dorado Western Railroad. This approval would be in direct conflict with the SPTC Master Plan. The museum director stated the program is self-sustaining, has been for 8 years and we expect it to continue to be self-sustaining. This statement needs to be reviewed. Spending \$11,000 of public funds is not self-sustaining. It appears to be the start of a long and expensive program that will never pay for itself, and only serve a small amount of people. The entire program needs to be reviewed. The public deserves to know the entire cost of this program and how it's going to be funded.

Sincerely,

Jackie Neau