

BOS 1-26-16

## James R. "Jack" Sweeney

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December 21, 2013

Be not lazy, the world awaits you!

January 24, 2016

Board of Supervisors  
County of El Dorado  
330 Fair Lane  
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Item 16 and 27 Agenda of January 26, 2016

Chairman and Members:

Last year I observed from July 21, 2015 item #22 and August 31, 2015 item #4 that the Board was reviewing the lands owned by the County in South Lake Tahoe. I believed this would be a great idea! There were no plans set forth in either of the items! I believed I would see an agenda item under which a public discussion would take place.

Today, I was browsing the agenda for January 26, 2016 and noted that both item 16 and item 27 (litigation) were specifically about what has been known since its purchase as the El Dorado Campground that originally consisted of 56 acres.

Evidently I incorrectly assumed that someone would go back in the Board Clerks files and find the voluminous record of the transactions involving the El Dorado Center. A short cut might be to ask the District 5 Assistant to provide the files. I had made copies of all of my files and provided them to District 5. I may be able to dig up my files on the matter, but not by this Tuesday. I will be happy to assist with the history of this item.

Following is a brief recollection of occurrences that I can recall without my notes:

This land was purchased by the County with monies provided by people from the West Slope of the county so that we would always have "our" facility at Lake Tahoe. I believe the transaction took place in the era 1930 to 1950; that information is in the Clerks files on the subject.

After the formation of the City of south Lake Tahoe, many efforts were made for the city to take over the property. In or about 1964 the County reached and agreement to lease the property to the City! The City was to provide a plan for the use of the property and **KEEP THAT PLAN UP TO DATE!**

In or about 1980 the City convinced the County to gift a portion for the purpose of building a skating rink. This became a financial quagmire. I dealt with the issues in or about 1989 and again in 2010 as a Board member. The matter was also on the agenda about 1996.

Please forgive the dates as they are guesses from my recollection; but the agenda items should be easily found.

Mostly, you will find that the City was continually requested by the County to update the plan and the City failed.

As a member of one of the donor families that had the foresight to save such a beautiful property from development, I would expect to see the open atmosphere continued in perpetuity!

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns and please do not give away any more of the El Dorado Campground property.

As you know, I am always available to assist!

Jack Sweeney

**Board of Supervisors Minutes - Final July 21, 2015**

**DEPARTMENT MATTERS**

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT - DEPARTMENT MATTERS**

**22. 15-0896** Supervisor Novasel requesting the Board:

- 1) Consider creation of an ad hoc committee comprised of two board members to engage in a visioning process related to future development and use of County-owned properties and facilities in South Lake Tahoe; and
- 2) Direct the ad hoc committee to report back to the Board with a status update at the Board's special meeting scheduled on August 31, 2015 at the South Lake Tahoe City Council Chambers.

*Public Comment: R.Bender, L. Weitzman*

**The Chair appointed Supervisors Novasel and Mikulaco to serve on the ad hoc committee, with Supervisor Veerkamp serving as the alternate.**

**Board of Supervisors Minutes - Final August 31, 2015**

**4. 15-0896** Supervisor Novasel recommending the Board receive an update on the ad hoc committee related to future development and use of County-owned properties and facilities in South Lake Tahoe. (Est. Time: 10 Min.)

**Received and Filed.**

James  
"Jack"  
Sweeney

# 16 / 27

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October 29, 1996

William V. D. Johnson  
P.O.Box 534  
Camino, CA 95709

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DATE

1/25/16

BOS 1/26/16

4 Copies

Re: El Dorado Campground  
South Lake Tahoe  
Item #15 BOS 7-23-96

Bill:

Again, thanks for alerting me about the issue of the El Dorado Campground and the County effort to give it to the City of South Lake Tahoe.

Unfortunately, the alarm you provided has kept me involved with the issue. I have been digging out information and files at the County and I have been trying to find out just why any change was needed and if there might be a workable solution. Egads, one might think I was a Supervisor but I am just trying to be a responsible citizen.

This is not a new issue; I found comments to the Board by County Administrator J. Mark Nielsen in 1967 setting forth the request of the City and the problems with the request. In 1985 and in 1986 the Board I was part of considered the matter and took a variety of actions.

Most importantly, there was a deed for 15.5 acres in 1973 (Book 1189 Page 88) that gave the City the parcel they are using intensely for recreation and public works. This action only wetted the City's appetite to own all of the land.

Bill, I have lots of paper and maps and if you want copies of any of this stuff I can send them to you. If you want to get together and talk about it I am available. Maybe it would be a good issue for the Taxpayers Association!

I have found out that the City would be able to get some grants for recreation if they owned the property. They have said they could provide additional recreational facilities and improve the campgrounds. The problem is that they and the County do not feel the parcel is divisible under TRPA rules. I said screw TRPA, these are local agencies and they must be able to accomplish their goals.

CAMPGRND

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In light of the "needs" and issues MY PROPOSAL :

Grant the property to the City.....

- 1... No transfer of title by the City to any other party without the consent of the County; which consent may be withheld;
- 2... City must implement approved Master Plan
  - a.. County to have approval of any changes in the Master Plan;
  - b.. Campground to be maintained at a minimum of 25 acres;
- 3... County to have reversion rights to property;
- 4... Keep the library and land around it as County Land;
- 5... Keep the land and site for Vector Control as County Land until the City provides a satisfactory replacement at their expense;
- 6... No change of use on any of the land without County consent which may be withheld;

END PROPOSAL

This means there would simply be a grant of property and no leases; there should be an agreement setting forth the reasons for all of this action and there should be a good map showing what is there and is to be there in the future. There also may need to be some type of maintenance agreement.

I believe this may come to pass because of my conversations. I hope it meets with your approval. Any questions? Please feel free to call or get together.

Again, thanks for getting me involved.

Respectfully,

James R. Sweeney

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James  
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