



Public Comment #2  
 County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

## Consent item: 21-0628

1 message

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DATE BOS RVD 4/20/2021

Spyn Rekerd <spynrekerd@gmail.com>  
 To: john.hidahl@edcgov.us, bosone@edcgov.us

Mon, Apr 19, 2021 at 9:08 PM

Cc: edc.cob@edcgov.us, bosthree@edcgov.us, bosfive@edcgov.us, dthomas@cityofplacerville.org

Dear EDC Board of Supervisors:

Due to recent retaliation attacks on several local businesses and people, I am sending this email to you from my Anonymous email account. I am currently a City Resident, and 50 year EDC Female resident.

### Regarding Consent item: 21-0628

I am very concerned about the City Buildings being sold to a non-profit 'EDG 1848,' who's main administrator is a Proud Boys sympathizer. A group of concerned citizens have put together the following information, and you may have already been sent the following, but I implore you to read and reread again.

1. EDG 1848 is not THE official EDC Historical Society. They are a brand new non-profit, whose stated focus is "history." This may be a gray area in the 'letter-of-the-law' of the County's guidance for divesting of public assets, but the 'spirit-of-the-law' is clearly that this special priority go to a county's OFFICIAL historical entity, thus insuring the public's interest.
2. EDG 1848 is an untested entity. Their proposal contains no track-record of performance, no business or marketing plan, no financial projections, no bio's of staff, no schematics or plans. It contains a general overview and description of what they envision presenting at the museum. (As opposed to Arts and Culture El Dorado's master plan for the Cultural District, which has been through a grueling public process: They have a business plan, financial plan, proven track record of funding, professional staff, etc. — All of which is printed and accessible as a complete proposal).

\*\*\*The County is considering selling the buildings for \$100,000 — a fraction of their value, to the 1848. This basically constitutes a gift of the remaining market value to this group. An investment of public equity into a new non-profit that is not accountable to, or accessible by, the public. The county is a lender, in a sense, to the recipient of the buildings. They have an obligation to the public to make a wise investment of these valuable assets.

You, the BOS, should hold applicants to the same minimal standards that a bank would upon giving a business loan. In choosing between these two applicants: The City of Placerville, with a proven community-based non-profit with a fully vetted, complete and professional business proposal, and 1848, with a one page description of a museum theme, the County is giving a substantial asset to an entity that has not proved it is a sound investment, while also celebrating the 'noose,' which has thankfully been removed from the City logos.

> Regarding the celebration of the noose: Just calling something "history" doesn't make it accurate. The City of Placerville has been in a community crises for the last year and a half over the representation, or *misrepresentation* depending on your perspective, of it's "Hangtown" history. This dispute has gained national media attention. A key stakeholder of the 1848 non-profit is the owner and promoter of a "historic display" in the heart of Placerville, the dummy of the Hangman. If the county is going to publicly fund 1848's historic museum with a discounted public asset- will they have any oversight over the accuracy of the history represented?

They propose a museum dedicated to the "Five Founding Families". Where there only five families that pioneered the county? What makes a family "important" according to this group? What about the native American families that were killed to make way for the Gold Rush? These questions are not important if it is a museum run by a private entity with private investment, and a HUGE alt-right agenda. If it is made possible by a public contribution, on the grounds that it is a valid historical entity in the county, then there needs to be some way to ensure that they are held to the standards of professional curation, research and accurate representation.

### Another option:

The BOS has the power to back away from these sales and simply go back to square one- the first priority option on your own guidance for the divestment of property: Transfer it to the City of Placerville as a gift. This only requires a 2/3 vote of the board.

Thank you,  
 A VERY concerned citizen

