

Chairperson: Sheila Lyons, 805-239-0917, P.O. Box 174 Creston CA 93432, salyons1951@gmail.com

## MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, February 21, 2024

1) Call to Order – Flag Salute: Conducted at 4:00 p.m. @ Creston Community Center

Note: The meeting was initiated at an earlier time than usual, i.e., 4:00 p.m. (rather than 7:00 p.m.) in order to accommodate the availability of the featured guest (i.e., Congressman Jimmy Pennetta).

Members Present: Sheila LYONS, Michael AARONS, Kurt ALMOND, Don CLARK, and Thomas EDEL.

Alternate Member(s) Present – Seated & Voting: Wayne WASZKIEWICZ

Members Absent: Roy BARBA and Jim WORTNER (Alternate)

Community Members Present: Reference CAB Attendee Sign-In Sheets (3 pgs.) Dated; February 21, 2024. Included as Attachment A

- 2) Meeting Recorder/Preparer of Minutes: Thomas EDEL. Note: A Recorder for the next meeting, March 13, 2024, was not identified at this time.
- 3) Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion to Approve the Minutes from the January 17, 2024 Meeting was made by Kurt ALMOND and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Lynge. The Members present voted Unanimously to Approve and Accept (with a change noted by Sheila LYONS pertaining to declarations) the January 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes as prepared by Don CLARK.
- 4) Limited Public and/or CAB Member Comments on Items Not on the Agenda:

Sheila LYONS reported the following information:

The Creston Community Center shall serve as an official Polling Place on election day, March 5, 2024.

On April 19, 2024, the Creston Garden Club will be conducting a fundraising Plant Give Away and Bake sale in the Creston Community Gardens. The proceeds of the fundraiser will go entirely towards the maintenance and improvements in the Garden and towards the Community Center.

On April 20, 2024, the annual Wildflower Bike Ride Event will occur in the Creston area. In addition, on the day before, i.e., April 19, 2024, the Creston Women's Club will host Spaghetti Dinner at the Creston Community Center priced at \$12.00 per person.

5) Public Safety:

SLO Co. Sheriff's Office - Representative(s) were not present at the Meeting

**SLO Co. / CAL Fire** – Representative(s) were not present at the time that Public Safety was discussed on the agenda. However, SLO Co. / CAL Fire Representatives did arrive at a later time during the meeting, but did not perform a presentation.

**California Highway Patrol (CHP):** Templeton Area Office Commander Chandler STEWERT was present and provided statistical information regarding CHP enforcement activities in the Creston rural area & greater Templeton Patrol area. Specifically, the provided information is contained on an attached Spreadsheet identified as Attachment B. Commander STEWERT also shared that officers in the Templeton CHP Office will be changing to 12 hours shifts. STEWERT added that there are presently 26 officers assigned to the Templeton Area Office.

6) **Special Guest Speaker:** United States Congressman (Representing California's 19<sup>th</sup> District) Jimmy PANETTA was present at the Meeting. Also Present was Ms. Dianne ZANNOTTI, Congressional Aid, Paso Robles Office.

Congressman PANETTA spoke to the audience for approximately one (1) hour sharing information summarized in part below. Afterwards, Congressman PANETTA answered questions from the audience (For a complete record of the information discussed during Congressman PANETTA's visit to the Creston Advisory Body, please refer to the Zoom Recording of the Meeting).

Congressman PANETTA came into office in 2017. He currently represents the 19<sup>th</sup> District of California which encompasses the coastal region from South San Jose to Cambria to the Kern County Boarder.

Congressman PANETTA previously served the 20<sup>th</sup> District of California, before the Re-Districting occurred. Congressman PANETTA shared that he sits on three (3) Congressional Committees, which are as follows: (1) WAYS & MEANS, (2) ARMED SERVICES, and (3) BUDGET.

Congressman PANETTA also indicated that the three (3) important aspects of his job is as follows: (1) To make sure that the Government works for you (he encouraged his constituents to call his office whenever there is an issue with the Federal Government, (2) Provide Federal Funding, and (3) Legislation – create laws to help the people.

- 7) Cannabis Projects Update: Jim WORTNER, was not present at the Meeting, However, Sheila LYONS did share the that the previous twelve (12) Commercial Cannabis Grow Applications pending in the Creston area have been reduced in number to three (3) projects, of which the Project on WEBSTER Road appears to be moving forward.
- 8) Planning Department Update and Project Referrals: SLO Co. Planning Office CAB Liaison Lane SUTHERLAND was present and provided a reminder that the 2024 CAC Orientation will be conducted on Friday, April 26, 2024 from 8:30 a.m to 12:00 pm in the SLO Library. SUTHERLAND confirmed that CAC Members who have previously attended CAC Orientation are also encouraged to attend.
- 9) New Business: The new County Advisory Council Handbook was not approved by the Board of Supervisors. The handbook was never submitted to the CACs for review.
- 10) Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) District Supervisors Report: Supervisor Debbie ARNOLD was not present at the Meeting. In her absence, Kathleen GOBLE discussed the Wildfire Prepared Home Program and that the Fire Safe Council was appropriating \$1M in funds to clear vegetation. County budget has a \$25M shortfall.

## 11) Committee Reports:

- a) By-Laws: Nothing to Report
- b) Elections: Sheila LYONS reported that CAB Areas #2 (vacant), #4 Mike Aarons, #6 Don Clark, #8 (vacant) and #10 Kurt Almond are up for re-election in 2024. Mike, Don and Kurt need to return their signed Condition of Service Forms to Sheila.
- c) Public Information: Trailer next to the C.A.T.C.H. to be removed in near future.
- 12) Treasurers Report: CAB Treasurer, Roy BARBA, was absent. Sheila LYONS reported that there was \$2,071.89 in the account. Anticipated upcoming future expenses included C.A.T.C.H. dues of \$200.00 and \$100.00 for additional microphones.
- 13) Unfinished Business: Templeton Advisory Group Representative Murray POWELL reported on the Paso Basin Cooperative Meeting that took place on February 5, 2024. At that meeting there was much discussion about whether \$350K should be spent on a

satellite water use detection system (measures transpiration of crops) that has a known very large margin of error (<u>+</u>10-65%). The Shandon/San Juan and Estrella/El Pomar/Creston water districts were the advocates for this. The annual water report from the PR Groundwater Basin has been submitted to DWR.

- 14) Future Meeting Agenda Items: Kurt ALMOND accepted the action item to inquire into having an appropriate Representative present at a future meeting to discuss information concerning the brokered distributed power matter.
- 15) Meeting Adjournment: At 6:00 p.m. a Motion was made by Don CLARK, seconded by Kurt ALMOND - to Adjourn the February Meeting. The Motion was unanimously Approved.

Attachment B

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## Meeting Attendee Sign-In Sheet

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