



PB NEWS: Important Info for You & EPPOC Minutes; 10/15/17

Enjoy the fall colors around Pinebrook – they are spectacular

1. EPPOC 10/04/17 Meeting Minutes are below – please read for an understanding of what is happening in the greater Arnold area.
2. We all probably have dead trees on our property as well as lots of debris on our structures and in the drainage ditches. While the debris is still dry now is a good time to take those trees down and clean up the debris. We have been after you all year to get the standing dead trees down, it is now reported that one of them fell in the wind last Sunday and hit a neighbor's house. Remove these threats to you and your neighbors that can cause personal damage and injuries as well as fire supporting fuel. If you have a large open area, piling debris and covering with a tarp prepares you for a winter burning event when the snow is on the ground (make it a celebration party). Let's get ahead of the fire safety requirements this year, don't wait until next summer.
3. While we have no answer to our safety improvement requests to the county given that any Murphys Drive bridge outage is several years in the future, EPFD along with SPI did respond with a plan to create two emergency fire evacuation road exits. One will be above Pinebrook at the southwest corner of BLS 14,15,16 at the intersection of Moritz and Alpine roads. This graded road will drop onto Love Creek Road close to Moran Road. A second fire road exit will be created above Pinebrook at the southeast corner of BLS where N Sierra View Drive enters SPI land and exits again onto Love Creek road about a mile up from Moran Road. This is great for single exit subdivisions or remote ends of subdivisions including maybe a reverse escape for Love Creek Subdivision.
4. Thanks for the slow & careful driving through Pinebrook this past summer. We did avoid any accidents and injuries. While Pinebrook installed several safety control signs, more is planned for next year if we can get County Public Works support. Unfortunately we may have to deal with this large flow of traffic right through our recreational area for a few years. Educate your children and minimize the bicycle, skate board, and ATV usage.
5. Bear Valley is looking for another great year: (This means lots of snow, not rain)
 - . Season pass sales are out pacing all previous years
 - . New 6-Pak high speed lift (carries 6 skiers at a time) is under construction. It ends at the highest elevation at the top, so no walking to the back side or to front side popular runs. Lodge and restrooms at the top are planned.
 - . Glamping facility this summer was a huge hit – increased number of sites is planned for next summer.
 - . Weddings were a big hit as Bear Valley became a "Destination site" for events where an entire party could stay at the Lodge with the ceremony at the ski area. 13 weddings this year with reservations already at 10 for next year. They are looking at moving the entire wedding party and attendees to the mountain top with the 6-Pak lift.
 - . Entertainment events, outdoor kids recreation facility, outdoor camps, and the music festival along with biking trails made the summer very successful.
6. EPPOC 10/04/17 Meeting Minutes
 1. **Call to order:** by President Eric Davis by 0930. Minutes from last month were approved as written. Eric proceeded to remind HOAs that the many Annual submittals such as Budget, Insurance, Fines, etc. are soon to be due.
 2. **Treasurer's Report:** Jill Holstein announced \$422.51, unchanged from last month. Jill reminded us to begin thinking of Charity Donations, usually 3 of \$100 each. Recommendations for future donations can be made to Eric Davis or Robert Bragg.
 3. **GABA:** In Bob Doten's absence, Steve Lauterbach reported the usual Meeting for GABA on Oct 9th, at 6pm, at the Arnold Firehouse. Speakers will be General Manager and the Marketing Manager of

Bear Valley Ski Resort who will provide an update about the activities and improvements to the resort for this coming ski season.

4. **COG:** Tim Muetterties will report next month.
5. **EP Fire Commissioner:** Tom Sullivan reminded all that Fire Season is still upon us. A good rain is needed to begin burning season. As Winter nears, check flues for buildup of soot, always a fire danger.
6. **Blagen Road Bridge:** Tom Sullivan reported that there is yet another delay before the bridge, which has been delivered, can be declared passable. The concrete that was poured recently needs 21 days to properly cure for ultimate strength. Fish & Game may also be working on their objections to the bridge.
7. **Arnold RIM TRAIL:** Steve Lauterbach reminded us the season remains open through October. The final Sunset Hike to Cougar Rock is planned for Oct 5th. Plan for early May for the return of this favorite event at the full Moon. Go to www.Arnoldrimtrail.org for update information and work days.
8. **Marijuana Initiative:** In Mike Oliveira's absence, we are reminded to provide advice, comments, or questions to him regarding the upcoming final **Oct 17th**-Supervisor's meeting on the **Marijuana Initiative** to be drafted for a following County wide election. Supervisor Oliveira can be contacted by way of Tom Sullivan's email, tomjackies@comcast.net. The subject line must contain the "CQ" to identify the email is intended for Supervisor Oliveira.
9. **Evacuation Routes:** Certain communities suffer inadequate escape routes in case of fire. SPI has been active in surveying possible roads to be improved for cars and sedans. A map was discussed to show these roads. Such HOAs are requested to prepare maps and education to these residents to use these routes in time of need. A caution was noted that these new routes are clay roads not suitable for wet or snowy weather.
10. **Fuel Reduction:** Pete Padelford and Pat McGreevy remain hard at work preparing Grants to win money needed for general wood fuel reduction to support an encircling ring of fire breaks for the Arnold Corridor. Pete reports that 3 ladies have been added to the staff. Again, a call goes out to HOAs for identification of problem areas and aid in providing information to support these Grant requests. The time for Grant submission is nearing an end.
11. **Cal-Waste Clarification:** Janette de Jong of Cal-Waste wished a clarification from last month's minutes. She pointed out that Red Hill transfer station is run by Gambi Disposal for the county and they enforce the 2 cubic yards per week county regulation. Also, the handy hauler for green waste is part of our residential service package for our customers. It is not part of the \$150 a year residential fee on property taxes. See the attached document in this month's email for more details or contact Janette at Cal-Waste.
12. **CCWD:** Bertha Underhill introduced the Guest Speakers, Joel Metzger, Public Information Officer (among many duties) and David Eggerton, CCWD General Manager. Both Joel and David proceeded to give an overview by slide presentation of the recently completed Reach 3A project. This amazing undertaking of replacing 20 thousand linear feet of ancient buried brittle pipe with new 12-inch steel pipe with a working pressure of 300 psi in a year's time, about \$5.3 M in total cost, through 4 seasons including storms of Winter with minimal impact to the community or its activities. This operation was a new high in efficient planning, execution, and community interaction. The larger, steel pipe was also buried in softer materials to lessen stress to add longevity of 75 years to the newly installed pipe. All this and more occurred with living within a budget from 2011. In **Celebration of the Reach 3A** project, a ceremony is planned for

Wednesday, October 25th, at 1 pm at Cedar Center in Arnold. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, light snack refreshments will be provided.

The facilities of CCWD were presented in pictures that are available on-line at www.ccwd.org. The many pictures included Spicer Reservoir and the 5.5MW Hydro-generating plant. The new General Manager proceeded to discuss plans to capture new licensing agreements for power generation and distribution that are more favorable to this county. Many of the liabilities and poor returns have been due to ancient agreements made when Calaveras was a fledgling county. David went on to expound on the promise of future technologies, including remote meter reading units to yield more current information about water usage and potential leak reporting. The EPPOC group was appreciative of the daily workings, future plans, and budget managing of this new general manager.

Joel Metzger reported that Operations and Maintenance budget deficits exists on both the water and sewer side (mainly due to a reduction in water sales due to the 4-year drought, along with annual increase in the costs of operating the water and sewer systems). CCWD has committed to reducing the gaps by a cumulative 30%, but there will most likely have to be a rate increase to close the remaining gaps. What those rates will be is being determined by HDR Engineering through a cost of service study and rate design study, which will be finished by late 2017 or early 2018. CCWD is committed to keeping the community informed and involved in the process every step of the way.

13. The meeting was adjourned by President Davis being nearly noon.

Robert Bragg, EPPOC Secretary