



Crest Forest & Lake Arrowhead Combined Municipal Advisory Council MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Location: This Meeting was held in-person at the San Moritz Lodge, and online via Zoom

CFMAC Members in attendance:

- **Steve Garcia, Chair**
- **Kyle Schulty, Vice Chair (Via Zoom)**
- **Rick Dinon**
- **Penny Shubnell**
- **Gilbert Flores**

Lake Arrowhead MAC Members in attendance:

- **James Grant Sr., Chair**
- **Michelle Ambrozic, Vice Chair**
- **Ken Stowe**
- **Jenny Hueter**
- **Peter Venturini**

County Staff in attendance:

- **Lewis Murray, 2nd District Supervisor**

1.0 Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

- **The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Chair Steve Garcia**

2.0 Approval of Minutes:

CF MAC:

- **A motion was made by Rick Dinon and seconded by Penny Shubnell to approve the minutes of the August 2022 meeting. Approved 5/0/0**

Lake Arrowhead MAC:

- **A motion was made by Peter Venturini and seconded by Ken Stowe to approve the minutes of the July 2022 meeting. Approved 5/0/0**

3.0 A Guest: Janice Rutherford, San Bernardino County Supervisor

- **Supervisor Rutherford thanked the MAC members and the community and explained that she would be speaking about two schools of thought; investments made in the community and measures on the upcoming ballot. The investments made in the community from the district level, Janice and her team, include \$50,000 donated to the following non-profit organizations on the mountain: Mountains Community Hospital, Boys and Girls Club, Rebuilding Together, Rim of**

the World Education Foundation, Mountain Homeless Coalition, Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council, Meals on Wheels, and Crest Forest Senior Lunch Program. The Rim of the World Recreation and Parks District, the MacKay Park trailhead, the sewer lift station at Camp Switzerland, restrooms at the Chamber of Commerce, re-painted crosswalks, lighting, and Wi fi in town, an upgrade to the Park and Ride in Crestline, and funds for a new Search and Rescue vehicle. This came from two “pots” of funding, one discretionary and the American Recovery Program Act. Janice spoke about the upcoming ballot measures (D and EE) and a brief history on how they have surfaced to this year’s ballot. Measure D re-instates Supervisors to serve three terms and have more pay than \$60,000 per year. Measure EE involves attention that San Bernardino County receives from the state of CA. Currently, courthouses are closing in the high desert, there aren’t enough Judicial Officers hired, and overall, not enough support from the state. This measure is to study and advocate for options to get full funding, it is to be heard from the state of CA. Janice took questions from the audience and introduced the new Supervisor, Dawn Rowe.

3.0 B Guest: Dawn Rowe, San Bernardino County Supervisor

- Dawn Rowe introduced herself, and thanked Janice and the audience. She expressed that she wants to “carry the torch” and be an advocate for the county and mountain communities. She is passionate about issues like trash/litter, visitors, and private property issues. She has been a desert and mountain resident, so she can relate and understand to current issues. Dawn then discussed Measure D and the importance of it. She thanked the audience.

3.0 C Guest: Dan Munsey, San Bernardino County Fire Chief

- Chief Munsey gave a fire update and expressed how important early activation and early response are. He encouraged the public to keep calling fires in. Munsey presented a photo of a new drone they use with fires, it is fully autonomous, has cameras to detect and verify wildfires, and carries 250 gallons of water. They are testing it on ‘Little Mountain’ for its infrared cameras and three other separate tests; locating a fire, dropping on a fire, and determining direction, picking up more water and dropping on the fire again. Dan discussed other new technologies being used, aircrafts with hotspot detection to grasp the footprint of the fire, a GUS story map to give shape of the fire and perspective on where to distribute resources. Dan then gave an update on the Radford fire, explaining that because 98% of the land is national forest, the forest service is in charge of the fire, not San Bernardino County fire. He assured the audience that all fire departments and law enforcement agencies have great working relationships. Dan thanked Janice for her dedication and support over the years. He is looking forward to working with Supervisor Rowe and has no doubt she will be present and hands on. Chief Kat Opliger got up to share that their biggest goals is to re-engage with the community, she mentioned that if there is anything they can do, to please let them know, they are at Station 91. She also expressed how important it is to ‘go and go early’ and being prepared pertaining to evacuating during a fire.

4.0 Community & Governmental Agency Updates:

- US Forest Service: Matt Ahearn gave an update that they have been very busy with the Radford and Fairview Fires. They have an incident management team on patrol for the lightning strikes and fires created by them. The Radford fire has given example to how difficult it can be to put a fire out when the terrain is steep, there is heavy ground fuel, and little to no fire history in the area. He emphasized that technology and early detection is critical. Ahearn took questions from the audience.
- CHP: Lt. Napoleon Salais, the new commander, expressed that he is excited to work within our mountain community, wants to maximize service, and work collaboratively. He announced that Hwy 38 is closed due to mud slides but is excited Hwy 18 is now open! CHP will be having an open house

on September 24th in Running Springs. Salais took questions from the audience.

- **San Bernardino County Sheriff:** Cpt. Lupear explained that they are fully staffed and had a busy summer. He discussed the Off Highway Vehicle Program, which includes looking for illegal campers and reporting them to the US Forest Service. They have also been able to eliminate many homeless encampments at the bottom of highways 330 and 18. Lupear explained that deputies are now trained to conduct evacuations and have fire bags in their patrol cars in case they are needed. This has been helpful for the Radford fire, having a mobile field force trained on security and patrol, and fire evacuations. After the first 12 hours, they are deployed, almost 160 people rotated, so it doesn't affect local patrol routines as well. Lupear also encouraged people to lock their cars and to take valuable belongings with them. Lupear thanked Rutherford for her dedication to the community and welcomed Rowe.
- **Lake Gregory Community Advisory Committee and LGC Recreation Company:** Bill Mellinger and Nathan Godwin announced that E-Bikes are coming to Lake Gregory, there will be guided tours and solo/individual tours. The Camp Switzerland Project is in the idea and drawing phase, and the swimming area is closed for the season. Nathan explained that this summer was record breaking, with over 81,000 people in attendance over the summer season, including 10,000 boats rented on the water and 8,000 fishermen utilizing the lake. The lake staff have been focusing on trash pickup, and parking issues. They have movies in the park events coming up as well. Nathan encouraged people to email concerns to the Lake Gregory Advisory Committee.
- **ROWUSD:** Dr. Kimberly Fritter is the new Superintendent for the district. She discussed her background on her education, work history, and family. She is looking forward to serving the community and thankful for the opportunity to do so. Fritter pointed out that the Sheriff's department has been helpful in training drills and being quick to respond if needed. The district is focusing on cooling down classrooms and discussing long term solutions, replacing electrical systems, and installing cooling systems.
- **Rim of the World Recreation and Park District:** Jenny Hueter mentioned that she is the new manager of the district during Covid. She invited the audience to Freedom Fridays, their teen nights. She welcomed Rowe and thanked Rutherford for being such a support to the district. She informed the audience to call the district if they have any ideas on how to be more engaging with the community or even ideas in mind. Hueter also presented a framed gift for Rutherford.
- **Crestline/Lake Gregory Chamber of Commerce:** Michelle Hake, the President of the chamber was excited to announce that their Corks and Hops event this year had record attendance, the last one will be in October, and there will be a special event in February at The San Moritz Lodge. The Chamber has been busy with creating a list of local attractions and creating a visitor guide brochure, launching a new website, and filming a promo video for Crestline. They have also began revamping the visitor center, wayfinding signage, and enhancing experience around town. The chamber is putting on a Fall fest in November, and a Christmas event in December.
- **Lake Arrowhead Communities Chamber of Commerce:** Robin Bull, invited the audience to events in September and October, including the CVS Pharmacy Grand Opening. She thanked Rutherford for being helpful and supportive, and welcomed Rowe. They are running an election for new members on the board of directors. The chamber is having a change in their board, Josh Martin will be taking over in October for Trisha Dufour (current chairwoman), he has experience with managing the Lake Arrowhead Village, finance, and real-estate. They added that Crestline is doing exciting things, and

that they support and promote what Lake Gregory and Crestline are doing.

5.0 Correspondence & Announcements from Board Members

- Rick Dinon was notified from the Cedar Pines Park postmaster, that the Cedar Pines Park post office will be hosting a Commemorate Ceremony on September 23, 2022.

6.0 New Business

- None

7.0 Public Comment*

- MAC receives comments on non-agenda items.
- Candice Pearson, Crest Forest Senior Club- announced an upcoming September Mixer at Leisure Shores on Thursday September 29, at 5:30pm.
- Rhea Frances Tetley, Rim of the World Historical Society-encouraged the audience to visit the museum in Lake Arrowhead, it is free to visit. The historical society will also be conducting 'Top Town' walking tours once a month.

8.0 Adjournment and Next Meeting Date:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm by Peter Venturini. Peter thanked Supervisor Rutherford for her commitment to the Rim of the World Communities and welcomed Supervisor Rowe. Peter also thanked Lewis for his attention to issues affecting the mountain communities.
- The next meeting of the Crest Forest Municipal Advisory Council will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 6:30 pm at the San Moritz Lodge.
- The next meeting of the Lake Arrowhead MAC is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022, 6:00pm, at the County Building in Twin Peaks

The Crest Forest Municipal Advisory Council meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If assisted listening devices or other auxiliary aides or services are needed in order to participate in the public meeting, requests should be made through the Municipal Advisory Council Secretary at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting. Secretary's telephone number is (909) 387-4833 and the office is located at 385 North Arrowhead Ave, 5th floor San Bernardino CA 92415-0110

The Crest Forest Municipal Advisory Council agenda is posted prior to meetings at the Crestline Sanitation District Office. Copies of the agenda are available to interested parties upon receipt of a written request.

*** Public comment on discussion items is limited to three minutes per item per person. Limitations during Public Comment are at the discretion of the MAC Chairman.**