 LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

August 5, 2020

Meeting called to order 5PM – Moose Lodge - outside.

**Minutes** approved.  Moved Soria.  Second Schultz. Attendance taken.

**Treasurer’s Report.**Feb. collection $87.  Paid $240 to Senior Center. Balance $5227.34. Some of this is from donations earmarked for digitizing the old Leaders.

**Sheriff Siebert.**Crime stats for July. Numbers up: Calls 497. Reports 51. Officer initiated 127 and 19 reports, 22 arrests. 844 calls, 88 reports, 25 arrests (includes AV). Lots more domestic disturbance, mental health issues. Have shut down 47 marijuana grows. Rebuilding faster than sheriffs can shut down. Over 200 grows in LV. Chuck described LVEDA campaign to get Code Enforcement and MWA to deal with illegal water usage by growers and check for grants for economically disadvantaged communities to reinforce law enforcement. Roger Peterson: why can’t we involve feds thru DEA to prosecute these growers, since it’s only misdemeanor in CA. Bell: the community is not unified due to those who benefit from the extra income selling water. Much animated discussion about the situation, with many inputs from residents who are UPSET with the situation around their homes and in LV everywhere. Must phone locations into the substation (760)2486686. Richard counted over 60 people at the meeting unanimously angry about the situation and the failure of the County to deal with it. Sheriffs not at fault. Code Enforcement dysfunctional.

**Congressman Cook, by Dakota**.   Cook is headed to become First District Supervisor. Working on water treatment facility for 29 Palms Marine base. Re potential listing of Joshua Tree as endangered species by CA Fish & Game. Feds say it is baseless. It would harm new development. We need to respond with a letter (LVEDA has responded.) Re marijuana grows: feds won’t take down grows in any state where marijuana is legal. Dakota will contact liason with DEA to see what else might be done to fight the grows. Cook is vehemently against marijuana, and will fight it as County Supervisor.

**Peter Livingston for LVUSD** Described the struggle to get the schools reopened but they are hitting a brick wall with the state holding us hostage to SB County stats which don’t apply to the desert. Lots of community support to reopen but there is silence from the state. School district is joining a lawsuit and also filing one of its own against the state to force the issue. The eastern portion of SB County (mostly desert areas) have the stats that qualify us to reopen schools, businesses, etc. Follow updates on YouTube or Facebook. Looking like the state won’t allow any opening until Aug. 17. If our little district wins, it will pave the way for other small school districts to open, too. People are watching what happens. Our district believes in parent choice and will work with parents to educate kids however they wish, and we are strong in charter schools.

Edie Downs and doctor from new clinic in town. Dr. Nguyen is from Orange County and has several clinics and does quite a bit of charity work. Clinic open M-F, 10A-3P. Primary care. Bloodwork. Phone number 760-6250052. By appointment only.

Meeting adjourned 6:35PM

**Third District by Mark Lundquist.**

**MWA by Jim Ventura**.

**LV Schools report**by Jessica Risler.

Meeting adjourned 7PM