MINUTES

LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (LVEDA)

TUESDAY, OCT 3, 2017 -- 5PM -- SENIOR CENTER

Meeting called to order 5PM. Minutes approved, moved Magee, second Rib. Attendance taken.

Treasurer's report: Collection last month $57. Balance $4206.46.

Introductions.

Sgt. Siebert. of Sheriff's Dept. -- Stats for September. Deputy Batiste leaving for Ontario PD, a loss to our community. Department has only one team (MJ Task Force) to patrol all of the marijuana grows in the County. 349 dispatch calls – 114 reports. Outdoor MJ growth is currently illegal – but only a misdemeanor. Indoor growing – only 6 plants/adult – must live at residence.

Cong. Cook (Dakota Higgins) Obamacare fix died in Senate. Next year will focus on tax reform. One bill would require a person to forfeit welfare benefits who have active warrants. Another bill would ban abortions over 20 weeks. Chuck: should we do tax reform with huge bills due from hurricane relief and more? Yes, over the long run, tax cuts jump start the economy, create jobs, increase revenue. Chuck: Is Cook interested in facilitating our land exchange so that we have private property along the rail spur? Possibly. Chuck: re DRECP DFA's, Community Plan, etc. -- Get state lands exchanged so that they are located in areas where solar projects won't be such a fight. Need meetings on this subject. BLM gave parcels to 4 cities.

Assemblyman Obernolte by Chris Scott. Repeated doom and gloom mentioned last month, re bad legislation passed during this session, e.g. increased gas tax. Water tax of .95 on water bills was deferred for a year. To be used for low income housing. SB2, real estate tax, pending approval by governor. Chuck requested that we meet with State Lands Commission representative to consider trading lands so renewable projects get located other places.

Third Dist. new rep is Mark Lundquist, who is also the MAC chairman for Morongo Valley, so he is in sympathy with our fight against the renewable projects. (Not present)

Book project reported by Bill Lembright. Moving sloooowly.

MAC meeting reported by Roger Peterson. Received another package from the County on a new project called Calcite 1. All potential projects clustered together. Will destroy the view of the Valley for all residents south of Foothill Rd. Checked out the questionnaires that these projects have had to fill out. Found almost all answers No when they should be Yes. Wrote the County with explanations of why the answers are wrong and how they are wrong. Requested that the questionnaires be thrown out or returned for correction.

Scenic Hwy 247 has eligibility to be designated a state Scenic Highway, by certain criteria that must not be violated. This might be used to slow down or stop these projects. Also, possible delays may come from the fact that these projects are across waterways. John Smith mentioned Cal ISO trying to develop consortium with several states for renewables, which we might be able to use to slow projects. SCE told the CPUC it won't do PPA's with any more companies until 2030, so our projects are near the end of the line. Maybe end the line before our projects – but which they all probably have PPAs. Too much excess solar generation now.

Richard and Community Plan. VERY poorly written, actually insulting after all the work our community put into it, which is now ignored. There are a series of meetings on Countywide Plan coming up. Barstow meeting on 10/5, 5PM, Joshua Tree 10/11, Hesperia 10/12 10AM and Big Bear 10/12. More meeting on 10/26.

Chuck comments on Action Plan related to Community Plan. Really out of touch with the reality of a small rural community and our lack of resources to perform their dog and pony show activities.

Richard gave a short review of the Senior Community and the impacts from the Needs Assessment. Will have to go into it in depth next month, for lack of time tonite.

Chuck Bell on Renewal Energy Conservation Element. Supervisors of County passed this RECE without the critical provision that these projects not be allowed in areas with Community Plans.

Linda Reported on St. Mary Health Van starting service on Thursday Oct. 5 in the parking lot by Dr. Melvani's office.

Oct. 28 Household hazardous waste collection at fire station.

October 31 Tailgate in parking lot by Senior Center. $15 to sponsor. Free tailgaters.

Ride in the Rocks November 4. Funds will help the school with science education.

Meeting adjourned 6:45.