MINUTES

LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (LVEDA)

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 -- 5PM -- Senior Center

Meeting called to order. Introductions.

**Minutes approved**. Moved by David Rib. Second Brashear.

**Treasurer's** **report**. Collection 6/5/18 was $104.00. Balance $4191.55. Outstanding check to SCE for grant application.

**Sheriff's Report.** Stats presented by Sgt. Rodriguez. For month of June: 572 calls, 52 reports. July: 498 calls, 33 reports. Question: how many deputies assigned to LV? Answer: 8 positions, of which only 3 filled. Relying on fill-in from VV and AV. 7 deputies in training. Hoping to get 2 assigned here.

**Dakota Higgins for Congressman Cook.** Reviewed several bills. HR2365 Desert Community Lands Act. Conveys certain federal lands to AV, 29 Palms, VV, and Barstow for development uses. May get rolled into a larger bill. National Defense Authorization act HR2810, in which $22M is authorized for Fort Irwin, which could be a big boost to the High Desert.

**Shannon Dunkle for Assemblyman Obernolte.** Regarding state budget, Rainy Day Fund is at its max and cannot be overfunded, so there is a $9 billion surplus. Rather than refund to taxpayers, CA is planning to set up a new fund for this money. Gas tax money to be used to build rail between San Bernardino and Redlands.

**Mark Lundquist, Third District**. SB5 Fire Tax ordinance. SB County Fire Chief and deputy will be at MAC meeting 8/16 to tell us about tax. Will not be simply imposed but will face a protest vote. Must reach 25% and then goes to general election. 50% protests will kill it outright. Dealing with issues with transfer station operation and refusal of loads. Use app for phones SBCode for simple and easy reporting to Code Enforcement. Roger Peterson of the MAC encourages as many as possible to attend next MAC to let them know we care about the fire tax issue.

* **School District report** by email from Peter Livingston: School starts for students on Thursday, August 9th this week.
* Our Solar project is nearing completion. You can see the panels if you drive by the schools in the parking lots.
* The Bud Biggs STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) lab at Lucerne Valley Elementary School is complete. Our teachers have been trained and it will be open for our students this year. This lab is 1 of 6 state of the art Smart Labs in the state of California that have been installed by Creative Learning Solutions.
* We have 12 new teachers hired for this year and a new Assistant Principal and Principal at the Middle/High School. Nate Lambdin is taking over as Principal there. He comes to us with a successful background in teaching, coaching, and leadership. His past 9 years were at Mojave High School in Hesperia. Our Assistant Principal is Kelly Boeing who comes to us from Hesperia too. She has a strong background in teaching and has gradually increased her leadership roles. Her references for us were outstanding.

**Progress on LV book.** Bill Lembright reported that Debbie Schultz has been working on the layout, and has 3 ½ of 9 chapters completed. Also working on proofing those chapters.

Chuck announced that Debbie Schultz was appointed to the Board to fill out Jean Magee’s position until the end of the year, when the term ends.

**OMYA presentation** by Craig Maetzold, showing the quarry expansion that has been in the works for a very long time. All work in Holcomb Valley and not visible from LV. White Knob Quarry to the west not involved. Draft EIR now available for public comment. Showed project location and boundary maps. Adds 20 years to Sentinel quarry and 40 years to Butterfield quarry. Two areas now completely restored (Can we have a tour to see? – Pat Flanagan). LVEDA to support project with mitigation/restoration measures.

**California Opportunity Pilot Study** presented by four interns working with academics at Stanford and Princeton who are running the study in preparation for a book and to make data available to gov’t agencies. Purpose to get real stories and contacts to say what it’s like to make ends meet in CA. LV selected as one of several areas in the state, and 40 families/persons within LV to respond to their research.

**Sheriff John McMahon at MAC meeting.** Linda Gommel gave a summary of Sheriff McMahon’s comments at the MAC meeting. Included stats about the County and the sheriff’s activities, reports on legislation impinging on their ability to enforce laws, Sanctuary State situation, marijuana grows, and more. Excellent presentation by the sheriff.

Mulch and biosolids situation progressing, with County EHS issuing rules for types of material allowed and how to handle it. EHS produced flyers for mulch, compost and bio solids in English/Korean/Spanish.

Scenic Hwy 247 still in process. LVEDA is on the committee but most work done by JV and Morongo folks.

County RECE – still waiting to hear when Planning Commission’s recommendation will come before Board of Supervisors.

Korean Jujube Coop of Lucerne Valley introduced themselves, shared samples of their Lucerne Valley Jujubes (Asian Dates) already packaged attractively for sale at retail. They want to do a jujube festival here in conjunction with the Chamber. Make LV the jujube capital of US, due to perfect climate.

**Adjourned** 7PM (Whew! Meeting packed with important stuff!)