

El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

7:00 pm

Members Present: Thomas Lang, Tom Owens George Cleveland, Melinda V. Mclain, Mikki Norris, Jim Hermann, Shirley Rosenthal-Winston

Members Absent: Joe Sarapochillo

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm and the roll was taken.

Presentation Items:

P.1. **Supervisor John Gioia** gave an update regarding Covid-19 and the County's response. There have been no Covid-19 related deaths and 166 positive cases reported in El Sobrante. Hospitalizations have started to decrease slightly. He shared that the County still has not used its overflow beds (250 beds) at the Craneway Pavilion in Richmond and there also overflow beds available at the Antioch Fairgrounds. The County has been focused on reaching out to the Latino/Latinx community. They account for approximately half of the cases, but are only about 25% percent of the county's population. Similar to other counties, Contra Costa passed an administrative fine ordinance to assist with enforcement, but no one has yet been fined under it. Education has been the main vehicle to get people to abide by the health order. He also encouraged residents to continue wearing a mask and get tested.

P.2. **Lt. Buford, Bay Station Commander** reported for the month of July there were 762 calls for service, down from 801 in June and 810 in May. There was a homicide that occurred in June and the Sheriff's Office was able to apprehend and arrest the suspect without incident. In terms of violent crimes and crimes against other persons, El Sobrante has been stable. Lt. Buford also shared that their dispatch hasn't received many calls related to Covid-19 violations.

P.3. **Firefighter Slack with CCCFPD** reported for the month of July there were 120 calls for service for Station 69 in El Sobrante. **Assistant Chief Lon Goetsch** gave an overview of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ConFire). ConFire is a full-service agency that provides fire suppression and advanced life support services as well as providing 911 dispatch services. There are 26 Fire Stations, 28 companies and more than 400 employees. There are 2 Fire Stations in West County, Station 69 on Appian Way and Station 70 on San Pablo Ave. in San Pablo, but will soon be moving to 23rd and Market Street in San Pablo. The district anticipates the new Station 70 will be complete in the Spring of 2021. All of the fire agencies in West County operate under an automatic aid agreement and ConFire provides dispatch services for all of those agencies. The district is taking measures

to protect its firefighters and the residents they're responding to from Covid-19. In an effort to fight complacency within their agency, they held a districtwide safety stand-down. Portions of El Sobrante are within the high fire hazard severity area, making El Sobrante a priority for ConFire. Chief Goetsch also spoke of a new normal in terms of wildland fires. The wildfire season is beginning earlier and lasting longer.

Discussion/Action Items:

DI.1. The council was asked to submit edits to James Lyons regarding the draft letter of support for the San Pablo Dam Road Pedestrian Crossings project.

Standing Committees:

No reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Minutes prepared by Office of Supervisor John Gioia.