

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
April 28, 2015

**"For all items NOT on the agenda"**

**(Each Speaker Limited to 3 Minutes)**

**Voluntary Sign In Sheet**  
**(Public Appearances – 9:00am)**

✓ 1. Charles L. Ciancio

2.

3.

✓ 4. Peter Mjeller

5.

✓ 6. Jack Newman

6.

✓ 7. Sovereign

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

~~15. Dan Zimmerman~~

16.

Date: 4/27/15

To: Everyone

Subject: Messes Coming (Verbal Input)

I get the impression most do not see the coming messes I and many experienced old farts see coming. For years I have tried to wake others up by presenting factual realities which need to be resolved in many public ways. Problems needing resolution involve the following

Guns, drugs, immigration, Hillary messes, chopping heads off in the middle east, IRS mess, Benghazi, Russia and Ukraine, elected folks laughing when someone is trying to help expose problems, full and proper use of natural resources and properly applied disturbance, unjustified protectionism, slanted media, improperly applied legalese, ignoring historically proven and peer reviewed field experienced professionals using science and site specific facts in a logical and common sensical way, unaccountable Fourth Branch of Government running wild, and on and on.

Our little corner of the world problems get lost in world problems, but the same handling of problems has been reached locally where real world facts applied by those in power replace logic, and common sense with unproven facts, theory, and speculation, taxpayers accept a lot of stupidity, and many are going along for the ride.

1. Excess water due to a dam is illogically restricted by regulations and misunderstood protectionism resists long term solutions to water problems which would help fish, and economic problems.
2. Properly applied disturbance is not allowed to occur which helps special places and things like fish and spotted owls.
3. Fire fuels are created by misplaced protectionism, and uncontrolled fire harms and kills many species and humans.
4. Many advisory committees do like a Forest Review Committee which spends two hours BSing without knowing connection of some terms and definitions to the real world.
5. Fights between protectionists, fishermen, private landowners, loggers, and other natural resource user groups are promoted, and this will not end well.
6. California collects CDF fire fees not shared with those actually fighting fire

You may think I am off my rocker and laugh at my thoughts, but you can not deny a lot of illogical, erroneous thinking is creating many divides and many separate minority groups.

Burying our heads in the sand and not having factual, principled confrontation is not going to end well.

## **My Perfect world**

**I have not experienced or learned it all in my lifetime**

But a life full of tough hurdles for around seventy years which others will have a tough time topping

Includes around fifty year's handling many real world rural and other problems

**What I have learned is provided in the following thoughts**

**It would be an individual and moral choice  
to help the weak, disabled, poor, and others legitimately needing help**

**Full and proper use of natural resources**

And

**Properly applied disturbance**

**Would be used to provide food, protection, and habitats for all things.**

All things would include special species and places

Like spotted owls, fish, and parks, better control of fire, and healthier economies, especially in rural communities,

This would make needed things healthier and more plentiful,

and

Make this country stronger and better able to handle all kinds of problems.

## **Protectionism**

**Only for the few would not be promoted,**

and

**Would only play a part in my perfect world.**

Protectionism forces many into special places, adversely affecting special things,

Protectionism stops full and proper use of natural resources, stops properly applied disturbance

and

Reduces feed and habitats for many things

## **Unjustified control, and unproven speculation and theory**

By unknowledgeable and unaccountable media, political groups, those with money and power,

Often heavy-handed, confusing, unjustified, misinterpreted, misapplied legalese process,

Uncaring and unaffected folks, and Fourth Branch of Government

**Would not occur**

## **Field experience**

Applying historical and peer reviewed science and site specific facts with logic, common sense and open-mind

**Would not be ignored**

**Bad actions and bad people would not be explained away**

When reality says otherwise

**Compromise not using real world facts**

(Which lets a lot of bad continue)

**Would not be allowed to happen**

Those who feel and think like me would speak-out more

**My perfect world includes these things**

Date: 4/27/15  
To: Whoever  
Subject: Messes in the real world

Atlas, the guy holding up the world, represents the knowledgeable, routinely provided by older folks, who utilize historically proven and peer reviewed science and site specific facts with a mix of logic and common sense, is shrugging.

He is shrugging and being replaced by unproven theory and speculation promoted by unelected and unaccountable media, politicians, those with money and power, protectionist thinking, confusing and misapplied legalese, and Fourth Branch of Government .

The listed folks are laughing at those trying to head off the coming messes.

Examples of what is happening include a current local water mess. Excess water caused by the demise of pulp mills, which is being followed by the demise of the timber industry, understood to be the county's largest private economic contributor in a county where half the economy depends on taxpayer money, is illogically restricted by California's Governor. This is occurring, while protectionist thinking is running wild resisting more properly run dams to help store water that runs unused to the ocean and solve long term problems, to help avoid hurt and death for many fish, and to help local economies.

Another example is unproven and speculated protectionist thinking that fights properly applied disturbance to avoid hurt and death for many species and humans and to create feed and habitats liked by many species like spotted owls and fish.

To illustrate how we have reached a point where large unknowledgeable committees waste a lot of time and have us chasing our tails, I present the following. After two hours sitting, giving little input, and listening to a lot of supposedly knowledgeable folks word-smith and provide a lot of B.S. at a Forest Review committee meeting, I asked who made up the list of terms and wording being discussed and how anything being presented fit into county's General Plan. No one could answer my question. My originally presented thoughts (copy attached) to all known regulatory bodies involving duplication and confusion created by the wording in the General Plan had already been ignored. I asked how the lawyers and average folks were going to understand the new General Plan rules, and I was told that did not matter to the Forest Review Committee. I did not fall off the turnip truck yesterday, and I know confusion by those having to enforce and live the new rules were not always going to have professionals around to explain the created confusion unless enough was paid to professionals handling legal and permit interpretations and understandings.

**Real world factual information is fought against by those in power**, the Ayn Rand folks are sitting on their hinnies, and the world in many ways is going to the dogs.

Charles L. Ciancio  
(An old tired field forester, who has lived the real world no one gives much attention)  
California Registered Professional Forester (RPF) #317  
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**Media folks live in a different world than  
working, family, taxpaying,  
low to low middle income folks.**

(Fox, Beck, O'Reilly, Rush Limbaugh preach to their choirs while many using hi-tech ignore the real world often beating the pants off Fox, Beck, O'Reilly, and Limbaugh messaging)

**It is a sad reality  
working, family, taxpaying, low to low middle  
income folks**

(Busy living their lives, not fitting personalized agendas, and without ability to access and understand hi-tech and other information thrown their way)

**are being abandoned.**

**Away we go, not knowing where,**

but

*With no choice,* **Going along for the ride**

Charles L. Ciancio

(An old tired field forester, who has lived the real world no one gives much attention)

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# Fire prevention groundwork helps avert disaster

By AMY GITTELSON  
THE TRINITY JOURNAL

The dramatic sight of large air tankers roaring over Weaverville and releasing plumes of red fire retardant to protect the town from the Oregon fire in August is a memorable one.

But the groundwork that prevented the Aug. 24 fire from doing more damage than it did began some months before.

Firefighters who tamed the wind-driven flames credit a prescribed-fire treatment the previous fall by the U.S. Forest Service and volunteer firefighters for helping them stop the fire's advance on the many homes in harm's way until the wind calmed.

The vehicle-sparked Oregon fire that started next to Highway 299 and skirted Weaverville from west to north slowed down when it reached the treated areas in the Weaverville Community Forest and Weaver Basin Trail System and was held in check on a ridge above the Weaverville Airport. About 200 homes were evacuated the day of the fire which burned 580 acres and a large barn.

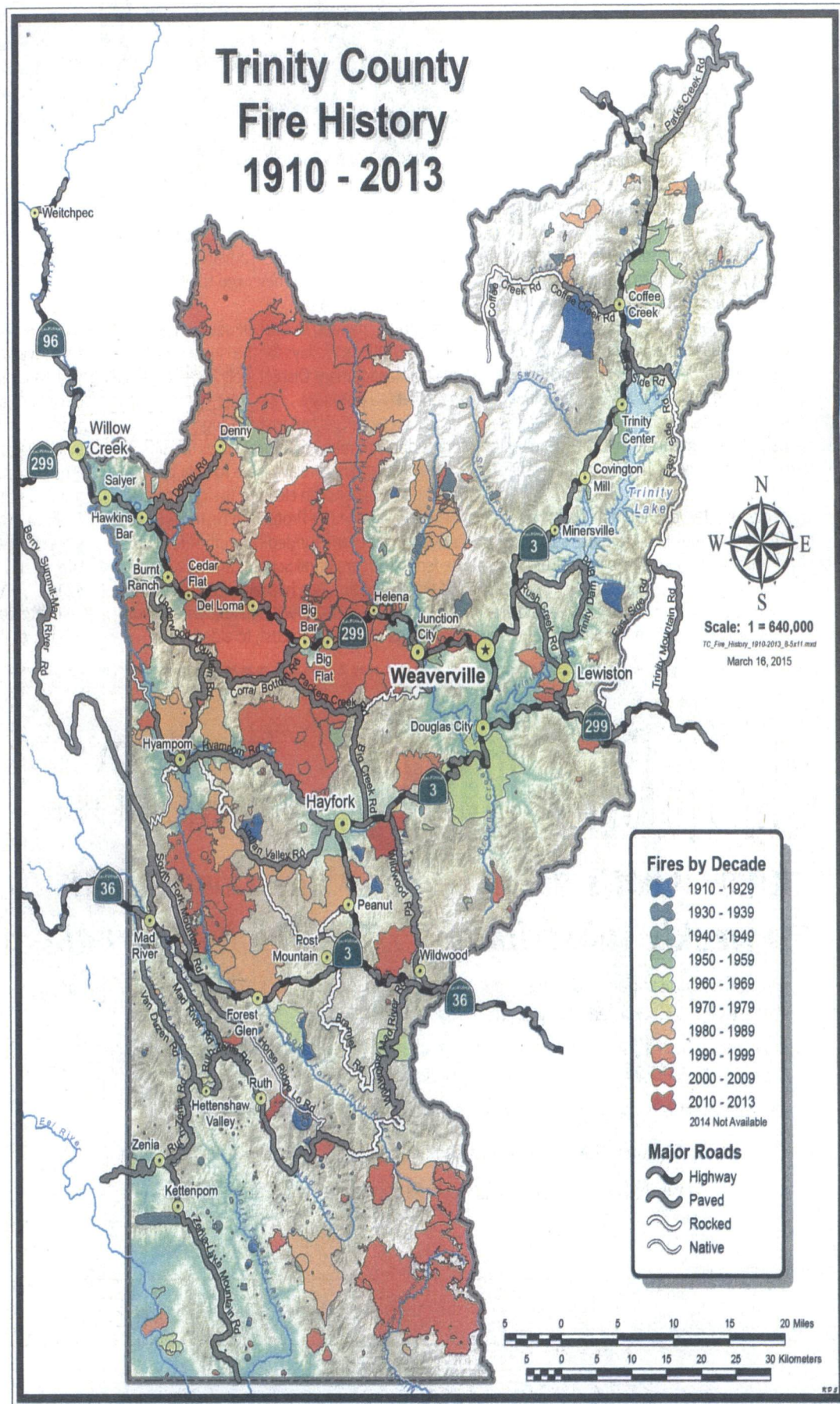
"Obviously, the controlled burn we did had a big influence on what happened with the fire afterwards," said Weaverville Fire Chief Scott Alvord. "When that fire comes through an area and we can keep it on the ground we have a lot better success in extinguishing it."

As the next fire season fast approaches, Alvord said this work in the forest, coupled with fuels reduction around homes and proper construction of buildings to code, are all the pieces that need to be in place to protect communities.

Alvord believes residents in this area are very aware of the need for fuels reduction around their homes and "overall people are prepared."

He did, however, notice certain work that should have been done beforehand taking place as the Oregon fire burned, "a lot of people on their roofs with blowers getting needles off the roof," Alvord said. "That's not what you want to be doing."

Hayfork Fire Chief Dave Loeffler,



analysis and determine the appropriate mitigation per Plan and state standards. Future noise levels shall be predicted for a period of at least 10 years from the time of building permit application.

**N-S4. Noise Study Requirements.** When a discretionary project has the potential to generate noise levels in excess of Plan standards, a noise study together with acceptable plans to assure compliance with the standards shall be required. The noise study shall measure or model as appropriate, Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) and Maximum Noise Level (Lmax) levels at property lines and, if feasible, receptor locations. Noise studies shall be prepared by qualified individuals using calibrated equipment under currently accepted professional standards and include an analysis of the characteristics of the project in relation to noise levels, all feasible mitigations, and projected noise impacts. *The Noise Guidebook* published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or its equivalent, shall be used to guide analysis and mitigation recommendations.

**N-S5. Uniform Building Code.** Use the Uniform Building Code as adopted for California (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Appendix Chapter 12) for determining required noise separation requirements for buildings.

**N-S6. Noise Standards for Habitable Rooms.** Noise reduction shall be required as necessary to achieve a maximum of 45 CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level) interior noise levels in all habitable rooms per California building standards.

**N-S7. Noise Reduction Requirements for Exterior Areas in Residential Zones.** On new single family residential lots of 5,000 square feet or more, a usable outdoor living area at least 200 square feet in size per dwelling unit that meets the 60 CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level) standard shall be maintained somewhere on the property.

**N-S8. Short-term Noise Performance Standards Maximum Noise Level (Lmax).** The following noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all property within their assigned noise zones and such standards shall constitute the maximum permissible noise level within the respective zones.

**SHORT-TERM NOISE STANDARDS (Lmax)**

<u>Zoning Designation</u>	Day (maximum)	Night (maximum)
	6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
	<u>dBA</u>	<u>dBA</u>
CG, MG, MC, AE, TPZ, TC	85	75
CN, MB, ML	80	70
RM	70	60
RS, R2, RA	65	60

4-28-15

PLEASE READDRESS THE STRAW VOTE ON N-S7.

KENT SAWATZKY

# Donald R. Reynolds

Certified Public Accountant

## MANAGEMENT LETTER

Board of Supervisors  
County of Humboldt  
Eureka, CA

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the County of Humboldt for the year ended June 30, 2008, I considered the County of Humboldt's internal control structure in order to determine my audit procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements but not provide assurance on the internal control structure.

During our audit I noted certain matters involving the internal control structure that I consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in my judgment, could affect the County of Humboldt's ability to record, process, summarize, and report the financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

## PRIOR YEAR RECOMMENDATIONS

### Fund Balance Reconciliation

**Prior Recommendation:** I recommended that the County reconcile fund balance amounts to the prior year audited balances on a monthly basis. The County did not implement this recommendation. The County continues to have unreconciled fund balances.

**Current Status:** This recommendation is basic in account maintenance and should be implemented immediately.

### Written Accounting, Administrative and Fraud Policies Manual

**Recommendation:** I recommended that the County develop and maintain an up-to-date accounting, fraud prevention, purchasing and administrative policies and procedures manual.

**Current Status:** It is my understanding that the Auditor-Controller's office is working on this but no completion deadline has been established.

### Loan Administration Agreements

See current recommendations.

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I recommend that the County develop policies on this type of borrowing which include signed notes and collateral. Many of these governments have little collateral and the loans of this type may never be repaid.

### **Decentralization**

The Auditor-Controller is responsible for the financial records and is the lead department in implementing and maintaining internal controls. In most counties, the Auditor-Controller is the resource for departments in obtaining data for management purposes. I noted that the County's departments associated with health and human services are almost autonomous, in that they place very little reliance on the controls and expertise of the Auditor-Controller. These departments have over 60% of the County's employees and a greater amount of County revenue. Health and Human Services have their own internal auditor and analysts. Clearly, Health and Human Services have more resources to devote to the accounting process than is provided by the general fund to the Auditor-Controller. This decentralization is resulting, in my opinion, in the development of two distinct internal control systems. The Health and Human Services departments have needs that are not currently being met by the Auditor-Controller's office and have not hesitated to fill their own needs.

Having two parallel systems can be expensive. I noted many good practices in the Health and Human Services departments that would be valuable controls County-wide.

I recommend that the Auditor-Controller and Health and Human Services work together in developing stronger controls County-wide.

In discussions with County personnel I noted that the Auditor-Controller is not fully aware of all the types of transactions that go on in the departments. The CDBG loan finding stated above is an example of this. I was really unable to ascertain if departments were reluctant to seek guidance from the Auditor-Controller's office or the Auditor-Controller's office lacks the staff to stay on top all the departments.

I recommend that the Auditor-Controller's office provide the leadership and consider adding an internal auditor to the staff.

### **Audit Committee**

Unlike most counties, Humboldt County does not have an audit committee. An audit committee is a standing committee of the Board of Supervisors. The audit committee works directly with the independent auditor. The committee is responsible for the engagement of an auditor and meets with the auditor in the audit planning and risk assessment phases of the annual audit. The committee meets with the auditor at the conclusion of the audit and is the auditor's contact should any difficulties be encountered during the audit.

I recommend that an audit committee be formed.



**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

**Management Report  
with Required Communication**

**For the Year Ended June 30, 2014**

**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

Management Report – Current Year Comments and Recommendations  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

**GOVERNMENTAL TRUST FUNDS** (continued)

Management Response

Generally accepted accounting principles hold that the ideal number of trust funds a government should have is the smallest number that enables that government to achieve its purposes. The number of trust funds established by the County of Humboldt over the past several decades has proliferated with adverse effect on accounting controls, especially in light of the reduced number of accounting staff overseeing the general ledger in recent years.

We agree that many currently active trust funds should be closed and those funds moved into budgeted accounts in the main County operating trusts. The Auditor-Controller and County Administrative Office will work with departments to identify trust funds that should be closed in order to simplify our account structure.