

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
May 2, 2017

“For all items *NOT* on the agenda”

(Each Speaker Limited to 3 Minutes)

Voluntary Sign-In Sheet

1. *Claudia Cranford* *Eureka Woman's Club*
2. *Miller & Wynn*
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Date: 4/24/17
To: Everyone
Subject: Real World

I am not out of my mind and have some learned thoughts which will not be mentioned at this time.
If the following gets spread around, I will have done something with my time on earth

Humans do not watch and learn

Without good health, you have nothing, and without life's essentials like food, you are SOL. Need to plow, raising livestock, growing a tree, and disturbance required for many species like fish and humans are not being learned. With all the dead trees, I see fire as unavoidable.

As a person who has been a lead field forester around woods workers, wood manufacturers, and those who sell wood products, someone who has hunted and fished, who has worked hard on ranches and wild lands in California, who retains learned real world realities, and although I believe he is citified, who voted for Trump, I expect him to help working folks especially in Rural America and in making things so We Can Have Much Much Much more. Maybe, I will be forced to think Ayn Rand and my dad are wrong about coming revolution and World War III.

I see current divide(s) and messes not going away which are created by all forms of the media, preservationists, protectionists, lousy PR by the timber industry, politicians, legalese (which is all over the place), those who have it made, Fourth Branch of Government (regulators), working folks (who have not learned real world realities), and by progressives and other humans in the USA and the world.

Seeing Trump and others miss what is happening in Rural America, I have a hard time believing anything any more. Being older and wiser, being hit on the head a few times, and seeing things go badly for many species and humans, I learned life is not fair and balanced for everything. Being at the end of my life and in the voting minority especially in California, I see many not paying attention to real world experienced folks who are outvoted and have not experienced hard realities.

As I learned

USA is not a democracy. It is a democratic republic.
Being of sound mind and body at 73, I see humans needing to watch and learn.

Charles L. Ciancio
California Registered Professional Forester (RPF) #317
(An old tired field forester no one gives much attention who has lived in a working man's world)
P.O. Box 172, Cutten (near Eureka in redwood country), CA 95534
707-443-2179

CAPITOL TRACKER

Gas tax, vehicle fees fund repairs

Various sources offer different estimates of Humboldt's share

By Ruth Schneider
rschneider@times-standard.com
@RuthOUTspoken on Twitter

On Friday, Gov. Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 1, the transportation package that was rushed through the state Legislature to provide some funding for the state's crumbling infrastructure.

"Safe and smooth roads make California a better place to live and strengthen our economy," Brown said in a statement released by his office. "This legislation will put thousands of people to work."

North Coast Sen. Mike McGuire, who is one of the sponsors of the bill, praised its passage and the signing into law.

"Our communities are home to some of the worst roads in the state, we can't keep kicking the can down the crumbling road," he said in a statement. "Advancing a tax increase is never easy, especially for California residents who have to foot the bill, but we have a transportation funding crisis. Our roads, highways and bridges are literally falling apart and tens of millions of California commuters, businesses and travelers have literally been paying the price for the lack of action."

SB 1 aims to address a \$59 billion backlog in deferred maintenance on state highways and \$78 billion on local streets and roads.

"Humboldt County alone has over \$200 million in deferred maintenance before this recent storm damage," 2nd District Supervisor Estelle Fennell told the Times-Standard in February.

Funding from SB 1 could help with that, but it's not likely to make a huge dent.

Depending on who you ask, the estimate for dispersal to Humboldt County

CAPITOL » PAGE 3

Capitol

FROM PAGE 2

differs.

According to a statement from McGuire's office, Humboldt County could receive about \$7.7 million annually in funding as a result of the transportation bill.

In February, the California State Association of Counties estimated it would be a bit higher, around \$8.9 million for Humboldt County and anywhere from \$12,000 to \$935,000 for the incorporated cities.

According to information provided by H.D. Palmer, deputy director of external affairs in the state's Department of Finance, the estimate is considerably lower. He said the state Controller's Office is estimated to give about \$1.7 million to Humboldt County for local streets and roads. The local cities would receive as little as \$2,436 for Trinidad or as high as \$180,580 for Eureka, according to a spreadsheet from Palmer.

Palmer did not respond to an email question about the discrepancies between the various sources.

He said the funds from SB 1 would start going out

to counties early next year.

"The Board of Equalization indicates the increased amounts will start to flow in February," Palmer said.

But before it gets dispersed to cities and counties, residents are going to feel the pinch.

Starting Nov. 1, the gas tax will increase 12 cents per gallon, so filling up the tank will be more costly. That means that about 30 cents out of every gallon of fuel is just excise taxes. In July 2019, the excises taxes will increase to more than 47 cents per gallon.

Diesel users will see the current 16 cents per gallon rate jump to 36 cents per gallon. In addition, the diesel sales tax will jump from 1.75 percent to 5.75 percent.

And come January, the price to renew vehicle registration will increase anywhere from \$25 to \$175. The new "transportation improvement fee" is charged based on the value of the vehicle owned. For those with cars worth less than \$4,999, the fee is \$25. On the other end of the spectrum, those with vehicles worth more than \$60,000 will pay a base fee of \$175.

Ruth Schneider can be reached at 707-441-0520.

McGUIRE'S OFFICE 7.7 million
 STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 8.9 million
 STATE CONTROLLERS OFFICE ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE 1.7 million
 22% OF 7.7 million
 19% OF 8.9 million

WHY ?