Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council

Supervisor Shanelle Scales - Preston, District V

Dr Anthony Hodge
Chairperson of the Rodeo MAC
189 Parker Ave
Rodeo, CA 94553

The Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council serves as an advisory body to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the County Planning Agency.

RECORD OF ACTION (MINUTES)

June 28, 2026 | 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order @ 7:06 PM & Roll Call

- Meeting called to order with a quorum present.
- Roll Call: Present; Anthony Hodge, Deborah Drake, Lauren McCollins.
- Absent: Jaron Davis.

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2. Public Comment

Kemi's Kitchen – Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO)

- A Rodeo resident introduced herself and announced the launch of **Kemi's Kitchen**, a licensed Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO).
- The resident provided an overview of the licensing process through Contra Costa Health, including required food safety education, inspections, and permitting requirements.
- The resident shared her goal of educating others about the MEHKO program and encouraging legal home-based food businesses.
- MAC members congratulated the resident on the launch of Kemi's Kitchen and invited her to participate in the upcoming Rodeo Community Block Party.

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3. Approval of Agenda

- Motion: McCollins
- Second: Drake
- Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council Approved the May 28, 2026 Agenda as Submitted.
VOTE: 3-0; Ayes: Hodge, Drake, and McCollins; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Davis

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4. Approval of Record of Action – May 28, 2026

- Motion: McCollins
- Second: Drake
- Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council Approved the May 28, 2026 Minutes pending necessary changes made.
VOTE: 3-0; Ayes: Hodge, Drake, and McCollins; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Davis

5. Agency Reports

A. Office of Sherriff

Lieutenant Fitzgerald provided an update from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office.

- Reported activity included:
  - Two battery cases.
  - One grand theft case.
  - Vehicle tows.
  - Lost property reports.
  - Other miscellaneous incidents.
- Lieutenant Fitzgerald announced that this would be his final Rodeo MAC meeting due to a change in work assignment.
- Until a new station commander is appointed, the Rodeo Resident Deputy will provide Sheriff's Office reports at future meetings.
- MAC members thanked Lieutenant Fitzgerald for his leadership and service to the Rodeo community.
- Community members expressed appreciation for continued communication with the Sheriff's Office and requested continued law enforcement visibility during the transition.

B. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire)

- Battalion Chief Jim Brooks provided updates from Contra Costa Fire Protection District.
- July 1 will mark the one-year anniversary of the merger between the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District and Contra Costa Fire Protection District.
- The merger has strengthened regional collaboration while maintaining local service.
- Fire Chief McAlister has assumed leadership following Chief Broschard's' retirement.
- Fire season is underway, and additional staffing is planned for the Fourth of July holiday.
- Residents were reminded that all fireworks are illegal in Contra Costa County.

- Annual vegetation management training burns are being conducted in the Vista neighborhood to improve wildfire preparedness.
- Contra Costa Fire continues joint emergency response training with the Phillips 66 Refinery.
- Beginning in August, Battalion 7 will receive an additional Training/Safety Captain position based at Station 76.

Public Discussion:

- MAC members thanked Chief Brooks for the successful merger transition and the Fire District's continued commitment to public safety.

B. John Swett Unified School District

District representatives reported that the school year has concluded and summer school is underway.

- District updates included:
  - Approximately 70% of the middle school graduating class earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
  - Nineteen students completed the New Horizons Youth Employment Program in partnership with Mechanics Bank.
  - Several graduates are participating in paid work experience through the District's Maintenance and Operations Department.
- The program emphasizes:
  - Career readiness.
  - Mentorship.
  - Workplace expectations.
  - Professional development.
- Additional district updates included:
  - District enrollment is approximately 1,200 students.
  - Approximately 80% of students qualify for free or reduced-price meals.
  - Staff continue efforts to strengthen school culture and student achievement.
- The MAC commended the District's efforts and congratulated students on their accomplishments.

C. Office of Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston (District 5)

- District Representative Armando Carrasco provided the following updates:
  - Phillips 66 Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) grant review interviews were postponed due to quorum challenges. New interview dates are being coordinated.
  - Marathon CBA review meetings are also being rescheduled due to quorum challenges.
  - Ariel Mercado has been hired as the new Deputy Chief of Staff and will begin work in August. He previously served in Congressman Mike Thompson's office.
  - Supervisor Scales-Preston will hold Office Hours on June 29, 2026, from approximately 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM at 189 Parker Avenue.
  - Office Hours alternate between Rodeo and Crockett to provide evening access for residents.
  - The District Office continues recruiting applicants to fill the vacant Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council seat.
- MAC members thanked Mr. Carrasco for his responsiveness, communication, and continued engagement with the Rodeo community.

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6. Discussion Items/Presentations

Administrative Permit Application – 575 San Pablo Avenue

- The Municipal Advisory Council received a presentation regarding an Administrative Permit application for 575 San Pablo Avenue.
- The request would allow the continued operation of an existing commercial business following a change in ownership.
- The applicant explained that the business has operated at the location for approximately 14 years and specializes in filtering and extending the usable life of cooking oil for commercial kitchens, including restaurants, hospitals, universities, and other food service establishments.
- The filtration process removes food particles and contaminants from cooking oil to improve quality and reduce operating costs.
- Used cooking oil that is no longer suitable for filtration is collected and transported for biodiesel recycling.

Council Discussion:

- Members discussed:
  - Services provided by the business.
  - Health and safety regulations.
  - Business history at the location.
  - Disposal and recycling methods.
  - Whether the permit request included expansion or operational changes.
- The applicant clarified that the request was solely to allow continued operation under new ownership and that no expansion or operational changes were proposed.

Motion: Recommend approval of the Administrative Permit allowing continued operation of the existing business at 575 San Pablo Avenue.

- **Motion:** Drake
- **Second:** McCollins
- **Vote:** Motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: 3-0; Ayes: Hodge, Drake, and McCollins; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Davis

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7. Board Member Reports

- Chair Anthony Hodge Sr. announced that the annual **Rodeo Community Block Party** will be held on **Saturday, August 8, 2026**.
- Local businesses and community organizations were encouraged to participate.
- The Administrative Permit applicant was invited to host an informational booth during the event.
- The Board acknowledged financial support provided by the Office of Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston through a Community Impact Fund grant supporting the Community Block Party and Season of Sharing holiday assistance program.
- Phillips 66 was recognized for continued support of community initiatives.

Community Updates:

- Board members recognized the passing of local businessman Leesh Turner and extended condolences to his family.
- Members discussed the passing of a longtime unhoused community member and efforts to organize a memorial service while continuing outreach and supportive services.
- Members discussed expanding recovery resources in Rodeo, including Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings.

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8. **Adjournment**
   - Meeting adjourned following acknowledgments and closing remarks.
   - Next meeting: April 23, 2026.