SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1



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Jeffries Journal

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Kevin's Corner

How many layers of Government is enough? As you all know, we have numerous layers - Federal, State and Local. Within those 3 layers can be found endless sub-layers of bureaucracy – each empowered with its own set of rules, regulations, budget, and sometimes their own "enforcement" arm. Some of you may also be familiar with the various layers within our state government that have certain powers vested to them, such as the Coastal Commission, Regional Water Quality Control Boards & the California Air Resources Board – to name just a few. However – are you aware of the layers upon layers that we have right here at the local level?

I suspect most voters are somewhat familiar with County government and the Board of Supervisors, and even more folks can probably better identify their local city government and its city council. So how about the local school district? Better yet can you name your community college district? How about the water district or the ever popular Vector Control district? My point is – our locally created bureaucracy can be as thick as soup. And not every local agency is controlled by a governing Board that is directly elected by the voters. Some government entities are "Joint Powers Authorities" (JPAs) that are created and controlled by multiple local Government entities – not the voters. Below is a taste of just SOME of the elected and non-elected government agencies in our own backyards:

Directly Elected by Voters:

State Government (80 Assemblymembers, 40 Senators, and a Governor).

County Board of Supervisors (5 in Riverside and most other counties)

County Sheriff and Coroner

District Attorney

County Assessor/Clerk Recorder

County Auditor/Controller

County Treasurer/Tax Collector

City Government (Generally 5 City Council members, but not always)

School Boards (local school districts, community college districts, and the county school

Water District Board Members

Fire District Board Members (where applicable)

Parks District Board Members (where applicable)

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Government Bodies Not Elected, But Composed Of Appointed Local Elected Officials:

Southern California Association of Governments

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Riverside County Local Agency Formation Commission

Riverside County Transportation Commission

Riverside Transit Agency

Western Riverside Council of Governments

Coachella Valley Association of Governments

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

March Joint Powers Commission

Western Riverside Regional Conservation Authority

Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency

Lake Elsinore – San Jacinto Watershed Authority

Government Bodies Appointed By Elected Officials:

Vector Control Districts

Cemetery Districts

Riverside County Children & Families Commission / First Five

Resource (Water & Soil) Conservation Districts

And even beyond that, the Board of Supervisors itself also sits as the Board of Directors of ten other agencies, including the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, the Riverside County Regional Park & Open Space District, and the County Housing Authority, among others, and there is also a host of Advisory Commissions and Councils appointed by the Board of Supervisors that don't have any direct spending, regulatory, or planning powers.

The above is just small sampling of the government layers you might have the pleasure of dealing with someday that doesn't even account for the departments within the county or city or state or federal government. Does this mean we have too many layers of government, and too many boards and commissions and agencies and authorities? Almost certainly, though getting rid of them would generally mean placing that authority into one of the other agencies, and I can tell you that I certainly have no interest in the County being responsible for schools or water.

Former Governor Schwarzenegger once famously promised to "blow up the boxes" and get rid of all the unnecessary boards and commissions, and established a new commission to do the job. In the end, I think all we got out of the evaluation was the new commission!

My main point in showing you this list is simply this: There is a lot of government you are paying for that you don't even know about, and concerned citizens need to be aware of the many levels of government around them that can impact their lives. All of these groups are required to have public meetings, and all of them should have webpages that describe the mission of the agency, the members of the agency, and when they meet. I encourage you to take the time to dig deeper in any of these that might interest you, so that you might better understand what they are doing for you—or to you!

Respectfully, Kevin Jeffries

PS. I will be hosting a series of community resource meetings in the next few months with various members of the Riverside City Council. Our first meeting will be Thursday, February 19th 2015 from 6-7:30pm with Councilman Jim Perry at Hillcrest High School in the Multi-purpose room. Hope to see many of you there!

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County Boards and Commissions Appointee Profile

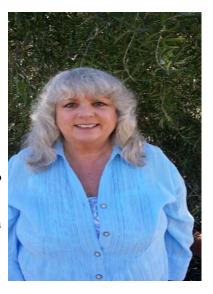
Each month, the Jeffries Journal will highlight one of the Supervisor's nearly 100 appointees on Boards and Commissions in the county, to provide an insight into the kind of service opportunities that exist, and the people who have chosen to serve.

Elsinore Murrieta Anza Resource Conservation District (EMARCD)

Vicki Long, Board Member

What does your Council do?

The district was formed in 1949 to protect and conserve soil and water under Division 9 of the State of California. As its name implies, the boundaries on the west end extend from Santiago Peak in the Cleveland National Forest & the cities of Lake Elsinore, Wildomar, Murrieta and Temecula, and east to the edge of the Anza Borrego desert. Lake Elsinore, Lake Skinner and Vail Lake are the largest bodies of water in the district. There are many streams and creeks and tributaries that run throughout the District: San Mateo, San Juan, Temescal, Murrieta and Temecula creeks and the Santa Margarita River. All of these waterways make up watersheds that end up in the ocean and the district's job, in cooperation with California Dept. Fish and Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corp and Regional Water Quality Control Board, is to keep them as natural and clean as possible.



Preserving local farming is another important part of the District since 1949. Local farming is so important to the area's sustainability and health.

What interested you in serving on the Board?

I was appointed to the EMARCD in 2007. Saving open space was and is very important to me. I was born in raised in Southern California and have watched while most of our open space has been developed into houses and roads. I believe the more natural an area is, the healthier it is for the people who live there. Growing up, I had local farms and groves surrounding my family home, so we always had farm fresh food and open space to ride horses, hike, and view wildlife.

Sound familiar? We have local farmer markets and local growers, open space to ride, hike and view wildlife. We need to work together to save and conserve this quality of life.

EMARCD has worked to save native turtles and bring back steelhead fish, protect endangered bird habitat with a 254 acre easement and promote connectivity of the Cleveland National Forest across the I-15 freeway for mountain lions and deer. For me this is a very interesting and rewarding Board position and a great opportunity to serve along with other board members who share the same values.

Our EMARCD Board members are Pamela Nelson, Kelcey Stricker, Rose Corona and Danny Martin all working to preserve and protect this way of life for future generations.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve and work with some great people while saving the environment.

Vicki Long EMARCD Page 4 Jeffries Journal

Supervisor Success Stories



Each month this column will highlight recent successes in Supervisor Jeffries' Office, whether it is assistance for a single citizen dealing with the county bureaucracy, a change in county policy to improve our community, or a promise kept by the Supervisor.

Supervisor takes on illegal dumping, creates task force.

As we have all been reading recently economists are stating the economy is beginning to turn the corner. Permits for new homes are on the increase locally, as are purchases of new furniture and home improvement projects. The unfortunate back story to this turnaround is illegal dumping.

Illegal dumping is on the increase district-wide, as evidenced by the images below. Dumping is occurring not only in the back canyon roads, but along State Highways, and even at recycling locations.

Concerned about this increase, the Supervisor and staff have reached out to our Waste Management and Code Enforcement Departments, as well as Waste Management Inc. to help us clean up these blighted areas. A new task force to combat illegal dumping will be hitting the streets soon in District 1, comprised of Work Release Program participants, volunteers with Code Enforcement, and a support team from County Waste Management.

Increased patrols from both Code Enforcement and the Riverside Sheriff's Department will also help deter illegal dumping. As always is the case, we encourage community assistance in this effort. If you see illegal dumping in progress please contact the Sheriff's office and make note of make/model/color/license plate of the vehicle if possible, and any special markings, such as a business name on the side of the vehicle. If you see illegally dumped items along the road side please contact Code Enforcement (951.776.3233) to report the location and be sure to note the nearest cross street as well.

Our office always stands ready to assist. If you have a specific area of concern where illegal dumping is taking place, please feel free to contact us. We will ensure your concerns are addressed promptly.









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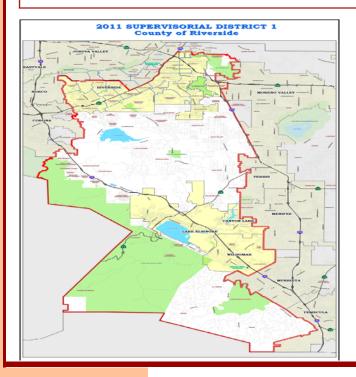
Non Profit Spotlight RIVERSIDE DICKENS FESTIVAL, INC.



For the past twenty years, the Riverside Dickens Festival has entertained residents and attracted tourists offering opportunities for aficionados of literature to enjoy dramatic presentations of the works of Charles Dickens and his contemporaries, while sparking an interest in a new generation of readers. Our goal is to provide educational, family-oriented activities that inspire an interest in reading and the arts and foster a sense of community by bringing people together in a spirit of celebration. The majority of activities are free to the public.

Attendance at the Festival is expected to reach 20,000 this year. This two-day event takes place on February 21st and 22nd in downtown Riverside near City Hall. The event truly provides something for everyone from free children's activities in Oliver's Alley to fascinating historical lectures and demonstrations for adults and children to enjoy together.

For more information on the Festival, go to http://www.dickensfest.com/



First District Profile



Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. This district covers the cities of Riverside, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and Wildomar, and unincorporated communities including Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Temescal Valley, Good Hope, Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Meadowbrook, La Cresta, Tenaja, and DeLuz Page 6 Jeffries Journal





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CORONA

METROLINK

Corona Transit Center CONNECTIONS: Metrolink, Corona Cruiser

Dos Lagos

Tom's Farms

LAKE ELSINORE Lake Elsinore

Outlet Center

Now Serving Temescal Valley





MURRIETA Walmart TEMECULA Promenade Mall

Chamber Joins State Leaders to Help Business with ADA Compliance Issues

The Chamber is joining California State Senator Richard Roth in providing a free seminar regarding Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance issues that may potentially affect local businesses. The panel will include Ida Clair, DSA Senior Architect for the Certified Access Specialist program, and Kimberly Stone, President of the Civil Justice Association of California. The seminar will highlight the top ten compliance violations and provide specific steps on how to come into compliance. Panelists will also describe recently enacted legislation that offers businesses a process to increase accessibility for the disabled while preventing costly litigation. The seminar will take place on March 6 from 8:00 - 9:30 AM on the first floor of the County Administrative Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 4080

