SUPERVISOR KEVIN JEFFRIES RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT #1

Jeffries Journal

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Leadership Starts At The Top - It was just a year or so ago that the Board of Supervisors reached agreement that new leadership and direction was needed in the County Executive Office. Even though the county has over 23,000 employees, the Board of Supervisors only hires (and fires) a very small handful of

leadership positions - the rest report to their respective department heads and ultimately to the County Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Your/our County CEO sets the pace, the vision, the direction, and must lead by example in the day to day managing of the 10th largest county in the nation (by population).

In February 2021, the Board agreed to hire Jeff Van Wagenen as the new County CEO. Jeff had worked in several departments within the county system, and knew where many of the county's strengths and weakness were located. Since assuming the CEO position, Jeff has been thoroughly engaged, maintains an open door, and unfortunately has had to make some difficult (sometimes ugly) decisions on some employee leadership changes in order to take the county (or a specific department) on a new path. I won't get into the sticky details, but suffice it to say, when you are running a ship as big as this county (2.4 million population, \$6 billion in total funds, 40 or so county department, 23,000 employees, and five elected bosses), nearly all of the county services are done well, many times above and beyond expectations. HOWEVER, sometimes all the various moving parts can literally fail - caused by any combination of one-size-fits-all state regulations, absent, lazy, or poor supervision, and sometimes simply caused by a lack of funding and staff to get the job done (to name just a few). I write this article because I believe you the voters and the taxpayers of this county need to know that tough decisions have been made, and I believe a few more need to be made to correct the course of this giant ship - and occasionally it won't be pretty to get there.

Redistricting – The State and Federal requirements of drawing new boundaries for the five County Supervisor seats (State and Federal partisan seats are being done by a statewide commission, NOT the Board of Supervisors) resulted in the first 4 draft maps being tossed out so that additional calculations (Voting Age Populations and ethnicity) could be more fully addressed. The most recent Public Hearing also resulted in several citizen drawn maps being submitted for consideration. My takeaway—few, if anyone, will get exactly what they were hoping for, and I suspect numerous (2 to 4) cities and communities are going to be split. Additional public hearings will be held, as we approach our December deadline for completion. For more details on the hearings and the draft maps, visit: https://rivco.org/about-county/county-boards-committees-and-commissions/county-redistricting-efforts

Temporary Events Permits – At the October 19th Board meeting, we approved modifications to our Temporary Events ordinance, that are designed to make it easier for legitimate events to occur (Christmas Tree lots, Pumpkin Patches, etc), while also cracking down on illegal commercial event operators, like the unpermitted wedding venues/party houses we get so many complaints about.

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We are also working to change the staffing models for Code Enforcement, so that more personnel will be available on evenings and weekends, when the illegal events are taking place. For more information, see the Form 11 and attachments from the agenda here: <u>https://tinyurl.com/</u> <u>TempEventsOrd</u>

Industrial Land - Last month I wrote about new leadership at the March Joint Powers Authority, this month various concepts are being "floated" to the JPA for several large industrial warehouse projects. One proposed site is directly behind the Ben Clark Training Center off of Van Buren (behind Village West), and the second proposed site is at the far west end of Cactus below the homes of Orange Crest and behind (north of) the Grove Church. Mead Valley also has several more in the pipeline, and even the Temescal Valley has a big industrial park in the draft concept stages. I'm not a fan of the big box warehouses and the truck traffic that comes with it, but they are all entitled to a hearing, and under state rules, I cannot pre-judge any of them until they get before me. Stay Tuned!

Local Drought – With the historic rains that Northern California recently received, it may be hard to believe that all of California remains in historic drought conditions, but our lakes are very empty, and much of the water in the state still flows straight to the ocean. It is critical that the massive reservoirs/lakes in Northern California and along the Colorado river be recharged this winter so that we (Southern California) can avoid hard hitting water conservation efforts. Keep an eye on those reservoirs/lakes this winter!

Pumped Storage – Speaking of reservoirs and water supply - for those of you who reside along the Cleveland National Forest, you can keep an eye on the regulatory review process for proposed Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage (LEAPS) project. The concept for this controversial project goes back to the 1980's. The biggest physical challenge for the proposed project remains – where will they obtain enough water to operate the multi-billion dollar project year after year? This is a federal decision, not a County vote, but you can track it at: <u>https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-project/lake-elsinore-advanced-pumped-storage-project</u>

Debilitating Debt – I try to avoid non-County topics, but I can't stop thinking about this. We all have our opinions as to the best and highest uses of our hard-earned tax dollars, and regardless of which political tribe you align with, or who you want to assign blame to, our grandchildren and great grandchildren are about to be handed our national spending debt which has been decades in the making - totaling \$176,982 for each and every household in America (source: OMB July 2021). That's not exactly a legacy (credit card bill) we can be proud of.

As always feel free to email us with your suggestions or comments. I read nearly all of them!

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries



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Interested in serving your local community? Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate? If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look at the list of openings we have below for local commissions. If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place

feel free to apply online at www.supervisorjeffries.com, under Boards & Commissions

Elsinore Valley Cemetery District - One (1) upcoming opening, begins January 2022

Fair Board (National Date Festival) - One (I) opening

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services—One (I) opening

Behavioral Health Commission - Family Member - One (1) opening

Lakeland Village Community Advisory Council— One (I) Alternate

Woodcrest Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (I) Alternate

First 5 Advisory Committee- One (I) opening

Riverside County Flood Control Commission—Zone I—One (I) opening * Riverside Area, see map: www.rcflood.org/About-the-District/District-Zones-2021

Open Position: Flood Control Commissioner

The First District has an opening on the Riverside County Flood Control Commission representing Zone 1. Commissioners serve as unpaid volunteers, attend a minimum of one annual meeting, review the District's Annual Budget and Regional Drainage Plans. For more information visit the Districts website at <u>www.rcflood.org</u>. To apply please submit the online application available at <u>www.supervisorjeffries.org</u>



Non-Profit Spotlight



Riverside University Health System Foundation was established in 1989 as a non-profit philanthropic organization. For nearly three decades the Foundation has collaborated successfully with donors and stakeholders to support RUHS Medical Center's role as a public teaching hospital and safety net provider. Our founders were inspired by the medical center's work with kids, particularly in the area of child abuse and neglect, and over the years that commitment has grown and evolved to include much more. RUHS Foundation is proud to support RUHS Behavioral Health and Public Health agencies and the system's 14 communitybased health clinics with a goal of serving and safeguarding the county's 2.35 million residents.

The mission of RUHS Foundation is to foster friends and inspire philanthropic support for the needs of Riverside University Health System. Since 1989, the RUHS Foundation has been passionate about connecting donors with the vision of RUHS to provide compassionate and high-quality care to our communities. Funding life-saving programs, education and equipment, donors and volunteers propel RUHS to a brighter future with a healthier, more vibrant Riverside County.



For more information, visit their website at: https://ruhsfoundation.org/

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, DeLuz and Spring Hills.

Become a Volunteer Deputy Commissioner of Civil Marriages

Would you like to do something positive, fun, and inviting in your spare time, all the while giving back to your community?

The Riverside County Clerk's office can deputize you as a Volunteer Deputy Commissioner of Civil Marriages, giving you the ability to perform wedding ceremonies. Ceremonies are currently performed at the Riverside (Gateway), Hemet, Temecula, Palm Desert and Blythe office locations.

To qualify, please send a letter expressing your interest in becoming a Volunteer Deputy Commissioner to the address below. Please be sure to include your contact information and specify the location(s) at which you are interested in volunteering. A staff member from the Clerk's office will then contact you and forward you an application for completion. Please be advised that all volunteers are subject to a background check. Upon approval, you will be required to attend a training and orientation session.

> Please mail letters of interest to: **Riverside County Clerk P.O. Box 751 Riverside, CA 92502-0751**

For the application packet: <u>https://www.asrclkrec.com/media/Human_Resources/</u> <u>Request_for_Sheriffs_Live_Scan_Service.pdf</u>

Volunteers Needed



BECOME A

VOLUNTEER

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

OF CIVIL MARRIAGES



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Fall Festival 2021 at Deleo Park



Approximately 4,000 residents attended the Fall Festival 2021 at Deleo Park on 10/23/21. Fun times were had by all with over 25 games, activities and interactives including a Cliff Wall, Fall Crafts, Carnival Games, Pumpkin Decorating, Balloon Twisting, Storytime with Riverside County Library System, Spooky Train Ride, Pumpkin Patch, Haunted House, a Food Truck and a Live DJ & races. Thank you to CSA staff for putting together a great event.

Mead Valley Fall Festival

Great attendance at our annual Fall Festival event in Mead Valley. Over 1500 local residents were able to enjoy Trunk or Treat, laser tag, petting zoo, food, music, Folklorico performances, and much more! Huge thanks to our Citrus Hills High School volunteers who worked hard to set up and run every activity at the event, to the local business owners who donated the food for the volunteers and hay for our pumpkin patch, to the volunteers from our community who decorated their trunks and gave out candy to children, to County Transportation department, Riverside County FM staff, County Sheriff, and all those who helped make this possible.



Save the Date: 12/4/21 from 5-9pm



Mead Valley Community Center's Drive - Thru Festival of Lights

December 4th from 5 - 9pm

Enjoy pictures and cookies with Santa, Christmas caroling, and more!



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Good Hope Fall Festival

The Fall Festival for the Good Hope / Meadowbrook communities on 10/30/21 was a blast this year, kids young and old were able to enjoy Virtual Reality Laser Tag, jumpers, obstacle course, carnival games, pumpkin patch, food, and of course a Trunk or Treat. Huge thanks to Giovanny and his amazing team from Agape Restoration Church for putting this event together, to our Riverside County Code Enforcement, Riverside County Sheriff, Riverside County Fire Dept. Station #9, FM staff, and local business owners for providing the candy and the trunks for this event.



Save the Date : December 11th 5-9pm









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Good Hope / Meadowbrook Clean Up



The Good Hope/Meadowbrook Community Clean-Up was great this year! We were able to serve 146 customers during the event. Residents took full advantage of the opportunity to get rid of bulky items, tires and yard trimmings.





Mead Valley Seniors



The seniors at the Mead Valley Senior Center celebrated Halloween with an amazing party! On

Thursday, October 21, they not only had the opportunity to practice their best moves on the dance floor, but they were also able to show their artistic side by singing karaoke. Congratulations to Antonio Soria who won the contest for the Best Costume. A special thanks to Stephanie Morales and Lupita Mendoza for organizing this incredible event for seniors.



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RIVCO RECYCLES COMMUNITY SUMMIT JOIN US VIRTUALLY | NOV 16 - 18, 2021

NOV 16	BUSINESSES	10:30am 11:00am	Business Waste Legislation Waste Reduction Tips: Retail Waste Reduction Tips & Food Donations RCDWR Waste Wise Champion
VOV 17	RESIDENTS	10:30am 11:00am	Composting & Vermicomposting Green Wardrobe Too Toxic for Trash Virtual Landfill Tour
NOV 18	SCHOOLS	9:00am 10:30am 11:00am 11:30am	Sustainability 101: Make an Impact

To register, visit www.rcwaste.org/outreach/rivcorecycles. For additional information, email wasteCommunityOutreach@rivco.org.



Edition