

**1.**

The county's growing budget crisis has been "kicked down the road" for years. The problem is now coming to the cliff that **past** and **present Board of Supervisors** wished would never come and have put their heads in the sand to keep from fixing that which has been staring them in the face for years.

The problem has many reasons for the position this county is in financially. First, is the fact that in 2021-22 the county budget consisted of 49% use of government grant, state and federal. The current CAFR (County Annual Financial Report) is not out yet. The percentage is probably larger not smaller.

We must start reducing taking grants and live within our means. It will not happen overnight. It will take work and sacrifice to fix this part of the problem. Thanks to Newsome and the boys and girls in Sacramento we have a \$68-billion-dollar deficit and I see a reduction in grant money in the future. No one seems to ask where the surplus went. The state is living on a dream that has popped; however, the spending continues to grow like advertising the state will pay for your solar.

No one is looking under the covers into state-controlled funds in accounts like PIMA (Pooled Money Investment

Account) with sub accounts SMIA(Surplus Money Investment Account) and LAIF (Local Agency Investment Account)

When I last checked there was \$89 billion dollars in the overall account El Dorado County had the max of \$65 million invested in LAIF.

When I asked Congressman McClintock about any oversight on federal grants, he responded NO, unfortunately. Herein lies a potential problem, using grant money for other uses like maybe balancing the budget fixing issues or buying luxuries instead of fixing the priorities that were not the purpose of the grant. The possibilities are endless with no required oversight. This must change on any grants given to the county. We **must reduce** applying for grants to balance the budget.

**Second**, is the creation of the City of El Dorado Hills. It maybe not happen today or next year or even two years however it will happen. The question is not **IF** but **WHEN?** We must find other areas for acquiring the funds to balance the budget. My guess is the percentage of revenue to the county from El Dorado Hills could be 20% or more which added to grant percentage could be maybe 69%. I asked County Auditor, Joe Harn if the county could survive if these problems were to happen, he said NO.

So now let us look at our cards in our hand. Our lumber industry has gone, our mining industry has gone. Our tourism industry is one life support because we have not protected or created any attractions to promote tourism in my opinion. We have a unique attraction which people come to see and maybe think about how life was here in the Gold Rush. Placerville had the name "Hangtown" until it became a political issue. This name was used often on the tv series "Bonanza" with The Cartwright Family.

We **must** start complying with Article VI Section 601 and buy locally for services and supplies as required by this section unless there is a significant difference in price. This will keep our money at home. At present there is outsourcing for these services

**2.**

My position on the Costco development plan would be to **support it if all the safeguards to protect the residents and tourists to the county are enforced.** The infrastructure would have to be built to accommodate traffic and safety concerns. Any noise issue to the neighborhood would have to be addressed prior to approval. Jobs are a rare commodity in this county. This has been used as a reason for what was called low-income housing which has been changed to workforce

housing. It would create jobs and money to balance the budget if we are to replace the loss of grant money and El Dorado Hills becomes a city in our upcoming future.

### **3.**

The planning and building department have been investigated and corrections noted by the Grand Jury recently. In my opinion, because I have not heard how the current Board of Supervisors intends to make corrections would be to speed up the project approval time by using what Henry Ford invented, the assembly line.

Approval and length of time to get it are on everybody's mind that have projects or house plans sitting on someone's desk. There are county and state codes and a general plan that must be addressed in the approval process. If we separate an application into areas of work on each area up for approval like electrical system and plumbing and put a person in charge of reviewing and making recommendations for each area, then one person does not have to review and make comments on all the project before passing it on and approval. Using this technique should speed up the approval process by the number of people doing the reviewing of the project. We also must keep training our employees in all new laws,

codes and regulations so they may do their job more confidently. I would support this effort.

Next, the Grand Jury Report on the Planning and Building Departments shows to me a lack of oversight by the Board of Supervisors past and present. If the Trakit program has not been working for six years, it needs to hit the round receptacle and move on to a new program. Spending more money on something that doesn't work is not using common sense. Suspend its use and find a new program and train people how to use it.

Any new software should be open to the public bid, which is not always done in this county. Why? Local businesses should be given the opportunity to bid as required by the County Charter. No use of phrases to set aside public bidding should be allowed. Lastly, correct any negative findings of the Grand Jury.

**4.**

I would support the construction of the Alder Creek Dam because of the growing need for water without rationing in times of drought. People say we have enough water **now**. However, what about 20 years from **now**, will they? It takes time to build a dam. It would also create jobs which are badly needed in this county.

Water has always been an issue in this county. We have in years passed let beneficial water storage projects go into the trash bin of history in this county. SOFAR for instance, (South Fork of the American River) Also of mention is the Nashville Dam on the Cosumnes River and the other four dams related to it. The Bureau of Reclamation proposed these dams back in the sixties when they could have been built for \$68 million dollars, with trunk lines in the ground for agriculture and other water need possibilities. I have a copy of this report and proposal. These dams would have made recreational sites for people, water for wildlife and yes, our economy could be thriving from the access to the water. That is not to mention the jobs that would have been created.

**AGAIN, WHEN THERE WAS THE CHANCE TO HIT A HOME RUN FOR THE FUTURE, OUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS KNEELED BEFORE THE NAYSAYERS AND SAID NIX!!**

**5.**

The people of this county are caught in a triangle of growing proportions. The high cost of fire insurance and who supplies it? The state and county have stringent codes to hopefully prevent future wildfires, then the threat of wildfires themselves. I feel the codes and rules

are becoming overly stringent and are not using common sense, care or compassion for the people, the land and wildlife they are supposed to protect. Let us say, you planted a tree in memory of a family member and these entities tell you must remove it or severely prune it to keep it. This to me shows no compassion or care for your personal feelings. This needs the use of common-sense care and compassion for the home owner, not a one size fits all approach

We are all dealing with the insurance scam being put upon us by the State of California, big insurance companies and our own county government. It starts with the new vegetation ordinance by the county that sets the control factor on all of us.

**We are required to comply with this ordinance.**

Next, the insurance companies set ridiculous premiums for insurance. If you own your own home with blood sweat and tears, your mortgage company will still require ridiculously high insurance, you may not be able to afford.

Either way the mortgage companies will foreclose if you do not comply. You may lose the home of your dreams and work.

However, this dirty little scam does not stop there. You can buy high insurance from the State of California, the very entity that is setting the requirements you must abide by. They create the problem and then collect money from you for the very cause they created in the first place. Kind of reminds me of what a famous mobster said, "Either you make it for me or you don't make it."

This is a perfect example of PRS (problem, reaction, solution). Fear of fire or wildfires is the problem, saving my house and family is the reaction, so the state and the insurance already have the solution higher insurance premiums. They do not care about your property rights because they can take that away from you by other means also. Saving our property rights is another issue.

**How much longer will it take to say enough is enough????**

Here is my idea which I have checked with friends in the insurance business for possibility. All of them said it could be done if the county goes along with us.

Why do we not self-insure ourselves? The federal government, state and county insure themselves.



Here is an idea of how we can do this. We get the county to put our insurance on our yearly tax bill. There are, according to the assessor 135,000 taxable parcels in this county. I would assume developed and undeveloped. Everyone has something to lose in a fire. Everyone would have to pay with the commitment to keep their property fire safe. **Create a commission to administer claims and payments secure from the hands of the county.**

Here is how it could possibly work.

$$\begin{array}{r} 135,000 \text{ parcels} \\ \times \$1000 \text{ (Could be @\$2000 or any} \\ \text{approved figure)} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$= \$135,000,000.00$$

- 1.) Pay claims and cost of operation by the commission.
- 2.) Set up an election of commission members every two years.
- 3.) I commission member elected at large by people in each of the five districts.
- 4.) Any money not spent on claims or cost of operating the commission could be saved or used on

projects to help reduce vegetation overburden to prevent wildfires or road rehabilitation to make them safer in an evacuation and time saved to first responders.

## 6. What is a Constitutional Sheriff?

“A **constitutional sheriff** is one who upholds the principles of the **United States Constitution** and believes in **limited government intervention**. These sheriffs often assert that their authority supersedes other law enforcement agencies within their county. While the term “sheriff” does not appear in the U.S. Constitution itself, some states recognize the office of sheriff as a “constitutional officer.” However, this varies across jurisdictions. If you want to determine if your sheriff aligns with constitutional principles, consider asking them directly, discussing specific scenarios, and encouraging their participation in relevant training opportunities. Remember, your sheriff’s stance on constitutional matters can significantly impact your community. us” (Copied from BING )

I am a veteran who swore an oath on July 3, 1968, “to defend my country against all enemies foreign and DOMESTIC.” I have never renounced this oath. I am comfortable with the term a “constitutional sheriff” if the

person is dually elected, does not create laws, ordinances, or codes in conformance with the dictates of the Constitution of the United States.

If the sheriff determines that a government action is in violation of the Constitution, it is his responsibility to oppose such government action and protect people from their government.

Sheriffs should be elected to serve by the people they serve. By advocating this is a check in the balance system and gives people the right to elect an officer of their choosing.

Sheriffs should always be accountable for their actions to the people they serve. They cannot create laws, only uphold them by using the Constitution as a guide. I will always support the sheriff if he acts within the guidelines of his office and the Constitution of the United States.

7.

I am not personally knowledgeable in the "Ranch Marketing Ordinance." If it is being abused, then it needs to be reviewed with public input at a Town Hall meeting in the district of abuse so that the people in that district can state their views and reach an equitable solution for all. If this arises then I will hold the town meeting to let

people talk and reach an agreement to go forward with to the future.

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**In closing** with your support, I will work toward the completion of the numbered items listed next.

**1. Fix** our failing roads.

**2. Seniors** over 65 to pay a reduced property tax. Over 70 there will be no property tax issued. I do not want to see seniors forced out of their homes.

**3. CREATE** local jobs in both public and the private sector.

**4. Purchase** of at least one asphalt plant and maybe an additional plant soon after to cut the cost of county road repair. When purchases are completed, a plant on the North side of the American River and one on the South side of the American River for county road maintenance only. This will cut the cost of trucking the asphalt from the valley locations, giving hotter asphalt to the job and more footage of pavement laid done. This will create jobs in the future because our roads are in bad need of repair and will not be fixed by a puff of pixie dust.

**5. Provide** training for county employees so they will be able to do work that is currently being contracted to businesses out of the county. This will help to keep county revenue in this county. This results in happier employees and residents of this county.

**6. Respect** Article VI Section 601 of the El Dorado County Charter and buy from local businesses for services and supplies unless a significant difference in overall cost is noticed.

**7. Protect our unique local history** along with **our quality of life.**

**8. Work** to strengthen the connection of my constituents to myself and county government.

**9. Work** to enhance pride in the people of this county to promote working together to fix the problems of this county.

**10. If you have a problem with the county government, I want to know about it and work with all involved to reach a timely conclusion to the satisfaction of all.**

**11. All communication with me will be kept in strict confidence unless you tell me otherwise in person at the time.**

**12. If you have any ideas that may have to possibly solve a problem in this county let us discuss it. No problem is too small or too large to not find an answer or solution. Yours may help.**

**13. Re-institute** “competitive bidding” in all purchases of work and supplies needed by the county.

**14. Control growth by not letting development build upon infrastructure that will not support it to the detriment of my constituents.**

**15. Publish** the agenda of upcoming meeting for the Board of Supervisor's be posted a week in advance along with the Minutes of the previous meeting in the Mountain Democrat week in advance along with the minutes of the previous meeting in the Mountain Democrat to allow for in person com

