

September 8, 2019

Dear Supervisors:

CANNABIS IS ON THE AGENDA AGAIN...At Tuesday's (Sept 10) Board of Supervisors meeting, the county comes again to revisit our Mendocino County's cannabis ordinances.

Unfortunately, corporate interests, like Flow Kana and Gotham Green Partners, have been allowed to influence county policy.

THE ALTERNATIVE OPTION...The alternative option to county policies that favor big money interests, like Flow Kana and Gotham Green Partners, is a supply chain business that is owned and operated by a non-profit farmers co-op.

It could be a regional co-op. The cannabis farmers of the Emerald Counties. The small, family farmers. The handcrafted, heirloom farmers.

This alternative supply chain owned by the co-op would be an e-trading platform, supported by e-payments and e-tracking systems. A company called Helix could help us. Helix builds out sophisticated Electronics Communications Networks (ECNs).

An ECN can integrate blockchain technology to facilitate real-time transaction of wholesale cannabis product between licensed operators in regulated markets. Furthermore, the platform would allow new and existing cannabis businesses to manage infrastructure in their supply chain, inventory and compliance functions.

Similarly, the bricks-and-mortar facilities for grading, processing, and warehousing would also be owned and operated by the co-op.

The entire venture would be funded by a public bond from the State of California's IBank Bond Financing.

See: <http://www.ibank.ca.gov/bond-financing>.

I HAVE A QUESTION...Why was cannabis "legalized"? Why wasn't it simply "decriminalized"?

I'll tell you why: Not to set the plant free, but to make Wall Street richer. To make the rich, richer. Guys, like Jason Adler. (Read my article, "Flow Kana's Deal with the Devil" posted on my Facebook page. It's been shared 275 times by your constituents.)

The rich get richer. All the while, the rich influence state policies to crush any mom and pop competition, and limit the amount individuals can personally grow, so cannabis farmers have to sign on with corporate cannabis. Sign on with corporate cannabis, like Flow Kana and Gotham Green Partners, or get forced out.

If farmers step out of the little box created for them, then the county makes it difficult to get a permit, then fines them or has them arrested and files for asset forfeiture... all for growing a medicinal plant...a compassionate use plant.

What happened after "legalization" is so perverted, so twisted, so very wrong.

Cannabis has not been legalized. Not really. It has been heavily regulated -- and continues to be regulated at today's Sept 10 meeting -- for the benefit of rich investors...to extract what little wealth there is in the rural local economies of the Emerald Counties.

Make no mistake about it: These investors are outsiders, and they have one agenda...for the rich to get richer. That's how capitalism works. It's predatory. It's based on extraction.

At a rally for all employees at Flow Kana, which an employee secretly videotaped, Flow Kana's CEO Michael Steinmetz, shouted out above the applause, "We will become the Coca-Cola of Cannabis! We will become the Coca-Cola of Cannabis! We will be rich!"

It was scary.

Let me be clear: Flow Kana *is* scary. Gotham Green Partners *is* scary.

Let me be clear: Wall Street's dark money *is* scary. Big Tobacco *is* scary. Big Pharma *is* scary. Cannabis GMOs *are* scary.

And Jason Adler is linked to all of the above. Again, please read my Facebook post. It has been fastidiously researched, and everything stated as fact, has been vetted and re-vetted.

A FINAL WORD...End-stage capitalism is especially scary. It's killing the planet. Guys like Jason Adler are killing the planet.

We need a new business model. And a farmers co-op and a cannabis exchange are it. We can -- and should -- own our own supply chain.

Our county's farmers are the starting point of what I call, the "value chain".

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors can lead the way. Instead of tinkering around the edges of ordinances that have failed us -- ordinances like the ones for your consideration before you today -- you can think out of the box, and act boldly with state bond financing, technology, and vision. The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors can act to save our small farmers and our beautiful way of life.

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