

Hello Supervisors, Welcome new Supervisors,
There certainly is a lot happening.

I have some input for your special meeting today. Its not easy to articulate everything I want to say. I hope this makes sense to you. It's taken a long time to get my thoughts written down in a way that will hopefully make a difference.

I have some points at the bottom of the letter, as well. Thanks in advance for reading with an open mind.

1) Remove the requirement in Section 22.18.040, Exemptions, (D) that anyone who cultivates for personal medical and/or adult-use who also holds a commercial State cultivation license must include these plants in their canopy allowance

Business is business. Personal is personal. We mustn't mix regulated, commercial market cannabis with plants from a personal garden. That doesn't make sense.
That's not part of the METRC system, unless the state changes it. This just makes things harder for small growers and harder for yourselves and harder for the staff.

2) I support aligning with the State and allowing 6 plants for personal adult use or personal medical needs and I support removing the acreage requirement of 10 acres to cultivate 6 plants outdoors for personal adult use or medical needs.

This change makes sense. The current rules don't make sense and aren't aligned with the state, they're not aligned with the growers, they're not aligned with the patients and they're not aligned with the voters. For the people in your counties who are against it. Sorry you don't like nature. I don't like the way hops smells, but Budweiser didn't shut down their plant in So Cal because I didn't like it. I don't like the smell of chicken coops, but neighbors have them. I don't like the smell of pungent flowers, but people grow them. Cannabis is 'legal' and we have to start acting like it is.

3) Allowing 10% of a parcel size for cultivation in AG or RL districts...No, no, no, no, no.
Come on.

Baby steps. I align with CCAG. 22,000 sq ft. Let's start here and see how it goes. I know the corporations are chomping at the bit to get a bunch of land, do a take over and probably go out of business. I'm sure they'll empty-promise you lots of money in tax revenue.
I also know they have money to lobby you.

A little MCA history. It had a differnet name and used to be a community of small growers. Now a bunch of corporations like Dona from Natural Cannabis Co which is Santa Rosa based company is on the board. She used to support small growers. Now she grows her own cannabis. Will she be partnering with someone in Mendocino to have a mega-grow? Then there's Henry's and Flow Kana. I remember going to a meeting at the Flow Kana vineyard conversion. Mikey and crew, promised to never compete with small growers and to only help small growers. Then they asked us to fill out 3 pages of peronal growing information. They said they would buy from us. They took our information and brought it to investors. They got more money. They didn't buy from the farmers that filled out the paperwork. Now they're vertically integrating. NO INTEGRITY with their words.

My request is that you Stop moving towards corporate interests. Do you know where the best cannabis in the world is grown? In Mendocino by legacy, artisan growers. If and When you realize what is really going on in this cannabis subculture in Mendocino, you will protect it at all costs. If you don't realize it, it's the beginning of the end.

4) Do not allow 1 acre sites for Phase 3.

22,000 sq ft is fair. Slow down on the massive grows. We need a lot of brilliant minds to come togehter on this. Stephen Brooks from Punta Mona might be avialble as a 3rd party consultant. That would be a great

place to begin. We'll need biodynamic experts, KNF, regenerative practices. It's a huge undertaking. Let's start at 22,000 and see how it goes.

5) "No Cannabis Farmers Markets shall be conducted in a visibly public location, such as a park, street, or on any school grounds. Public fairgrounds are not included in this prohibition. "

Cannabis isn't dangerous. In Oakland there is a hemp processing/manufacturing operation across the street from an elementary school. Hemp is cannabis.
Wine at farmers markets is ok. Wine festivals are ok.
People die from alcohol. No one dies from cannabis.
What is the purpose of hiding cannabis?
Cannabis is healing. Cannabis is not dangerous.
In our little town, there is no hidden place to have an event that's not in the open. Please re-think this "rule"

-Respectfully speaking: Please stop trying to cut into my earnings. I urge you to support us and not fight against us.

-Prioritization must be given to PHASE 1 operators

-There is still NO ENFORCEMENT. Enforcement is a joke. And non-permitted operators are laughing all the way to the bank. This must be changed before you open Phase 3. It's NOT FAIR to everyone paying taxes and fees. Come on!
And waiting for people to complain is not the way to enforce.

-Phase 1 is like this:

You and your family are paying to wait in a line which will eventually let you into a great experience. Then another family cuts in front of you. You say, "hi, I've been waiting to get in and I've paid for this space.". And the family says, "well, the owner says I can be here. Too bad for you" That's not fair. It doesn't make sense. (Phase 3 is the line cutter)

-Pre prop 64, Gavin Newsom was part of blue ribbon commission. he would come to emerald triangle. he would rally for farmers vote for his laws and say we'll take care of you, the farmers.
it was self serving. He has not taken care of the farmers as promised.

-Mendocino redwood co also owns the Gap.
(slave labor back to 90s?)

-They own land and logging companies in Mendocino

-They hack and squirt. Do you know what that is? They pour poison into trees.

-They poison the Mendocino trees and the Mendocino soil. And they let them painfully die.

-This is maddening.

-Did you wonder the reason why the fires burned out of control for so long? This is the reason.

-They say it's SAFE to poison the trees.

-Here's the kicker...One of the Fishers, the son of the parents that own the logging company and the Gap, is, wait for it!... IN CHARGE of the CA environmental agency.

-He's shitting all over our forests but requiring cannabis growers to pass CEQA.
Are you seeing the broader picture? Do you care?

-I personally believe they want to devalue the land to scoop it up for their logging company. But that's just my opinion.

-How come they're fighting so hard against the cannabis growers?
Vineyards kill and clear-cut forests everyday and no one bats an eye.

-Newsom is a vintner. He also did some self serving things with loans lately. Lori Ajax also a vintner. She's gone back to the alcohol industry. Richard Parrot from the CDFA was a tax guy for 20 years. Now he runs the CDFA and doesn't know anything about food or agriculture and is making a lot of rules that don't make sense for growers. But they make sense for a money grab that ultimately is not sustainable.

-hemp isn't required to do CEQA, But, Hemp is cannabis.

-Mendocino was worried about us stacking permits, but now there's discussions about 1 acre and 10%? Something stinks here. Let's re-structure.

-I STILL can't get a nursery license because i'm on less than 10 acres of land. 10 is an arbitrary number by the county. The state has no acreage specifications. Mendocino County is stopping me from making a livelihood selling seeds and clones and hurting it's tax revenue.

-I STILL can't get a nursery license because I have two 5,000 sq ft licenses, and I'm NOT ALLOWED to get a nursery license because having more than 2 is STACKING permits.

The hypocrisy is enormous.

Let's fix Phase 1 together before we open up this mad-house called Phase 3. Lets stick to 22,000 sq ft and not lose the magic of our county.

-Cannabis is an ag crop and should be treated as such.

-You could always SCRAP everything and align with the state. That's an option. No one needed to reinvent the wheel.

-I'm a long time cannabis patient. I consume a large amount of cannabis each year. I rely on growing my sacred medicine. Please end the micro-managing of personal grows.

-Support legacy growers being amazing. Let legacy growers contribute to the rules in the making. You will earn a lot of money from taxes and we can release this bizarre pressure on our lives and return to being peaceful hippies making an honest living growing weed.

-John and Carre are gone. Let's take a moment to breathe deeply and clear the slate. They both had personal agendas. They were both deeply tied in the wine industry. Cannabis growers had no chance with these two.

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-The rules that John created don't make sense and need to be changed. They were made based on discrimination against small cannabis growers.

-John was adamantly against the cannabis culture. He's disrespected many of my friends and me personally. I'll share stories in the future.

-And Carre was always A "NO" unless it came to things that ruined the environment. So, they're gone and now we rejoice and be progressive.

-Cannabis has been growing up here for longer than any of you have been alive. Cannabis is the healthiest thing we can do for our mind and body. It's a neuroprotectant. It's a cardio protectant.

-Let's Stop the money grab and regroup. ,
Let's do this together.

-I write this with respect:

the idea that a handful of people that I don't know, who don't know what is best for me and my family are making decisions about my livelihood and future while most, if not all of you folks don't enjoy or use cannabis, concerns me. It concerns all small growers.

-Be on our team. You'll win.

Also, side note: Mo, I was disappointed not to be able to log into Zoom last night. I'm not on social media, so I didn't read the thread, but I heard about your reply. Please know that nice people are fighting for their lives here. We all rallied as growers to show up and be heard last night. It was like a slap in the face. Please double check the passcode in the future.

Let's clear the slate and start with fresh and open minds.

I know this is a lot. These are things that I never thought about just a few years ago. Let's reduce the angst in our industry. More love. Less friction.

Thanks Supervisors.
Blessings,
Marnie B