Braun v. County of San Mateo

U.S. District Court Case No.: C 03-03415 MJJ

# EXHIBITS TO DECLARATION OF OSCAR BRAUN

PART 1

Cynthia J. Giovannoni 1780 Higgins Canyon Road Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 (650) 726-3588



February 27, 1998

Mr. Gary F. Warren Code Compliance Officer II Planning and Building Division 590 Hamilton Street Redwood City, CA 94063

Re:

1589 Higgins Canyon Road Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Dear Mr. Warren:

I am writing to you with several concerns regarding the above referenced property. It has been brought to my attention that there are several county code violations on Mr. Oscar Braun's property.

Mr. Braun has a beautiful horse barn which is clearly visible from Highway One that includes a bathroom. The property also has a double-wide mobile home. To my knowledge the required parmits and additional certifications have not been issued.

The property also has a horse arena and, of course, horses, which again to my knowledge do not have the required permits.

There is also a fully functional repair shop that is a concern for environmental reasons. The shop has an above ground 500 gallon diesel tank without a containment area. There are also 55 gallon drums with waste oil located next to the shop. Heavy equipment is stored that may not be considered agricultural related.

It is also my belief that some hazardous materials and other debris has been buried on the property.

I know Mr. Braun has concerns regarding the unincorporated coastside, but I feel these issues are cause for some major concerns. I would appreciate the county investigating these allegations as soon as possible and issue a response to these code violations.

Sincerely, Cepthing Governm

Cynthia J. Giovannoni a concerned property owner

cc: Bill Rozar Dirk Jensen



DIRK JENSEN

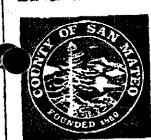
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPECIALIST

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

SAN MATEO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

DTAL P.01

Environmental Services A



Planning and Building Division

Mail Drop PLN122 - 590 Hamilton Street - 2nd Floor - Redwood City California 94063 · Telephone 650/363-4161 · Fax 650/363-4849

Board of Supervisors Ruben Barrales Richard S. Gordon Mary Grillin Tom Huening Michael D. Nevin

Director of Environmental Services Paul M. Koenio

Planning Administrator

March 12, 1998

Cynthia Giovannoni 1780 Higgins Canyon Road Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

Dear Mrs. Giovannoni:

SUBJECT: File No. V 98-25

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This letter confirms the receipt and initial processing of your complaint about a zoning violation at 1589 Higgins Canyon Road. It is my understanding that your complaint consists of the following activity occurring on the property: development on the property without the required (1) RM permits, (2) horses without a stable permit, and (3) farm Labor housing without a use permit.

I have conducted a preliminary investigation and inspection of the property. I have sent a Notice of Code Violation by certified mail to the property owner requesting that the violation be corrected within a specific time frame. Failure on behalf of the owner to comply will result in further action against him/her. At this time, it appears that the property owner will voluntarily eliminate the violation in the near future. However, I will continue to monitor the situation until the violation is climinated.

If you have any further questions about the status of this case, you may contact me at 650/363-4825 and inquire about it by case number reference. All appointments must be scheduled in advance as we are frequently out of the office.

Thank you for contacting us.

Sincerely,

GARY F. WARREN Code Compliance Officer II

GFW:kcd - GFWI0419.6KE

## SAN MATEO COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
590 Hamilton Street, Redwood City, CA 94063
(415) 363-4305

## OFFICIAL INSPECTION REPORT / FIELD OBSERVATIONS

	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Site Name: Moon Acres	Page 1 of 1 Date: 3/4/98
(Oscar Braun Property)	Program: Empireta.
Site Address: 1589 Higgins Canyon Pd.	Site Computer #
Site Address: 1589 Higgins Canyon Pd. Half Moon Bay, CA 94019	APN:
3/4/98	
Per attached letter from Cynthia 6	iovannoni, I conducted
investigation with Gary Warren,	We met with Mr. Braun
and investigated complaintallegati	ions With regard to
hazardous materials/hazardous wa	este issues I didn't
observe any violations. Since M	r. Brown operates an
agricultural operation, he must	File a Hazardous Muterials
Business Plan with the County Agricul	tural Commissioners Office
Chocal fire has jurisdiction with re	egard to Uniform Fire Colo
requirements. I didn't observe any	cione of an il
disposal of hazardous materials/haz	and answerte Son
solid waste debrished been placed i	ato deringes clause.
below repair shop. I recommended +	Lot Mr Braun no
debris and dispose of at BFI ox n	ountain Land fill
There are several paramiting is	e lated to b
There are several permitting issues	s related to house parmy
be addressed, Gary Warren will look	y caretaker that must
and make appropriate referrals to	ar i U./// h
Mobile home apparrently has sept	Environ. Megith Division
not permitted by our office.	icsystem that was
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	And the second s
	PLN 2950
nspector: D. Jensen Recei	ved By:

11	e Numt	er.	\$2×5"
\ss	igned	CEO:	

# County of San Mateo Department of Environmental Management Planning and Development Division

## CODE VIOLATION FIELD INSPECTION REPORT

1.	Location: 1598 Hippies Caupou 1 4 MB	2d Time: 11- 14 Date: 3/4/98
2.	Persons Contacted . Check here Name: OSCAR BRAGO Address: SAME	Name:
	Phone: Relation to Property: Games	
3.	TRIVEL TRIVER STORES OU PROPERTY	WY WILLD, WORKSHOP-BALL BUILDING H- DOYGUS WIDE TAKKER AS ELH WTHE PROPERTY.
4.	Sketch of Property	
5.	Photographs  a. Photograph all evidence of violation b. Label each photo with file number a photographed (use labels in file).  c. Attach photographs to instant print file along with this report.	on. and date and description of what was
6.	Signature Signed: 472/om	7. <u>Violation Type</u>

OAS Form V-5 FRM13127 (3/89)

			County of San Mateo
Number:	V98.25	Assigned to:	·GV
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			WITHOUT PERMITS
			,
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•			
Relevant (	Ordinance Sections:		
*	•		
Location	of Alleged Violation		2-70
	1589 Higgies CALYO	e AD	APN(S): 064 - 370 - 70
/UU1E33	H MB		APIN[5]: 067
			Zoning: RM-CZ
Names o	f Alleged Violators	•	PARECE B
	OSCAR BRAGE	- Ta	NOW PLINE SOLL
	1569 4166146		
~QQ1€33. <u>~</u>		Y, CA74019	
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Phone:	726-3707		
Complair	nt Received By:		initiated By (check one)
Name:	472		Phone Counter
Date:	3/2/55		Letter O Other Departmen
			Drive by Observation
	•	٠ ــــــــ	Unrelated Inspection
Complete He	ms 5 and 6 on roverse)	Get .	- AK

### VERIFICATION OF SERVICE VIO 98-25

I,	ate:
I am a Deputy Sheriff employed with the Department.	San Mateo County Sheriff's
That I personally delivered a Notice of	E Code Violation
(name)	
at(address)	
onat(time	•
I certify that the foregoing is true a	nd correct.
(signature)	

Please forward to Code Enforcement Unit, attention of Gary F Warren,
Pony PLN122. IN 2-11-58. AT APPEAL 1400 HM. I ATTEMPTED TO SERVE HK. BY ANN WITH THE
LITER LETTER AT 1589 HILLIAMS ROAM, HOBBIER NV. BY AUNI TERMED TO SALLOW ME THOUGH
THE FRONT BY OCCUPATY LATE.

DOR. U. FALCOUR & LOSS



From:

Laura Thompson

Sent:

Thursday, August 06, 1998 10:10 AM

To:

oscar@oscarknows.com

Subject:

Notice of Code Violation -Reply

I am sending you copies of the County regulations you requested as well as several permit applications. Jim Eggemeyer will be assigning your case, as soon as you come in with a complete application, to one of the planners based on work loads, so it may or may not be me.

Thanks,

>>> Oscar Braun <oscar@oscarknows.com> 07/20/98 06:02pm >>> Laura

I talked to Gary Warren today and he has sent met a copy of a March 12,1998 notice of Code Violation. File No> V 98.25; APN 064-370-240 The letter from Gary states that "you are in violation of Section 6500, 6903 and 7700.2." I would appreciate it if you would: 1) Provide me with an applications for the needed permits.

2) A copy of Section 6500, 6903 & 7700.2 3) I am requesting that you be assigned as the planner on this application......you'll end up being the expert planner for Higgins Canyon

4) A brief discription explaining the application protocol and fees involved to clear up these violations.

Thanks You, Oscar

Mailing Address: 1589 Higgins Canyon Road Half Moon Bay, California 94019

## Braun

Continued from Page IA

Rozar said that Braun will be cited sometime this week for zoning violations that he was notified about in March, but has not acted diffigently to correct. Braun allegedly built an illegal second unit and a barn on his property at 1589 Higgins Canyon Road.

Rozar said that the barn could probably be legalized, but the double-wide trailer, which was used as farm labor housing until recently, is not allowed under the Coastal Act, which prohibits second units in the Coastal Zone.

"All we're trying to do is get compliance" with county codes, Rozar said in an interview.

The county's code enforcement division sent Braun two notices warning he would be cited, the most recent on Aug. 6, when it said he had 30 days to act. Since Rozar said he has not, Braun will be fined \$136, plus court costs. The fine could be put on hold, however, if Braun applies for a development review permit for the illegal structures.

For his part, Braun does not dispute that he does not have the required permits. He said he has not fought the county, and he asserts that it is county officials who have dragged their feet.

"I have not fought the county," he said in an interview. "I have asked them to process me. I have no control over how fast they do that."

He added that, "It's a matter of writing a check at this point....I'm not going to get heartburn over this."

Braun has been the loudest critic in disputes arising out of Higgins Canyon in recent mon. include the operation of archich company without a county peng the sale of hay without a permit, and the proposed relocation of a wildlife education facility. Braun has stridently complained that the businesses are operating without permits and that county officials are not following their own guidelines in enforcing the law.

But Rozar said two of the targets of many of Braun's complaints about zoning violations — Half Moon Bay Paving and Sealing, and hay farmer Wayne Pastorino — have been more diligent in following through on county procedures to legalize their businesses since being notified they needed county permits.

Braun said he does not see any hypocrisy between the criticism leveled at his neighbors and his own continuing situation. He said that he went through the public process and spent thousands of dollars to secure a Coastal Development Permit for his property. The violations cited by the county are few and minor in comparison, he said.

"I always call for full compliance," he said, "and that includes me."

Braun believes that a package he sent to the civil county Grand Jury on Aug. 31 is behind the code enforcement division's "counter-offensive" citation. It includes a variety of letters from Braun and his-Save Our Bay organization critical-of the county's code enforcement, press clippings and citations of county codes. Braun said he believes code enforcement is sporadic at best.

# Braun to be cited by county

By ERIC RICE Half Moon Bay Review

Higgins Canyon resident Oscar Braun, who has waged a "war" against some neighbors for alleged violations of the California Coastal Act and county zoning ordinances, is himself about to be slapped for violating the same laws.

Meanwhile, disputes between different factions in the canyon, which have been increasing in volume all summer long, continue to escalate. Neighbors are turning in one another for alleged violations, and two weeks ago Braun asked the San Mateo County Grand Jury to look into the situation.

"It's the modern-day equivalent of a range war," observed Bill Rozar, San Mateo County zoning administrator. "People are siding up and taking sides based on who they pal around with."

See BRAUN, Page 7A

## San Mateo County Environmental Services Agency

ning and Building Division • 590 Hamilton • Redwood City 94063 = Planning: 415/363-4161 = Building: 415/363-4601 = Fax: 415/363-4849 RECEIPT #: 132919

DATE....: 12/02/98 14:20:55

CHK#: 1021

REC'D: DTP

CASE NO....: CDP98-0086

NAME..... OSCAR A BRAUN

ADDRESS....: 1589 HIGGINS CANYON RD

APN..... 064-370-130

Account Number	Description	Amount Paid
38100-2123 38100-1262 38100-1262	STABLE PERMIT  NEGATIVE DECLARATION RESOURCE MGMT. DIST. APPLICATION FEE Public Noticing	1323.00 833.00 214.00 1300.00 50.00

3720.00 TOTAL AMOUNT PAID....: \$



January 18,1999

Laura Thompson 455 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Redwood City, California 94063

Subject: Legalization of existing structures; CDP 98-0086 1589 Higgins Carryon Road, Half Moon Bay, Ca. 94019

On December 2, 1998 I provided you with a complete application , two (2) scale topographical site plans with the exact locations of all existing structures. I also provided you with a complete set of large full color elevation photographs of all existing structures on 8x10 sheets for your files. I currently farm 130 plus acres at the Fioli Foundation Estate (the area surrounding the formal gardens) and the 70 acres plus on my Moon Acres Ranch parcel # 064-370-130. Since I am not applying for a cultivation permit, I will not provide your planning department with a map of the farming operation. The County already has a signed statement from my farm laborer as to the fact that 100% of his wages comes from being a farm laborer. And most importantly of all, I've paid the County \$3720.00 in stable fees for Case # CDP 98-0086 on December 2, 1998.

I have not received any copies of Notices of Violations on my complaints filed with you Laura on December 3, 1998 regarding the operation of an illegal landfill and commercial stable on the Town Pacific Half Moon Bay Property APN # 98-0008. Or, any Notice of Violations on Gary and Cindy Giovannoni's parcel APN 066-100-100 with regard to the two pages of violations revealed in County Planner Joe Sordi's April 1998 field inspection report that I showed to you. I would appreciate a letter from Deputy County Counsel Peter Finck clarifying the Planning Departments policies for selective harassment and prosecution of code violation complaints. Lastly, I am requesting again, a copy of your staff report and recommendations on the Giovannoni and RCD applications to be received by me and the homeowners association by January 20,1999.

Feel free to contact me at 650-726-3307 or oscar@oscarknows.com

Sincerely

Oscar Braun



Recorded at the Request of, and When Recorded Return to: Gary Warren Planning and Building Division 455 County Center, 2nd Floor Mail Drop PLN 122 Redwood City, CA 94063 For Clerk Use Only

DOC # 2000-045172 04/20/2000 10:478 VM Fee:NC

Page 1 of 2 Recorded in Official Records County of San Mateo

Uarren Slocum Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Recorded By SAN MATEO PLANNING & BUILDING C



Planning Division File Number: V 98-25

County of San Mateo Environmental Services Agency Planning and Building Division

#### **NOTICE OF CONTINUING NUISANCE**

Pursuant to San Mateo County Ordinance Code Section 1.12.130 et seq.

The County of San Mateo has determined that the real property described below is in violation of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code Section 1.12.130 et seq.

#### **Property Description**

1589 Higgins Canyon Road, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019-2531; Parcel B, 69.13 acres more or less, Parcel Map Volume 65/59-60.

According to public records, the above-described property is owned by:

Oscar A. Braun Trust 1589 Higgins Canyon Road Half Moon Bay, CA 94019-2531

Signed

Terry Burnes, I

Planning Administrator

Date

10 -6 -P

CDP Form A-GRD-25 FRM00125\_DOC (4/5/00)

## CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A C	
State of <u>California</u> County of San Mateo	
County of San Mateo	
On 4 5 00 before m	Burnes,  NAME: SIGNERISS
noreonally appeared Terry	Burres.
_	
CAROLYN S. HAMILTON COMM. #1212788 Notary Public-California SAN MATEO COURTY My Comm. Exp. Merch 11, 2003	roved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) \$\forall s\rangle are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in \( \forall s\rangle her/their authorized \) capacity(ies), and that by \( \forall s\rangle her/their \) signature(s) on the instrument the \( \text{Derson}(s) \), or the entity upon behalf of which the \( \text{person}(s) \) acted, executed the instrument.  WITNESS my hand and official seal.
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"Change is inevitable... Survival is not."



July 6, 2000

To: Jim Eggemeyer, Senior Planner From: Oscar Braun, Executive Director

Subject: GDE and Legalization of existing structures.

This morning I received a call from Jim Mattison, project and site development manager for GDE (Green Drake Engineering) wireless communications, regarding the progress of his company's Coastal Development permits with the County for their 13 antenna sites. Jim and the GDE engineers have selected our Moon Acres ranch as one of their key coastside antenna sites. We have entered into a multi-year lease agreement that will generate revenues over time exceeding one million dollars. Jim Mattison shared with me an alarming conversation you had with him earlier this week in which you stated emphatically that "the planning department was not going to allow any development on the Braun ranch property". Some of the reasons you gave Jim Mattison for the Planning Department's position follow:

- Existing stable and tractor shed structures have not been legalized.
- Braun has refused to allow the Sheriff's Department onto his property.
- Braun is hiding out from the county and defies to comply with the Local Coastal Program.
- Braun is a loose cannon and is always suing the county...Measure T.
- May 7, 2000 Terry Burnes instructed Eggemeyer to block or frustrate any applications for Braun's property.
- GDE will have to look elsewhere for their antenna...Terry knows how to deal with Oscar.
   Yours and the planning departments derogatory statements about me and my wife's handling of our permits to legalize our stable and existing structures are not only inaccurate but libelous, they defame our name and have caused damage to our standing within the community and with our business relationships. I am providing the following facts for your reference:
- On December 2, 1998 we applied for and paid fees in full to the County of San Mateo for the legalization of all existing Moon Acres structures.
- Under court supervision Case # C941588, I provided the Planning Dept. with requested site topographical-maps, floor plans, elevation drawings, digital photographs and a certified survey and grading plan for all structures being legalized (stable & sheds).
- The Planning Department sent out inspectors from the building and health departments to verify the accuracy of the legalization documents.
- On November 11, 1999 the Superior Court imposed a fine of \$271.00 for the original 1998 citation which was paid and the case was closed.
- On January 27, 2000, during a meeting with Paul Koenig and Terry Burnes regarding Save Our Bay's complaints about Half Moon Bay Sealing and Paving illegal access road expansion started after Oct. 15, 1999 within the riparian zone of the Arroyo Leon, the illegal landfill and stable operated by Tom Pacheco on the Johnston Ranch and the illegal access road development by the Wildlife Associates. Terry Burnes acknowledged during that meeting that my Moon Acre ranch had completed legalization of all it's existing structures and there was no outstanding code violation issues regarding our property.



The actions and statements made and referred to by you and the Planning Department regarding my and my wife's interactions with the County and intentions of the County as our property is concerned, go far beyond what is ethical or legal. We have complied with all the LCP permitting demands. At this time we do not desire to file suit against you, the county or Terry Burnes and seek damages for libel, tortious interference with a contractual relationship and defamation of character. Please consider this as a formal notice to cease and desist from disseminating any more untrue, unfounded or malicious accusations to anyone regarding our property or our dealings with the County. Please contact my attorney Eric Kastner at 650-967-7854 by July 14th to intervene and mitigate any further damage these reckless comments have caused and to find a way to resolve this matter outside the courts.

I am requesting that you notify Jim Mattison in writing by July 14, 2000 and inform GDE Inc. that the County will accept their application for a CDP for their antenna site on the Braun property. Please include in your notification that they will have the same rights all applicants have and they will have to comply with all the codes embodied within the Local Coastal Program. Please send copies of your letter to GDE's Mr. Mattison to Mr. Kastner and me.

Sincerely,

Oscar Braun

CC.

Terry Burnes

Richard Gordon and Board of Supervisors

Michael Murphy

Eric Kastner

Jim Mattison



SAN MATEO COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MEETING NO. 1360 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2001 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS 400 COUNTY CENTER, REDWOOD CITY TRANSCRIBED AUDIOTAPED PROCEEDINGS IN THE MATTER OF OSCAR BRAUN PLN1999-00079 Transcribed by Karen S. Byers, CSR No. 11743 UCCELLI & ASSOCIATES 1243 Mission Road South San Francisco, CA 94080 650-952-0774 



#### Wednesday, November 14, 2001

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

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SPEAKER: Item No. 6, Owner/Applicant, Oscar

Braun, File No. PLN1999-00079. Consideration of a Coastal

6 Development Permit, a Resource Management/Coastal Zone

District Permit and a Stable Permit to allow legalization of a

3-horse stable, tractor, shed, agricultural barn, replacement

of one 8,000-gallon water tank with two 5,000-gallon water

tanks, and a mobile home as an affordable housing unit.

The project is located at 1589 Higgins Canyon Road in the unincorporated Half Moon Bay area of the County.

Project Planner: Miroo Brewer.

MS. BREWER: Good afternoon, Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Good afternoon, Miroo.

MS. BREWER: The project is located about one and a half miles east of Highway 1 and Higgins Canyon Road.

(Next slide, please.) It's a 70-acre parcel. It's zoned Resource Management. There are no prime soils. There are no water bodies. The property is developed with a single-family housing -- house. In addition to the structures which are going to be -- supposed to be legalized today.

(Next slide, please.) The property is accessed by the driveway that you see in yellow, which connects to Higgins Canyon Road. It's a 50-foot easement and runs through an

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adjacent parcel all the way to the house.

The Applicant is looking to legalize several structures here. The first structure is the stable structure located adjacent to the existing house and it's about 125 feet The structure is about 14,000 -- 1400 square feet with north. a height of about 12 feet. The stable consists of three horse stalls, a bathroom and also a tack room.

The next set of structures are clustered on the eastern portion of the property, and you can see there's a tractor shed -- there are two sheds. One is a tractor shed and one is an agricultural shed, and there is a house -mobile home next to it which is going to be designated -- is proposed to be designated as affordable housing unit. a well also indicated nearby and that will serve both the mobile home unit and the stable and the existing house. Among other structures which are proposed to be legalized have two water tanks next to -- near the existing house.

The -- a couple of key issues here today is the visual impacts and visual impacts of the stable structure. All other structures, including the two water tanks, the mobile home and the two sheds are not visible at all either from Higgins Canyon Road or Highway 1. The structure which can be seen partially from both Highway 1 and Higgins Canyon 23 Road is the stable structure.



The commissioners were out on the site yesterday and

are in a position to assess the impacts, visual impacts of that structure.

THE COMMISSIONER: We weren't on the site.

MS. BREWER: Yes. Perhaps the Applicant can explain why he did not wish the commissioners and the members of the public to visit the site itself. I do have some photographs later on and we can see that.

We can see some elevations of the well structures.

This is the tractor shed -- keep going -- and full plans. You also have the barns. There's the stable. There's elevations.

Full plans. Again, elevations. That's the full plan, three stalls, tack room, bathroom. There's also a closet.

(Next slide, please.) There's the mobile home that is proposed to be designated affordable housing. It's one story, 1200 square feet.

These are the sheds I was referring to. What you see is the tractor shed -- keep going -- this is the other view of the two sheds -- keep going -- frontal view of the sheds. That's the mobile home. This is the stable structure. You can see the stalls. These are the three horses that he has on the property. This, again, is the view of the house. These are the two water tanks that are going to replace the single-water tank which we saw from the highway. They are about 8 feet in height. That is the water tank in the background that is visible and is supposed to be removed. And



that's it.

Like I mentioned, the issues here are the visual impacts and also the legalization of the septic system which is to serve the mobile home.

Frank, could we please go back to the site plan?

There's an existing 1500-gallon septic tank as indicated on the site plan. This is not permitted and is part of the negative declaration. This is made -- mitigation -- mitigating measure and to be adopted as a condition of approval.

The Applicant signed the letter of concurrence with a note saying that -- essentially not agreeing with this mitigation measure.

At this time, if the Applicant, before the hearing, does not clarify or does not agree to this mitigation measure, then no further decision can be made. If the Planning Commission is in a position to certify the negative declaration subject to the Applicant's concurrence, then the staff is approving recommendation at this time.

Are there any questions? I'd be happy to answer.

SPEAKER: Where is the water tank that is being removed, on this site plan?

MS. BREWER: It's not shown here?

SPEAKER: Right.

MS. BREWER: It's not shown here.

If it were shown, where would it be? SPEAKER: MS. BREWER: Yes. It's -- that's what I was trying 2 It would be -- that's the stable. to get. 3 THE COMMISSIONER: Move up to --4 MS. BREWER: Right here? 5 THE COMMISSIONER: -- right about there, in that 6 area there. 7 MS. BREWER: Okay. 8 SPEAKER: And I guess the other question is, Given 9 the map that you showed previous which shows the entire parcel, what piece of the parcel are we looking at now? MS. BREWER: Can we go back? Let's see. 12 SPEAKER: Could be a southern property line, the 13 jagged property line, and then go to the next picture, you'll 14 see you're right about in there. It's turned. The other way. 15 So there's that lower southern property line and were --161 SPEAKER: Then it's upside down. 17 SPEAKER: Go back, Candy, one. Oh, you know what 18 that property line is? It's the bottom of Parcel A. We've only shown Parcel B here and that other drawing includes 20 Parcel A. 21 MS. BREWER: So --22 See at the bottom of the screen? SPEAKER: 23 Isn't the house right there, Oscar? MS. BREWER: 24 The location of the -- see where Yeah. MR. BRAUN: 25

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the parcel number is?

Right. MS. BREWER:

Right in there. Exactly. Within a MR. BRAUN: couple hundred feet of where the house is. That's a saddle. It's about midway up the property. It's in the saddle, and the empty tank, if that's your inquiry, is sitting on the edge of an access road.

So let's go back to the other picture, SPEAKER: please. Rotate it 90 degrees to the left. If you look at that southern property line in relation to Higgins Canyon Road, I think that may be including Parcel A which, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe it's owned by a relative of Mr. Braun's.

> MR. BRAUN: That's my brother (inaudible.) THE COMMISSIONER: Any other questions for Miroo?

SPEAKER: What are the clustering requirements for this zoning district?

The LCP addresses the clustering MS. BREWER: requirements for more on the agricultural component and we see that -- I mean, this is Resource Management District, and we do see that there is some kind of clustering happening at two places. One is where all the sheds are and where the mobile home is, and the other is where the stable and the house is. 23

> Is it required? SPEAKER:

Let me read -- it's in the Development --SPEAKER:

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I'm sorry, the Resource Management District references Chapter -- in the case of the coastal zone, Chapter 36A2 which were development review criteria, and these were a series of mostly qualitative but to some degree quantitative criteria that applied to new development, and within those there's a section on site design criteria. I believe that's where --

MS. BREWER: My recollection goes to Resource Management District regulations do not --

SPEAKER: Require --

MS. BREWER: -- require --

SPEAKER: There's a bonus for clustering, I believe, but not a requirement. That's how it works.

MS. BREWER: The agricultural component of LCP Policy 5.51 speaks to the clustering issue.

SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

THE COMMISSIONER: Open to public hearing and the first speaker will be Oscar Braun.

MR. BRAUN: Good afternoon, Chairman Nobles; Commissioners.

Just for your own -- to respond to the last question, when the -- when our original residence was cited, the original location was actually approved by the Planning Commission at the time. It was a bill to the Board of Supervisors and the current location was selected by the Sierra Club, and you do get bonuses for clustering.





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I'm here today, obviously, to request that you approve our legalization process and bring it to an end. will be brief in my comments, and I thought I would like to put on the record just a few omissions from the chronological calendar of events. I think you'll find that this was a very 6 unusual project. It notes that the -- in February, the 27th of 1998, the complaint was received by the County in the form of a letter from Mrs. Givanoni (phonetic). I provided you yesterday with some additional documents, and the -- I wanted to call your attention to in January of 1998, just the previous month, I behalf -- on behalf of our foundation, filed a complaint with -- against the County Public Works and State Parks and Recreation, our neighbors, for dumping into the Royal Leon and Mill Creek (phonetic).

The following month -- and, again, you were provided with that letter yesterday -- I -- on behalf of the Higgins Canyon Homeowners' Association, I sent Bill Rosar (phonetic) and Gary Warren a faxed questionnaire that the Homeowners' Association had regarding the development of Half Moon Bay Paving and Sealing and the Wildlife Associates, I believe.

Anyway, in response to that, on the 27th, the letter We were issued the citation, as it shows here, on March the 12th.

In early April or possibly late March of 1998, I received a call from Director Paul Koenig (phonetic), and Paul





asked me if myself and my brother would be open to going to some conflict settlement that was being -- that would be sponsored by the County on -- and would be operated by the Peninsula Community -- you have the document. I enclosed a copy yesterday.

Anyway, my brother and I agreed, as did the Givanonis agreed, to attend the process, and the County spared no expense, literally, the -- the 103 mediators to come in and talk to us on May the 18th.

We spent the better part of the day in conference with them, and at the conclusion of the first day we hadn't completed our efforts and they asked if they wanted to continue, and the Givanonis elected not to continue at that time.

Shortly after that meeting, literally within days, I got back to Paul that we were not going to be able to go forward, and I told him that we were prepared to go forward and apply for the appropriate applications to legalize our stable and sheds and whatever he (sic) wanted done. He said fine; he would have the planner contact me. The planner that was on the project left the agency. You've had a new planner named Laura Smith that just started literally within days of this conversation that I just mentioned to you, and Laura said that she would be getting back to me as soon as she got up to speed; to set an appointment where I could come in, fill out





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the applications, pay the fees, et cetera.

Some time went by and then a -- in July a final notice was sent out, faxed to the ranch which I received. 4 Upon receipt of that notice, you will find a copy of an e-mail that I exchanged with Planner Thompson and arranged an appointment for September the 15th at the County Planning Department.

On September 14th I was in my office at the ranch and through the office door came Code Enforcement Officer Gary Warren and Sheriff's deputy. They had accessed the property without being allowed to. They had to go through a security gate system, parked up at the main compound, which you can see is quite a distance and, as I say, just walked right in. was on an international conference call and I was presented by Gary Warren and the Sheriff's deputy with a citation for not applying for the permits. I explained to them that that was in the works. I showed them my calendar. I said the very next day, tomorrow morning, I will be at the Planning Department at 10:00 o'clock, and you know, we've never -- not allowed to do this. Anyway, I threw them off the property. 201

The next day at 10:00 o'clock sharply I met with Planner Thompson, and we were in the conference at about 10:15 -- with the application spread out before us. Gary Warden -- Warren, Margaret Hernandez and a Sergeant Deputy Delhorto (phonetic) came into the office, asked for to 11



(sic) step out, and Sergeant Delhorto said that he had been instructed to cite me. I said, "For what?"

"And it's not for" -- "for not applying for your legalization or stable permit."

I said, "Well, that's what I'm doing now," you know, and I was -- it was literally pushed into my face. I was told to sign, which I did, and the -- apologies aside from -- Mr. Warren said that he had been instructed by Mr. Bruin (phonetic) to do such, because he felt that I was not actually going to apply for this.

I took the citation, the summons, and rather than having any confidence at that point that the County would somehow treat me in any appropriate way, I decided to go before the Municipal Court, and I specifically asked the judge to monitor the whole application process to see that my wife and I were treated fairly. She agreed to do that, and the hearing was set, which I appeared, and I believe I subpoenaed 12 of the Planning Department folks to come down and see if we could get this thing straightened out.

That very day I filled out the application -finished filling out -- and presented the check, which had
been sitting around for some time. I must say that I got
good, courteous responses from all the planners that I've
dealt with on this which has been four. So it would be Laura
Thompson, who is no longer with the department; Lily Toy, who





took over from her, or currently, Miroo Brewer, is

(inaudible); quite candidly, I think that she would be proud
to represent this County.

Having said that, I'm afraid that this process has gone from bad to worse. If you will find the documents that I presented to you yesterday that the -- when the health inspector came out on the initial complaint from the Givanonis, in his handwritten report he found no violations as asserted by the Givanonis.

I filed, in turn, a complaint with the District Attorney's Office Environmental Division and they came out and they further investigated. And you can check with yourself as to what their findings were, but their findings in short were that there was no illegal activities happening on the Braun's property with regard to the dumping of garbage or anything else; that materials found on our property were, in fact, brought up there by no other than the Givanonis. And (inaudible) et cetera, et cetera. Anyway, it's a matter of public records; it's a matter of the investigation records.

You'll also find in the letters I provided you yesterday, a letter from our attorney who is trying to bring this thing to an end. Our property does not -- is not on any water sources within the valley -- I mean within the county.

And I'm sure that you're aware of the nature of our foundation's work.



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The process just seems to never end. I've had three, I count three, health department inspections. talked and arranged for a health inspector to come up. is in addition to the first investigation. They examined the entire property. They examined the trailer inside and out. They examined the 6 They examined the septic tank location. septic fill. They did the measuring from the well. They did everything they were required to do and asked to do. was there during the whole thing, and he notified Thompson that everything was great.

SPEAKER: Oscar, this is all very interesting, but it's not relevant to what's --

MR. BRAUN: Well, it's relevant from the standpoint that the bone of contention seems to be here with this last-minute request for the mitigation.

Now, on September the 11th -- this September the 11th -- I was notified by e-mail by Miroo Brewer that they were doing -- the health department was revising their neg dec, and now it was going to be, for some unexplained reason, a need for mitigation, otherwise moving the other drain field tanker booths or what have you.

My response to her that day, which again is part of the record which I provided you, is that we have had not one, two, but three inspections by the health department and that their inspectors have said that everything that needed to be



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done by the Brauns had been done to that point and there was no need for mitigation; that we were in full compliance of the current 1996 versions of the septic fill ordinance. Okay.

So another thing happened, obviously, on the 11th, and what happened on the 11th is that our foundation staff attorney, our environmental attorney, was killed on Flight 93, and it has been since that time, quite candidly, that we have done a referral, and that's what this cover note is. just, you know, do what you want.

You know, we have tried for four years, four years, to -- to fulfill every little fantasy that this County's want (sic), and if the County wants to continue, that they might. There has been a great many actions, in which time does not allow me to go into, that senior staff of planning has done; that is, malfeasance and abuse of process, and those issues, regardless of what your decision is today, will be taken care of.

I'm asking you, quite candidly, just to bring closure to this situation. It should be a great, great embarrassment to this County. You know, this type of -- this type of actions (sic) is uncalled for. We're not going away, and the last thing I'll tell you is that, before the end of this December, the property is being put into a terrible 24 remainder trust (phonetic) and is being marketed, as we stand 25 here, by Caldwell Banker internationally.

So there isn't going to be any more squeezing of our shoes because we have done everything to protect the public's health and safety. We've done everything that this County has asked us to do, and it's all a matter of record. I'm asking you not to have this go before the Board of Supervisors. I don't think that's in this County's interest.

Thank you.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Oscar. I think we'll probably go into asking you some questions in a moment.

MR. BRAUN: I'm sorry.

THE COMMISSIONER: What I'd like to, have a member of the public, who has to leave immediately, to -- a chance to speak and then we'll give you chance --

MR. BRAUN: I'll be glad to come back and answer any questions, surely.

THE COMMISSIONER: Lenny Roberts (phonetic), please.

MS. ROBERTS: Afternoon, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission. I'm Lenny Roberts, and I'm speaking for the Committee for Green Foothills (phonetic).

We want to commend the staff for continuing to pursue this set of violations that has been going on for a number of years. But we think you have some issues before you can even consider granting the permits after the fact for these violations.

First of all, Condition No. 7 in the staff report





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would require Mr. Braun to pay applicable violation and investigation fees that were outlined there. We don't believe you should consider approving anything until those investigation fees are paid to the County.

Secondly, I think I just heard today Mr. Braun continuing to refuse to accept the mitigation measure that is in the negative declaration. This is a legitimate measure and it does go to public health and safety issues because per -septic tanks that have been put in without permits need to be verified as to their adequacy and to their location, particularly when they're in close proximity to the well that supplies drinking water.

So this is an important mitigation measure, and without his agreeing to it, you can't certify the negative declaration.

I also think this entire property needs to be shown. Applicants usually do have the entire parcel shown with all the components that are being legalized, the gate, which I quess is not on his property, come to think of it, and the existing water tank that will be removed. Anything else that's on there should be shown on the site plan.

The reason that I'm concerned is that, if you look at the long history and the chronology, it has taken a very long time to get here, including the County having to go to court to require the appropriate documents to be submitted in



order to find the application adequate to proceed.

And then the last issue that I have is that -- and I did include this with my comments on the negative dec, that in press releases and other information that Mr. Braun has let -- put out in the public, he does indicate that his house is 10,000 square feet. The Coastal Development permit that was granted in 1991 was for 7500-square-foot house, and I think it needs to be verified whether the house is, in fact, the same size that the permit was for. And I don't believe that has been done.

So those are my comments. I think before you even get into consideration of the -- of the conditions and the details of this project, you do need to get agreement on paying on a violation investigation fees and also -- should not receive unless that is done, and also the mitigation measure which I don't hear agreement to today.

Thank you.

THE COMMISSIONER: I have two more speakers (inaudible). I want to call these speakers and then have Oscar come back up.

Cindy Givanoni.

MS. GIVANONI: Good afternoon. Thank you for letting me speak. I had a couple of issues about this project too and legalizing all these illegal structures and things he has placed on this property.



When he got this property, there was nothing on this property, and he was allowed to build a home, which I was under the impression was the only thing that was supposed to actually be there.

My question was, How was the well and septic for the barn that is below the house or the stable that he wants to legalize -- it's below the house -- how is that -- the full bathroom currently be served by that septic that's on the -- on the other side of the house?

If I see this correctly, I don't know how the waste gets over there to that septic. I don't see anything on the plan that -- I just see some line there, that sewer tight line, but does it go all the way to the existing septic tank and drain field? I don't know.

THE COMMISSIONER: Well, let's see if we can find out.

MS. GIVANONI: See, that stable has a full-blown bathroom in it. But I don't understand if that's accurate there, that there's a sewer tight line. I don't know. Has it been verified? Is it documented that it really goes over to this other existing -- the permitted septic tank and drain field? That was one of my questions.

And another question I have, The well for the affordable housing unit -- that was not permitted apparently -- is it using the existing residential well or --



I don't understand any of this.

I do know that several years ago Mr. Braun actually ran out of water and we trucked him some water. So I don't know if he has -- if his well is actually adequate to supply the affordable housing unit, his residence, and the stable that he's proposing to legalize, and I don't know if the affordable unit well is too close to the unpermitted septic that he has down there. I don't know. There aren't any dimensions or anything on this plan that to me tells that there's -- that it's far enough away. I don't know. I was always under the impression that, when you submitted plans, that they had to have actual footages, you know, and actual documentation on them.

THE COMMISSIONER: It does. I think that's true.

MS. GIVANONI: Okay. Thank you.

And even the stable that he's proposing to legalize, I don't see any dimensions on any of the plans that have been provided. What's the actual size of that? Is it -- does it need to be sprinklered or anything? Is the square footage on it? I didn't see that.

And then there was another item of concern: the land clearing and grading. There was a lot of land cleared on this property, and I don't think it has ever been substantiated. I don't know if he has the required -- if he's gotten any required permits, but they did level land to build these

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buildings on.

And I have another item: That the work that was done, did anybody -- was there any erosion or anything that could have caused problems for the neighboring properties? I don't know that either.

And my last question was, Where all these buildings have been placed, should there not have been some kind of an archeological report or study to be dealt with? I do know when we went through this, we had to have an archeologist on our property to make sure there weren't any artifacts or Indian burial grounds, because it's in close proximity to the Johnston Ranch, and apparently there was a mill back there at one time, just on the other side of his property.

Thank you for letting me speak.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

Jack Olson.

MR. OLSON: Morning, Commissioner Nobles, Members of the Commission. It's a pleasure to be here today. Following on Lenny's comment relative to the mitigation fees, I also feel that this should not go forward until those fees were paid.

In my employment with Farm Bureau, I frequently see applicants that are found in the same kind of a situation, and traditionally, the County has been very lenient in allowing the different -- applicant comes forward within the required





time frame, that all penalty fees are waived, and you're given 30 days from the notice of violation, not to submit, but to begin, in good faith, in working with staff to provide material. And I can say that most of the people that I've had interaction with have taken that very seriously and done just that.

In fact, one area adjacent to this was the property that Thomas Pacheco and Wayne Pastorino (phonetic) were operating, a feed storage and hay and grain operation, and Mr. Braun appealed that, and actually Mr. Pastorino and Mr. Pacheco actually gave up on that, and I'd like to take the opportunity to see if any of the permit fees paid by them would be due back because their permit was never actually brought forward beyond the zoning hearing officer, and I do know that they did pay significant dollars at that point, and I can provide documentation as to the amounts that were paid and what they were paid for.

But again, I would encourage you to step back with why are the fees (sic) and look at the other issues that need to be resolved before this could move forward.

Thank you.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Jack. The matter of the fee and returning of them is not the Planning Commission business. You have to talk to --

MR. OLSON: I'd be more than happy to --

THE COMMISSIONER: -- other people at the County.

MR. OLSON: -- take it up with Terry.

THE COMMISSIONER: Okay. Oscar, would you come back up, please, and there's a couple of questions I have here.

One is can you clarify the matter of the house size; number two, is there a split antenna on your property; and if so, is it permitted, and then we will need a site plan eventually too, but could you ...

MR. BRAUN: Sure. First question regarding the house size. The building permit for the house in 1991, I believe is 7500 square feet, and my understanding that the formula there is based on inside space.

For instance, the -- they don't count open-air porches, and this particular house has nearly 3,000 square feet of porches, so the -- what she's referring to is not a press release. It is a description by Caldwell Banker, and it says approximately 10,000 square feet, so the house is not part of this application, for one thing, but, I mean, the house is exactly what it was when it was built 10 years ago, so I mean, it's -- Lenny's welcome to do any research she wants.

THE COMMISSIONER: Okay.

MR. BRAUN: But with regards to the full parcel maps, the County has a complete set of full parcel --

THE COMMISSIONER: But we need maps that show all

your structures. The maps that you have here have all the MR. BRAUN: 2 structures. The -- as I said earlier --3 THE COMMISSIONER: No dimensions on them or anything. 5 MR. BRAUN: What's that? 6 THE COMMISSIONER: There are no dimensions on these. 7 We don't know how far apart these buildings are or anything like that, from this map. 9 MR. BRAUN: Well, that's a -- that's a surveyed 10 topographical map. I mean, you know, it's scaled. 11 you can -- anybody can measure it. I mean, the maps that we provided to County were done by Horizon, so I mean, it's --13 SPEAKER: I would suggest to the Chair, if I could, 14 that -- you say anyone could measure this. Then perhaps, 15 then, you should have someone do that, provide the normal type of detail that is normally provided on -- on plans that are 17 submitted, that include dimensions, scales, so it's easy to 18 determine if what is shown on the plan conforms to what's 19 there in the field. 20 I do believe it's a policy of the County that before 21 we issue one permit, that we want to see that all -- all 22 potential violations on a property are taken care of without 23 being able to assess -- you know, for instance, I'm hearing 24

you say, "Well, gee, the house is built according to approved



plans." Well, I'd like to have -- I'd like to have fully accurate, normal site plans which depict what's on the property so that we can be clear that everything that needs to be cleared up is cleared up at one time.

MR. BRAUN: I repeat: That with -- regarding whether it be plot plans, site plans, this and that and the other, we were provided by the planner at the time of application, a list of documents. We provided them -- whether they be elevations, whether they be surveyed maps as to location of the structures, the size of the structures, et cetera, those have all been presented to the County, and we have received, I believe, as of October of 2000, possibly September of 2000, that the County had received everything that they need in order to process this.

I believe that Miroo would testify that she has been to the site twice and that, you know -- at the time of departing, I have always asked her and previous planners, "Is there anything else in which we can do to help you finish processing this?" And the answer has been, "You have provided us with everything that we need. Thank you."

Okay. So whether it's to the dimensions of the barn or, you know, where the sewer tight line is and stuff like that, that has all been provided.

We've had multiple inspectors from different departments up there. I'm assuming that they have filled out



their reports. I mean -- but, I mean, issues are being raised 2 today that have nothing to do with application before you. Our residence is not our stable and is not tractor sheds, and 3 if the County wants to pursue that -- I think that maybe they have the right to pursue it, but under a different 5 application. I would hope that the focus today would stay on 6 the matter before you. 7 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Braun, your house is not the 8 (inaudible). It was just a matter of curiosity. There is --9 MR. BRAUN: Well, I understand that, and I 10 understand --11 THE COMMISSIONER: -- 10,000 feet, and now you've 12 explained that --13 MR. BRAUN: Yeah. 14 THE COMMISSIONER: 15 So --MR. BRAUN: Thank you, Commissioner. 16 In regards to the antennas, we have a lease 17 agreement -- it's like our neighbor's post, with Aleris Group 18 (phonetic) for Sprint antenna, and we've had that for several 19 years, and it has not been processed because Mr. Burns 20 (phonetic) filed to our deed a continuing nuisance, and 21 Aleris/Sprint has been told that, until this comes to 22 23 conclusion, they cannot proceed on that. THE COMMISSIONER: 24 Okay --

MR. BRAUN: Having said that -- having said that,

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the location -- staff has worked with Aleris and us -- Miroo,
Lily Toy -- and it is a 15-foot tree-shaped antenna that is
placed in a grove of trees down the middle of the face of the
hill, so it doesn't break the view line. It's a mile and a
half -- from the distance that you were at yesterday, you
looked up at those trees, you may or may not see an antenna
tree, because it's that small. That is something that has not
come before this Commission and it's certainly not illegal
(inaudible).

THE COMMISSIONER: And as far as I know, you don't have permit for a site. It's only if you make application to put up an antenna, then you have to get a permit.

MR. BRAUN: That's correct, and an application has been made and the fees have been paid by Aleris Group, and then again, that doesn't come up for processing --

THE COMMISSIONER: I understand.

MR. BRAUN: Until --

THE COMMISSIONER: And --

MR. BRAUN: -- this is brought to fruition.

THE COMMISSIONER: Right.

SPEAKER: I need to clarify something. I'm sorry.

22 Did you say the antenna's out there currently?

THE COMMISSIONER: No, no, no.

MR. BRAUN: No. I said the antenna.

SPEAKER: You said something about you'd see a



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I said the antenna is a 15-foot MR. BRAUN: tree-shaped antenna, proposed --

SPEAKER: Proposed --

MR. BRAUN: We have -- the lease exists.

SPEAKER: Yeah.

MR. BRAUN: But in order for antennas, as the Commissioner Justin said it, you have to get a permit.

SPEAKER: I just wanted to clarify that. We are -we did agree, I think, largely, at the -- you know, in response to requests from Sprint to segregate that matter from Mr. Braun's violations and allow it to move forward in processing. I'm not quite sure to what point. I think we felt we could bring that to a hearing but not go forward with construction permits, so that is in process. I'm not sure of its status. Kind of being treated as a separate matter from this stuff.

> Understandable. THE COMMISSIONER:

MR. BRAUN: I have one final question for the I -- I -- I would ask the Commission to have Commission: staff show them what it is that they have asked us to do over the last four years that we have, in fact, not done; what resistance, whether it be timeliness or anything else; refuse to get into the permit process.

I can tell you, I take it as a personal assault to

