

Statement from Rio Dell Planning Commissioner Alice Millington on her resignation (6/22/16)

Hi Sharon...As you know my health has been an issue of late; it has seemed to have an effect on my cognition and I wondered how long I could even be useful on the Planning Commission. But each day seems to be different than the last. I thought, that by the end of the year, this might be behind me and I could be back to norm. Also, with Billy Long being gone, it didn't seem like a good time to create another vacancy.

However, I felt that if the vote went in favor of the ordinance, that I could assist in an orderly transition of the downtown, from depressed to thriving community with an actual economy. So I thought I would stay until such time as I actually couldn't participate (due to health). With last night's vote, I confess, I lost the interest.

It appears to me the most obvious, and only, way to boost our economy was to welcome this ordinance and all it might entail, knowing there'd be lots of work ahead. But this was dumped in our laps by the fates. We didn't ask for it. Since we personally believe recreational MJ is just around the bend, I thought we'd have accumulated some knowledge by then, to assist the transition. But just saying "NO" doesn't require any gain of knowledge.

To be brutally honest, I personally felt that if we can't do it right, if we can't bring it in, out of the shadows, if we can't welcome it as a Positive, Pleasurable, and Profitable array of businesses that other communities have been able to accomplish---in other words---if we're not set up for success; then don't bother. If all we're after is excessive regulation and taxation, then don't bother.

Well, 3 out of 5 council members didn't. They preferred fear of the unknown to forging into the future...Alice