



## CITY OF BIGGS -

WHERE THE PEOPLE OWN THE POWER AND THE WATER

SEPTEMBER 2011

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## How is Biggs Doing?

This is a good question, especially in light of the doom and gloom we hear and read about at so many agencies at all levels of government.

Biggs is not immune to the impact of reduced tax revenues, nor the impact of cost increases, that other cities and agencies are facing. However, Biggs city councils have been careful and prudent with public funds over the years, avoiding the kind of over-spending and over-committing common in other agencies.

Biggs utilizes a lot of vendor contracts to provide a full range of services from planning to engineering to legal to information systems to law enforcement and fire protection, in addition to providing its own electric, water, sewer and solid waste utilities as well as storm drainage, street maintenance and parks. It all costs money, and that's in tight supply, of course.

We recently extended our reduced-price contract with GBPD for two more years. We reduced city staffing by 15%. We are doing many things to control costs. Revenues from property taxes are down 6.5% this year. An abundance of water (thank you, Mother Nature) and careful buying of wholesale electricity are helping your electricity rates be stable once again this year.

It all adds up to this: your city just finished a fiscal year "in the black," and is starting a new one likewise in a reasonably healthy condition. We are rebuilding depleted reserves and saving up for rainy days ahead. We are planning for Biggs' growth and prosperity.

City Council members and staff welcome your comments and concerns:

- at Council connection chat 3-5PM the first Wednesday of each month;
- by phone, email or in-person visit;
- at city council meetings, normally the third Monday of each month at 6PM.

## Volunteers are Making the Difference



No doubt you have noticed the attractive new trees and planter benches downtown. BCAV (Biggs Community Action Volunteers), in partnership with the city, spear-headed the installation of these improvements. BCAV also planned and coordinated the successful National Night Out on August 2, with super support from Gridley-Biggs Police Department and

other agencies and volunteers.

If you would like more information about BCAV, or would like to volunteer, contact Mary at 868-1289.

## Rooms for Rent

Did you know that Biggs Community Hall (formerly known as the Veterans Memorial Building) is available for rental by private parties?

You can look up availability on the calendar at the city website.

Contact city hall customer service at 868-5493 for rates and scheduling.



### YOUR COUNCIL:

- ♦ **Roger Frith, Mayor**  
rogerf@biggs-ca.gov  
530-868-1289
- ♦ **Angela Thompson, Vice Mayor**  
angelat@biggs-ca.gov  
530-624-4148
- ♦ **Douglas Arnold**  
douga@biggs-ca.gov  
530-868-1208
- ♦ **Mike Bottorff**  
mikeb@biggs-ca.gov  
530-868-0740
- ♦ **James "Bo" Sheppard**  
bos@biggs-ca.gov  
530-868-1362

## Yes, You Can Recycle those Lights

Ord Ranch Road Transfer Station accepts used light bulbs and lighting tubes all year round, along with many other recyclables. Some hardware stores accept them, also. You can easily look up the many convenient locations for recycling specific things at [www.ButteRecycle.net](http://www.ButteRecycle.net)



## You Can Help Hometown Now



Our annual Hometown Celebration and fireworks show is very popular with the community and visitors. It takes a lot of work and donated funds to make it happen every year. One way you can help is by including an extra amount into your utility bill payment and noting that the extra is for Hometown. The city will forward your donation to Hometown for you.

## Get Connected. It's Free!

When there is a planned utility interruption like a power outage, or something big locally like National Night Out downtown, the city sends out an automated telephone call to Connect-CTY subscribers. There is no charge for this service. You'll be better informed about what's happening in Biggs. We will also use this tool to notify you of what to do in a local emergency such a major storm or community evacuation.



Calls are typically made as needed, once a month or less, between 8AM and 7PM. If you have a listed number, you are automatically enrolled. If you have an unlisted number, we invite you to sign up for this free service by clicking the "Sign Up Now" box on the city home page, or ask city customer service staff to assist you. You can also sign up for email and text options.



## Introducing Our New City Engineer

We welcome on board Biggs' new city engineer, Bennett Engineering Services. Senior Engineer Steve Speights will handle most Biggs city engineering functions, backed up by a whole team of experienced professionals at Bennett's Roseville office.

## COMMUNITY CORNER

- On a trial basis, ZUMBA is being offered at the Community Hall at 280 "B" Street on Monday at 4PM, Thursday at 7PM and on select Saturdays (when not otherwise rented) at 9AM. Come join in on the fun!
- Good News! The Buckshot Grill is now open on Mondays....and featuring new gluten free menu options.



“ 14 MILE YARD SALE ”

## OCTOBER 1, 2011 BIGGS COMMUNITY HALL “BIGGS BAZAAR”

Join us in Biggs at 7:00 a.m. for a Pancake Breakfast in conjunction with the 14 Mile Yard Sale's "Biggs Bazaar", including yard sales all over town and at the Biggs Community Hall. We will have Vendors, Music and a Zumba Party! Then head to Gridley for "Up Town, Down Town, All Around Town" Yard sale, Chili Cook-off and live music in the park. Finish your day in Live Oak to see what they have to offer!

A fun day intended for all to enjoy!

- "Biggs Bazaar"
- Pancake Breakfast
- Vendors: Tupperware, Cookie Lee, Premier, etc.
- ZUMBA with Shawnee!
- Yard Sales...Multi Family....Biggs/Gridley/Live Oak

280 "B" Street, Biggs CA

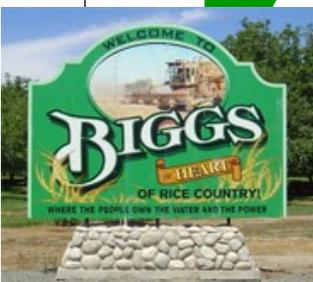
Stop by for maps of all locations!



**Contact Angela: 530.624.4148 or City Hall 530.868.5493**

Vendor Spaces Available for \$10.00 per 10 x 10 ft space inside or outside the community hall.

\$10.00 fee if you want to be placed on the map that will be distributed three cities wide.



**CITY OF BIGGS**

Biggs City Hall  
 PO Box 307  
 465 C Street  
 Biggs CA 95917  
 Phone: 530-868-5493



**City of Biggs**  
 Community Clean-up Day



Saturday, October 8, 2011

**9 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Material will not be taken after 1:00 P.M.**

**Location: On 7<sup>th</sup> St at B St.**

- ✓ **REQUIRED: Please bring Current City of Biggs Utility Bill.** There are no substitutions.
- ✓ Good for 1 load per utility bill. Residents must unload their own vehicles.

**We WILL accept – FREE**

- Stoves \* Washers \* Dryers \* E-Waste (TV, computers, anything with a cord) \* Mattresses \* Furniture \* Wood (untreated, unpainted) \* Steel \* Household batteries with ends taped \* Yard waste \* Household trash.
- ITEMS WILL BE LIMITED TO 4 FOOT IN LENGTH  
 [exceptions allowed: mattresses and sofas up to 8 feet and lumber up to 14 feet]

**We are UNABLE to accept**

- Commercial loads \* Hazardous Waste \* Pesticides \* Car bodies \* Concrete or asphalt \* Construction debris (for example: no roof tear-offs) \* Loads will be subject to refusal if any hazardous materials are present.

NOTE:  
 Ord Ranch Transfer Station  
 accepts most hazardous  
 wastes and will be open.

THIS COMMUNITY EVENT IS SPONSORED BY:



Disabled and Elderly Residents:  
 If you need help getting your  
 stuff to the dumpsters, please  
 contact the BCAV volunteers at  
 868-1289.

***WE'RE ON THE WEB!***

***WWW.BIGGS-CA.GOV***