Clapp vows to run for District 5 seat targeted by Kearney Recall

By Dana M. Nichols / Calaveras Enterprise / Friday July 22, 2016

Clyde Clapp of Valley Springs has announced he will seek the District 5 seat on the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors that is the target of a recall in November.

Steve Kearney currently represents the district. Clapp was part of a group that circulated petitions calling for Kearney’s recall. If a majority votes to recall Kearney, then the seat will go to the replacement candidate who gets the most votes.

Recall advocates said they were motivated by Kearney’s vote in favor of allowing an asphalt plant to operate near Valley Springs without a conditional use permit. But Clapp said that he sees the asphalt plant approval as part of a larger pattern in which supervisors allow economic development – including the marijuana industry - that is not in the interest of the largely retiree population in the county.

“Our supervisors have lost sight of what our community is,” Clapp said.

Kearney, in contrast, campaigned on a promise to bring jobs to the area, a goal likely to appeal to working-age adults who need jobs.

Clapp said that he is not alone in blaming county supervisors for the rapid changes in the county in recent years.

“It is going so fast it is like you can’t keep up with it,” he said. “God only knows what happens next week. The board is not competent.”

Calaveras County Coordinator Robin Glanville said Thursday that no one has yet contacted her to express interest in getting their name on the ballot as a candidate for the District 5 seat.

She said candidates will have from July 27 to August 25 to pick up papers and either submit signatures from valid voters or pay the candidate fee. The fee is $563.06, equal to 1 percent of the salary for the job. If a candidate obtains 529 valid signatures from voters in the district, then the fee is waived. Candidates who obtain fewer than 529 signatures can use them to waive a portion of the fee.