

**MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (MCRCD)**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**MINUTES**

**Date:** Wednesday, September 4th, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

**Location:** Mariposa County Resource Conservation District Office, 5039 Fairgrounds Road, Mariposa, CA 95338

**Directors present:** David Mecchi, John Schroeder, and Lyle Turpin.

**Directors absent:** John Carrier.

**Associate directors present:** None.

**Associate directors absent:** None.

**Staff present:** Melinda Barrett, Vicky Cole, John Grimes.

**Guests:** NRCS: Robyn Smith, Austin Welke, And Paola Xenos.

**Call to order:** 2:04 PM by MCRCD Board President David Mecchi.

**Public communication:** None.

**Minutes:** (M) Lyle Turpin to approve August Minutes. (S) John Schroeder. No discussion followed. Ayes: John Schroeder, Lyle Turpin, David Mecchi. Nays: None. Motion approved.

**Correspondence:** 1) Received by mail: From California Department of Tax and Fee Administration. Request to update MCRCD information. 2) By mail, From California Energy Commission. Notification of Grants Ombudsman service.

**Information Items and/or Special Guests:** None.

**Staff reports:**

**IRWMP:** Verbal report submitted by Melinda.

**NRCS:** Written report submitted by Robyn.

**Point Blue:** Written report submitted by Elaina.

**MCRCD:** Verbal report submitted by Vicky.

**Directors Reports:**

**Lyle:** He talked about an appointment he had in Sonora. He was listening to the local radio and he heard about a fire at Lake Don Pedro. On his way back, a street was closed due to another fire caused by a jeep overheating. This morning he was listening to the scanner and 2 helicopters were flying around, working on three "gardens"; his son was watching through with his binoculars and they were chasing people. The authorities were "taking business" that day, he doesn't know if they caught any or not. Then he had a question for David, Lyle was driving across the country and he saw walnut trucks, most were full with green timber and he doesn't understand how the taxes work. How is harvested timber taxed? David said it is about volume and explained to him. Lyle said at the end that he will call the Department of Water Resources and let them know that the two helicopters took the water from the pond.

**John Schroeder:** He said we have a link on our website to the You Tube channel. It sends you to an introduction video. He doesn't like that link and he will change it. Melinda doesn't like it either. She suggested creating another video link with a forestry picture. John S. said that the video library has been reviewed by CAL FIRE. He said that two video reviews are pending. One of them is about Home owner's insurance. He also sent his application to attend the Fire Adviser Committee, Melinda is participating also.

**John Carrier:** None.

David Mecchi: He has been supporting the office by signing papers and he mentioned that in the winter season he will be able to come to the office more frequently.

**Future Agenda Items:** None.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

Personnel: None.

Finance: Melinda asked to look at the Treasure's Summary; on revenue we have \$1,462 and we spent \$17,000. She said it shows the situation clearly. Also, she said this is a good example to look at it's the first report of the new fiscal year. Then she asked to see 803 financial and said that it's the perfect snapshot of our expenses because it shows what it costs to keep the doors open. Basically, she said that next month we have to use the contingency funds. She said we are in very terrible shape. We have a lot of money owed to us, and we have bills to pay and we have to pay our vendors. How are we going to finish our projects if people don't get paid?.

Grants: Melinda said that she's working on two grants for the Water Conservation Board; we are still waiting for the check from PG&E. Melinda got contacted for Sierra Nevada Alliance, and they have a program from Sierra Corp Fellows- a kind of AmeriCorps. She said we will get a fellow for a year, they will pay all the salary, and Melinda will be responsible for training him and for the reporting. Melinda wonders where we are going to put this person. She will have to write a detailed plan and probably won't be complete it in time- she's very busy. Regarding CAL FIRE, she said the work is done, there is a little money left and she's going to try to transfer it to her salary. She also talked about a complaint that a customer has against ArborWorks; Don Florence said they damaged the road but it's a County road. David said to Melinda "if Don Florence calls again tell him to call me". David offered to help with that problem. Don Florence is not the customer. The last thing regarding Grants is the CCI Forest Health Grant. We are partners with Yosemite National Park and Mariposa County. Work can begin anytime. Melinda requested an advanced payment of \$515,000 dollars. The site visit is done. They hired a Forester specifically for this grant, and she's coming on October 19.

Forestry & Fuels Management: None.

Plant Sale: Vicky mentioned the possibility to delay the plant sale to winter time with no conclusion. She will talk with Bonnie from Intermountain Nursery to check on the plant availability and then she will share with the Board to make a decision.

Policy: None.

**Financial Reports:** Please see at Finance committee report.

**Discussion:** No discussion about RCD expectations document, we will discuss this subject at the Special Meeting. The Board will schedule a Special Meeting this September 12, 2019.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM. (M) John Schroeder, (S) Lyle Turpin. Ayes: John Schroeder, Lyle Turpin, David Mecchi. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Submitted by: Vicky Cole

Date Approved: 10/02/2019

Recorded minutes of this meeting are available in the RCD office. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication or assistance should contact our office at above number, at least 5 days prior to the event. An equal opportunity provider and employer.

**MCRCD Mission Statement**

The mission of the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District is to encourage and facilitate cooperative solutions to local resources conservation issues and projects. By providing leadership, the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District works with all stakeholders to find solutions that conserve the basic natural resources of Mariposa County. To further this aim, the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District provides technical assistance to landowners, carries out informational activities, seeks and implements grants and other funding sources, and develops cooperative alliances with other agencies and community organizations.