

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

Date: Wednesday, December 4th, 2019 @ 2:00 PM

Location: Mariposa County Resource Conservation District Office, 5174 Hwy 140 2nd. Floor
Mariposa, CA 95338

Directors present: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Lyle Turpin.

Directors absent: None.

Associate directors present: None.

Associate directors absent: None.

Staff present: Melinda Barrett, Vicky Cole.

Guests: Wayne Kelly.

Call to order: 2:00 PM by MCRCD Board President David Mecchi.

Public communication: Wayne Kelly had a question. Wayne said that it seems that the RCD deals mainly with Water Conservation than other areas. Melinda explained basically is because we have the IRWMP and that focused more on water but we also do Forest management, Fire prevention and Fuels reduction.

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

Correspondence: 1) Received by email: From Mariposa County Auditor's Office. Holyday Check Run Schedule. 2) Received by mail: From the Campbell Foundation. \$5,000 check as grant to Mariposa RCD for General Support. 3) Received by email: From the Campbell Foundation. Invitation for apply to Conference Grants. Deadline to submit the request is January 15, 2020. 4) Received by email: From Robyn Smith. NRCS and Point Blue monthly reports.

Information Items and/or Special Guests: None.

Staff reports:

IRWMP: Verbal report submitted by Melinda.

MCRCD: Verbal report submitted by Vicky.

Directors Reports:

John Carrier: He said he got a few trees down on the last storm and he watched three really good shows about water issues.

Lyle: He talked about article on Mariposa Gazette about Mariposa County Fire Adviser Committee. The County will change some laws about how you should clear your land and will be some fees, fire codes. Also he talked about chainsaw tool that you can't buy it. You have to take your chainsaw to a certificated shop.

David Mecchi: David basically signed papers or respond Vicky text messages requesting permission to use the stamp. He emptied the storage unit and returned the gate card. Melinda mentioned that we're saving \$700 / year without it.

Future Agenda Items: None.

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel: None.

Finance: John reviewed the financials with Vicky; basically the crazy part is the frustration to match the balances. The good news is that we're on track, money is coming in, and we paid the bills. John said even if we don't get the County Fire place we won't have any issues, we're in a good financial spot and we will be able to keep paying the rent for the new place. Melinda pointed out that the balance on 821 account is an advance payment for the Health Forest Grant and has to be spent by April, so Blue Ridge is going to start working. Yosemite Park probably won't start working until February, but Melinda believes that the County will be able to spend all the money between now and April, because if we don't spend it, we have to return the money and we won't get any more advance payments.

Grants: For CCI Forest Health Melinda is going to write a press release; she also talked about this grant on the Finance subcommittee. She's been working on the RCPP grant; this is the Grant that we hired Smiley to do the work. We got a conference call and apparently we are the only ones working on it on the state of California. About the Video Grant, we launched, Melinda wrote a press release, sent an articles to the newspaper, we had 30 subscribers. Melinda asked to the Directors to subscribe to the Chanel. She's planning to do a presentation for the Board of Supervisors. John Schroeder wrote a letter so we're going to share with all the stakeholders. Last thing on grants is that Elaina Cromer contacted her, there is a grant for Healthy Soil Program, and it's a grant for organizations for help landowners to apply for this healthy soils program. Point Blue got the original grant and Elaina was asking her if she can promote the grant with farmers and ranchers. She said to her that she will happy to distribute your information but it seems like NRCS is the place to do it or with Fadzayi Mashiri from UCCE. Elaina asked if we're going to apply and Melinda said no, we don't want to compete for the same thing.

Forestry & Fuels Management: None.

Plant Sale: None.

Policy: None.

Financial Reports: See at Finance subcommittee.

Unfinished Business: None.

Action Items: None.

Discussion: NRCS offer. We met with Sharon Nance, overall it went well. We talked about Robyn doesn't have to attend the Board meetings. Sharon agreed on give us a break for three months because with Robyn we can't talk openly. It's nothing against Robyn and nothing against NRCS; we just need time to get our feet back. Sharon asked us to keep the agreements we have with them and subcontract Coarsegold RCD to hire again John Grimes. So Coarsegold will bill to us then we have to bill to NRCS and do all the reports and then after we get the reimbursement pay to Coarsegold RCD. Coarsegold is in worst situation that us, they don't have office space and money to pay salaries. Coarsegold RCD won't have Board meeting this December until January, then they will discuss with the Board. We will wait for Coarsegold RCD to meet and then we can add this offer on January Board Meeting as action item and also get an opinion to County Counsel. Julie from Coarsegold RCD talked with Melinda and it's not official but she thinks they won't accept the offer.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:58 PM. (M) John Carrier, (S) Lyle Turpin. Ayes: John Carrier, Lyle Turpin, David Mecchi. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Submitted by: Vicky Cole

Date Approved: 01/08/2020

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.