

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

Date: Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023 @ 2:00 PM

Location: Conference Room at the Ag. Commissioner's Office 5009 Fairground Rd.
Mariposa, CA 95338

Directors present: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Wayne Kelly, and Lyle Turpin.

Directors absent: None.

Associate directors present: None.

Associate directors absent: None.

Staff present: Melinda Barrett, Vicky Cole.

Guests: None.

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

Public communication: None.

Minutes: (M) Wayne Kelly to approve June 2023 Minutes. (S) John Carrier. No discussion followed. Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Lyle Turpin, Wayne Kelly. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Correspondence: 1) Received by mail from Mariposa County Planning Department. Request for Comments for the Happy Goat, Inc project. 2) Received by email, from SDRMA. 2022-23 Worker's Compensation Annual Reconciliation Opens July 15, 2023. Due on August 15, 2023. 3) Received by mail from SDRMA. Some updates about how were calculated the cost of the Liability Insurance invoice for this fiscal year. 4) Received by email from Mariposa County. Received the resolution for Lyle Turpin and John Carrier appointed as MCRCD Directors.

Information Items and/or Special Guests: None.

Staff reports:

IRWMP: Verbal report submitted by Melinda.

MCRCD: Verbal report submitted by Vicky.

Directors Reports:

Lyle Turpin: Lyle gave the report on Lake McClure. He also talked about the difference in prices of the cattle feed. He mentioned that has a couple of projects that need a conservation permit but it is hard to get the right information. Melinda informed him that there is a new BLM representative, she will be looking for his information on the minutes from the Fire Adviser Committee, this person mentioned that he wants to be involved more locally. His last comment was that we have the typically summer.

Wayne Kelly: Wayne said he does not have much to comment on other than the news Melinda has already given about his Whispering Oaks project.

John Carrier: He mentioned that NASA now is looking for how much underground water we transfer on earth. Another subject was the new nuclear plant.

David Mecchi: David talked about his experience in the last ranch camp in June. He said it was very successful. They have 14 people, 8 boys and 6 girls. This year were very young kids. The organizers thanked him for the sponsorship, they are very grateful.

Future Agenda Items: Presentation about JPA for Biomass Aggregation by Christiana Darlington.

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel: None.

Finance: Vicky Paid CARCD membership with the credit card. Also, she asked how was calculated the rate but she did not get any answer yet. The Liability and Workers Comp insurance invoices were paid. She mentioned that the final balance from the WIG2 grant is \$15,500.25 and she asked directions on how to proceed. Melinda suggested to pay an old invoice from Watershed Progressive. The Board continued to analyze the proposal, see the decision in the discussion space.

Grants: Whispering Oaks project, Melinda received a call giving her the good news that the last permit from USAGE (United States Army Corps of Engineers) was approved for the project. Wayne commented that they have been trying to do this project for over 12 years and Melinda has made incredible progress that they have not been able to achieve in all those years. Melinda still planning an IRWMP meeting for this October. Melinda talked about the money we are going to receive from Mariposa County, we need to sign the new contracts. We provided the insurance certificates to them. About CCI2, Melinda mentioned that we are going to request the 3rd advance but first we must fix the tracking but CAL FIRE has to fix it. Melinda mentioned that CAL FIRE had so many program managers and she believe one of them was who made the mistakes on the tracking. Melinda and Garrett are working on the application to apply for CCI4. About Wildfire Resilience grant, Melinda commented that we almost close that grant. On the Biomass plant (EPIC grant), her comment was that we are getting so close to get the permit and probably we will get an extension of time for this project. About OPR grant, Pilot for regional biomass aggregation and governance structure to accelerate fuels reduction. Christiana Darlington is the lawyer working in this project and she is planning to do the presentation about JPA for Biomass Aggregation. She comes to present the project and answer any questions we have. They want Mariposa RCD to be part of the project. Melinda thinks that could be a good revenue for the RCD. About PGE grant, Melinda has been asking insistently when the program will be open to apply and they have answered that not yet, over, and over and when finally, was opened, she missed the deadline, she thinks we will not get the money. Near the end of their report, several questions were raised about the accounts we have. Wayne and Lyle find it difficult to identify which account is linked to which program. Melinda did a brief and quick explanation of each account. Wayne suggested if we could generate a chart of each grant, showing the account that represents it.

Forestry & Fuels Management: None.

Plant Sale: None.

Policy: None.

Financial Reports: See at Finance subcommittee.

Unfinished Business: None.

Action Items: None.

Discussion: The Board discussed the possibility of paying an outstanding invoice from Watershed Progressive using funds from the WIG2 account. The Board approved the payment, and Vicky will request payment of the invoice and then the money will be refunded.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM. (M) Wayne Kelly, (S) Lyle Turpin. Ayes: John Carrier, Lyle Turpin, David Mecchi. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Submitted by: Vicky Cole

Date Approved: 09/06/2023

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.