

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

Date: Wednesday, September 4th, 2024 @ 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: Don Smith, Benjamin Patrick – Mariposa NRCS, Clestine Kelso – Mariposa NRCS,
Gabriela Cotto – Mariposa NRCS.

Call to order: 1:57 PM by MCRCD President David Mecchi.

Public communication: None.

Minutes: (M) Wayne Kelly to approve June 2024 minutes. (S) John Carrier. No discussion followed. Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin. Nay: None. Motion approved.

Correspondence: 1) Received by email from CARCD. Request-CARCD Contractor and Vendor payment information. 2). Received by email from Auditor's office. Important Update regarding Payroll Price Adjustments. 3). Received by mail from SDRMA. 2024-25 Property / Liability Program Renewal Invoice. 4). Received by mail from SDRMA. 2024-25 Worker's Compensation Renewal Invoice.

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: Verbal report submitted by Lyle.

Wayne Kelly: Verbal report submitted by Wayne Kelly.

John Carrier: Verbal report submitted by John.

David Mecchi: Verbal report submitted by David.

Future Agenda Items: None.

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel: None.

Finance: Vicky shared good news about the account's reports. The auditor's office is providing reports generated from the Oracle system. The reports are hard to understand but Pat and her met with Laurie Skelton from the Auditor's office and she is helping us to understand and resolving all our doubts about them. Also, they have been trying to find an accouter firm that help us with the transition the change our actual bookkeeping system (EXCEL sheets) to QuickBooks program to meet the audits needs.

Grants: Melinda explained to the Board the reason why she decided to cancel the contract with Regina Hirish / Watershed Progressive and not participate in the turf replacement project. Melinda

reviewed the DWR contract and found nothing that qualified the needs of the community, everything was for turf replacement. Melinda called DWR and asked about the grant and they responded that everything was for turf replacement. She talked with Regina the day before the IRWM meeting presentation and Regina said no, the DWR lady is wrong, we have been working on this for long time. After the IRWM meeting, Melinda decided to go to one of the HH assessments with Vincent Burnard, Regina's employee. We have several HH assessments pending to do, around 25. Vincent mentioned to Melinda that Regina told him to stop doing the assessments, she was planning to combine them with the Turf Replacement grant. Melinda got very disappointed and called DWR again to notify them that we will not do it. The rules are not clear and she will not present to the public and offer something that we cannot do. So, Melinda decided to resign her contract and we are in the process to hiring contractor. We have a CAL FIRE grant that pays for a contractor and staff, Melinda talked with David about it and she made an announcement to hire a HH Program Manager and HH Program Assistant. WCB2 grant- We are wrapping the grant. We are going to ask Adam Ballard WCB Program Manager to switch some money that we have in task 1 for Project Management to Task 2 Restoration that way we can finish the work in the area and zero out the grant. OPR Grant – we got the second phase and submitted the first invoice. Melinda explained to our guest that the JPA is to support the Biomass plant. Biomass project – We got the grading permit and it came with big checklist that they must finish before they start to grading.

Policy: None.

Financial Reports: See at Finance subcommittee.

Unfinished Business: None.

Discussion:

1. How to tie the DWR Grant into Home Hardening Grant. Please see Grants section.
2. Smith & Newell Audit response FY22. Melinda explained that the problem they pointed to us was we reported Advances as revenue and according to them are unearned income. Now we know we must report the Advances as unearned revenue. Another recommendation was to switch to QuickBooks program. Melinda redacted the response to them.

Action Items:

To Appoint Donald Smith as MCRCD Director. (M) Wayne Kelly (S) Lyle Turpin. Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Wayne Kelly, and Lyle Turpin. Nays: None. Motion Approved.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM. (M) John Carrier (S) Lyle Turpin. Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Lyle Turpin, Wayne Kelly. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Submitted by: Vicky Cole

Date Approved: 11/06/24

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.