

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

Date: Wednesday, June 4th, 2025 @ 2:00 PM

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

Directors present: David Mecchi, Wayne Kelly, Don Smith.

Directors absent: John Carrier, Lyle Turpin.

Associate directors present: None.

Associate directors absent: None.

Staff present: Melinda Barrett, Vicky Cole.

Guests: Kevin Spach-Home Hardening Program Manager.

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

Public communication: None.

Minutes: Next meeting.

Correspondence: 1). Received by email from the Auditor's office. Reminder for Fiscal Year ending. Please submit invoices on proper time. 2). Received by email from Mariposa County. They are willing to give us \$22,500. We need to update our scope of work.

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 Turpin.

Don Smith: Verbal report submitted by Don Smith.

Wayne Kelly: Verbal report submitted by Wayne Kelly.

John Carrier: None.

David Mecchi: Verbal report submitted by David Mecchi.

Future Agenda Items: April 2025 Minutes.

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel: None.

Finance: Vicky had a meeting with Darla Soto – Kemper CPA. She started working on the design of the QuickBooks Online System. She had a lot of questions about how we record our bookkeeping. Also, she requested some reports, including the last two Audits done. Also, we are going to close the CCI2, WCB2 and OPR1 grants and see how much the RCD earned from these grants, then we will zero out the accounts transferring the balance to the Contingency Fund account or the RCD Banking account.

Grants: RCPP Grant – Melinda explained that we have \$92,000 for this grant but we can only spend \$ 4,500 / quarterly. CCI2 Grant – We are closing that grant. We have approximately \$ 310,000 earned in several years for the RCD. Monarch Grant – We keep working on the grant. Shanna Saucedo is going to leave for Maternity leave so probably the program will slow down but they are doing a fantastic job. OPR1 Grant – We just finished it. WCB2 Grant – We have the final inspection on May 13. We have approximately \$ 146,934 dollars earned by the RCD. They are encouraging us to apply for third grant. The National Park is interested but Melinda does not know

if they have the capacity to do it right now. CARCD CAL FIRE Grant – The grant itself, we are in the last invoice. The remaining balance are from Title III and Mariposa County. Melinda just got a notification that we will get another \$ 20,000 from Title III.

Home Hardening Program: Kevin thanked us for having him on the meeting. He mentioned that we have over 200 home assessments done right now. We are completing a couple assessments per week as the applications arrive. Kevin mentioned that we continue promoting the program and we are now considering contacting people who have already participated, we are trying to get more resources to them. Speaking of new resources, Kevin did a search and found a better screen for the vents. We purchased a Fire Safety Mesh Screening, it is a better product than what we have been using, it is a little safer to work with and it comes in a bigger role. Kevin brought samples of the new mesh for the Board to see. Kevin explained to the directors that if the house has vents on very high ceilings, he does not install the screens for safety reasons. We do not have the appropriate insurance, but the material is provided to the owners so they can install them. Melinda mentioned that when we started this program, the contractor we had, they did have the proper insurance and they did install the screens on the roof. Kevin and Melinda have been brainstorming a few solutions for this type of scenario. One is to provide videos with instructions for installing the screens, only for homeowners who have the skills to do so. The other idea is to subcontract someone to do the work. This option is being launched only for low-income seniors and Fire Wise Communities. Kevin is researching new alternatives in materials and processes to improve the Home Hardening program to the best of our ability. Next week he has two home assessments and one of them with the new contractor. Kevin shared one of his concerns: he does not want someone to say they spent more money on another property than his, so he is going to be very careful in that regard. Last for Home Hardening, Mariposa Gazette wants to interview Melinda and Kevin, they are going to talk about the Home Hardening Program. Melinda sent a press release to them. On the other hand, Kevin reported that he will be taking a grant writing workshop with Sierra Nevada Conservancy. He will bring into it three proposals. His goal is to put them all together into one cohesive project.

Financial Reports: See at Finance subcommittee.

Unfinished Business: None.

Discussion: None.

Action Items: None.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM. (M) Wayne Kelly (S) Don Smith. Ayes: David Mecchi, Lyle Turpin, Wayne Kelly, Don Smith. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Submitted by: Vicky Cole

Date Approved: 06/04/2025

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.