

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

**Date:** Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025 @ 2:00 PM

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

**Directors Present:** Lyle Turpin, Wayne Kelly, Don Smith, John Carrier.

**Directors Absent:** David Mecchi

**Associate Directors Present:** None

**Associate Directors Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Melinda Barrett, Vicky Cole

**Guests:** None

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### Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by MCRCD Vice President Lyle Turpin.

### Public Communication:

None.

### Minutes:

- **Approval of August 2025 Minutes:**  
Motion: Don Smith  
Second: John Carrier  
Ayes: John Carrier, Don Smith, Lyle Turpin, Wayne Kelly.  
Nays: None  
**Motion Approved**

### Correspondence:

1. Received via mail from SDRMA: President's Special Acknowledgement Award – Workers 'Compensation Program. This award is to recognize members with no "paid" claims during the prior five consecutive program years.
2. Received via email from Alonzo Nathen – Local Government Affairs – Central Valley.  
**PG&E request:** RCD asked to join coalition supporting **California's Wildfire Fund**. The Board discussed at length but decided to table the decision pending more information. Concerns included taxpayer burden, state deficit, state deficit, and unclear benefits.

**IRWMP:** Verbal report by Melinda Barrett

**MCRCD:** Verbal report by Vicky Cole

## Directors' Reports:

**Lyle Turpin:** Verbal report

**Don Smith:** Verbal report

**Wayne Kelly:** Verbal report

**John Carrier:** Verbal report

**David Mecchi:** None

Future Agenda Items: None.

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## Subcommittee Reports:

### *Personnel:*

None.

### *Finance:*

#### **Fictitious Name**

- In progress, forms pending to fill out.

#### **QuickBooks transition**

- Had a meeting with KEMPELL CPA Group.
- Vicky entering transactions for FY2024-25 and FY2026 to improve efficiency and prepare for audits and save costs.
- Accounting system improvements underway.

## Grants:

- **IRWM Program:** State may replace IRWM with a new “Watershed Networks” program. Many regions oppose, arguing IRWM is effective. Funding for IRWM projects is currently paused.
- **CCI Phase 4 Grant:** CCI phase 4 fuel reduction project about to launch. Big Oak Flat Road fuel reduction. Job walk scheduled; contract award expected by mid-September.
- **OPR2 Grant:** Final deliverables completed; \$113K remains to support a new biomass JPA through the Central Sierra Economic Development District.
- **Biomass Project:** Ongoing PG&E delays on interconnection approval. County may partner with West Biofuels to secure a feedstock contract.
- **Forest Service/Cal Fire Grants:** Applications pending; new grant awarded for inclusive disaster-preparedness outreach.

## Home Hardening Program:

- Additional staff hired and trained as CAL FIRE-certified assessors.
- Exploring workers' comp coverage and equipment (e.g., dump trailer)
- Outreach planned to underserved groups including the deaf community.
- Home Hardening Plan, MCRCD will apply to join the state's "Fire Risk Reduction Community" list, which provides:
  - Extra point on CAL FIRE grants applications.
  - Insurance discounts for residents with Home Hardening assessments.

## Financial Reports:

See Finance Subcommittee Report.

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## Unfinished Business:

None.

## Discussion:

None.

## Action Items:

- **Approval of Home Hardening Plan – Resolution 26-003:**  
Motion: John Carrier  
Second: Wayne Kelly  
Ayes: Lyle Turpin, John Carrier, Wayne Kelly, Don Smith.  
Nays: None  
**Motion Approved**
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## Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Motion: Wayne Kelly

Second: John Carrier

Ayes: John Carrier, Don Smith, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin

Nays: None  
**Motion Approved**

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**Submitted by:** Vicky Cole  
**Date Approved:** 10/01/2025

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Recorded minutes are available at the RCD office. Persons with disabilities needing alternative communication or assistance should contact the office at least five days in advance. MCRCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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### MCRCD Mission Statement

The mission of the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District is to encourage and facilitate cooperative solutions to local resource conservation issues and projects. By providing leadership, MCRCD works with all stakeholders to conserve Mariposa County's natural resources. The District offers technical assistance to landowners, educational outreach, grant writing, and collaboration with agencies and community organizations.