

MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION of the Board of Directors MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026 @ 2:00 PM

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

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

Directors Absent: None.

Associate Directors Present: None

Associate Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Melinda Barrett, Emma Copello, Kevin Spach

Guests: Jessica Marlay, Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 2:02 PM by MCRCD President David Mecchi.

Public Communication:

None.

Minutes:

None.

Correspondence:

- Received via mail from PG&E: Check, \$5,000 for Wildfire Resilience efforts

Special Guest:

- Jessica Marlay, Operations Director SFC. Request for approval on project specific analysis CAL VTP for CALFIRE Grant on Upper Chowchilla watershed for us to be CEQA lead agency.

IRWMP: Verbal report by Melinda Barrett

MCRCD: Verbal report by Melinda Barrett

Directors' Reports:

Lyle Turpin: Verbal report

Don Smith: Verbal report

Wayne Kelly: Verbal report

John Carrier: Verbal report

David Mecchi: Verbal report

Agenda Items: None

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel:

None.

Finance:

Hired bookkeeper, Beth Kellner, to get QuickBooks in order

Grants:

- **New Submissions:** 2 for WCB, CCI5, Prop 4, Regional Resilience with SFC
- **LCI (OPR):** Hire Peter Tittman to do programming for a forest biomass digital marketplace

Home Hardening Program:

- 72 applications this year so far with more coming in
- Crew prioritizing assessments on remaining applications to try and finish before fire season
- Looking for long term funding

Unfinished Business:

None.

Action Items:

Hire Kevin Spach as Program Manager

- Motion: Don Smith
- Second: Wayne Kelly
- Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Don Smith, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin
- Nays: None

Motion Approved

Amend contract for Emma Copello

- Motion: Don Smith
- Second: Wayne Kelly
- Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Don Smith, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin
- Nays: None

Motion Approved

Hire Peter Tittman as MCRCD staff Support (Grant Funded)

- Motion: John Carrier
- Second: Don Smith
- Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Don Smith, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin
- Nays: None

Motion Approved

Adopt Project Specific Analysis/addendum for the Upper Chowchilla River Watershed Forest Health and Fire Recovery Project

- Motion: Wayne Kelly
- Second: Don Smith
- Ayes: David Mecchi, John Carrier, Don Smith, Wayne Kelly, Lyle Turpin
- Nays: None

Motion Approved

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Motion: Don Smith

Second: Wayne Kelly

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

Nays: None

Motion Approved

Submitted by: Emma Copello

Date Approved: 8/5/2026

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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.
