



Minutes

YOSEMITE/SEQUOIA RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL Full Council Meeting

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 10:00 AM

HYBRID – Central Valley Community Foundation - 1260 Fulton St, Fresno, and Zoom

(A) = Action Item

COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

10:05

am

Council President retroactively called the meeting to order as a quorum still needed to be met; it was understood that one or more voting council members would arrive shortly.

GENERAL BUSINESS

-Introductions & Roll Call

In attendance:

Executive Council: Nathan Magsig (NM), Bobby Macauley (BM), Lynn Gorman (LG), Eddie Valero (EV)

Staff: Erin Capuchino (EC)

Council Members: Eastern Madera FSC – Ashely Burns, Brian McNamara, Coarsegold RCD - Jon Cottingham, Sierra Vista Scenic Byway - Doug Waltner, Tulare County RCD - Bob Puls, Madera County Water & Natural Resources - Jeannie Habben, Big Sandy Rancheria, and Cold Spring Rancheria - Curtis Lee, North Fork CDC - Tom Wheeler, Sierra RCD – Kelly Kucharski

Guests: NRCS - Lurana Strong, Tulare County - Denise England and Doreen Alvez, SNC - Ben Barry, Kern County – Mandi Redfeairn, Central Valley Community Foundation - Angela Castellanos, Sierra National Forest - Susan Qashu, Madera County -Tristan Shamp

-President's Opening Statement – Fresno County has approved a position for fire organization coordination and should have the position filled within the month.

-Approval of Agenda **(A)** - EC made an adjustment to move the CERF presentation to later in the meetings to accommodate Angela's schedule. BM moved to approve, seconded by LG, and approved by all.

-Approval of Past Meeting Minutes **(A)** – No changes to be made. BM moved to approve, seconded by EV, and approved by all.

-Updates from Executive Committee - None

-Public Comment – Tom Wheeler voiced concerns over the ladder fuels after the long winter rain.

-Bookkeeper/Financial Report **(A)** – NM and EC discussed the final position of Y/S, EV moved to approve, seconded by BM, and approved by all.

-Director and Project Report – EC updated the council on each current project and grant application; details can be found on the P&P report.

-Current projects and Grant Applications

-5GG17173 Madera Strategic Wildfire Mitigation Project

-8GG18655 Madera Projects - Southern Sierra All Lands Recovery and Restoration

Project

-SNC 943 RFFC - WIP Capacity Program Subgrant – South Subregion

-SNC 1099 Blue Rush Site Preparation and Stand Maintenance Project

-Dinkey Creek Collaborative Agreement

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- Madera County Title III Firewise Coordination Program/CA Firewise County Coordinator
- EPIC 14-003 Watershed Research and Training Center Bioenergy Plant
- SNC 972 RFFC - WIP Capacity Program Subgrant

-Digital Outreach – EC Provided an update about the progress of digital outreach. Instagram is growing in views and followers; Facebook has stayed consistent with followers. Posts have been consistent, and the monthly newsletter is growing. Please email Mi-Ling with any updates.

NEW BUSINESS

-Recommendations from the Executive Committee Meeting **(A)**

-P&P for Letter of Recommendation Requests – EC presented a new Policy and procedure for requested letters of support. EV moved to approve, seconded by LG, and approved by all.

-Payroll – EC detailed the request to move payroll in-house to streamline the process. BM moved to approve, seconded by EV, and approved with a majority and one abstention.

-Regional Coverage – EC presented the opportunity to add Kern County to the coverage area of Y/S and asked the council for recommendations on how to proceed.

-SNC 943 RFFC - WIP Capacity Program Subgrant – South Subregion 3 Final Report will be a priority for staff for the month of May

-CalOES/FEMA Applications – EC informed the council of the progress of the two CalOES/FEMA grant applications. One is a private property bridge replacement in Three Rives of Tulare County, and the second is neighborhood buffers to mitigate wildfires from the damages done by the winter storms.

-CERF Presentation from Central Valley Community Foundation – Angela Castellanos presented the CERF program to the council and described how Y/S is involved. Y/S is part of the Madera County Table and on the small committee creating the Environmental Analysis Report. This participation provides \$75,000 to the Y/S budget.

OLD BUSINESS

-MOU and Dues – EC reminded all in attendance that Y/S has updated the MOU and is requesting dues again. NM noted that the dues are essential to the organization to provide general funds. EC will provide the updated MOU with the meeting minutes.

SPONSOR & PARTNER UPDATES

Tulare County- EV, Doreen-Work continues with the TC Forest Health Taskforce.

NRCS-Tulare County- Lorena Strong is the primary contact for mountain work.

Tulare County RCD – Very busy.

Sierra Scenic Byway – Damage from storms

Madera County Water & Natural Resources – reviewed the flood damage work and how the flood trailers performed during the winter storms.

Kern County – County has been busy addressing flooding damage.

Sierra Foothills Conservancy – Fundraiser May 13th.

Sierra RCD – SRCD has many projects in progress; they have 9 Firewise communities and are happy to partner in the CERF process with Y/S.

North Fork CDC – The CDC has named Tom Wheeler as the new rep for Y/S. Things are moving forward with the Biomass plant.

ADJOURN

11:40 am

Future Meeting Date(s)

- Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, 7/26/23 @ 9:30 am

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- Full Council Meeting: Thursday, 7/27/23 @ 10:00 am

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