



Minutes

YOSEMITE/SEQUOIA RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Full Council Meeting

Thursday, January 26, 2023, 10:00 AM

(A) = Action Item

COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

10:02 a.m.

Council President requested agenda adjustment to move all action items so those who have appointments and may need to leave the meeting early can. Erin Capuchino noted that there needed to be more council members to make a quorum and formally approve any action items. President Magsig, with the approval of the Council members in attendance, requested that Erin send the approval items for an email vote as approved in By-Laws.

GENERAL BUSINESS

-Introductions & Roll Call

In attendance:

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

Staff: Erin Capuchino (EC), Hazel Lavender (HL), Raini Patteson (RP), Jessica Rowley (JR)

Council Members: Coarsegold RCD and Eastern Madera FSC, Jon Cottingham, Sierra Vista Scenic Byway, Doug Waltner, Tulare County RCD, Bob Puls

Guests: Madera County: Jeannie Habben, NRCS: Johnnie Siliznoff, Mira Dick, and Lurana Strong, Tulare County: Denise England and Doreen Alvez, CalFire: Mike Keyser, SNC: Ben Barry, Kern County FSC: Peggy Volkoff, Central Valley Community Foundation: Karen Aceves, University of Washington, Van Kane and Liz van Wagtenonk, Golden State Natural Resources: Chris Trott

-President's Opening Statement: NM noted that many things are happening in Fresno County as they continue to address the recent storms and to keep an eye on his Facebook live, where he will be chatting with Deana, who has different views about the Sierras.

-Updates from Executive Committee:

-EV Thanks YS for including him in interviewing Social Media Specialist candidates and Grant writers; Denise England also spoke about the recommendation made by SNC for funding and Upcoming funding from CalFire.

-BM Also talked about Madera County continuing to move forward after storms. As the previous Chief of staff of the Board president, Tom Wheeler, is looking forward to continuing to move forward.

-RS announced that Mariposa received more funding from CalFire for the Mariposa Creek Parkway project.

-Approval of Authorizing Continued Use of Remote Teleconferencing Provisions Under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953 (A): EC noted that AB361 had been extended through the first of 2024. She will be keep informed on what a spread-out organization like ours can do to continue online meetings. **Motion to approve by BM, seconded by RS, approved by 9.**

-Approval of Agenda (A) **Motion to approve by LG, seconded by RS, approved by 9.**

-Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (A) **Motion to approve by LG, seconded by EV, approved by 9.**

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-Bookkeeper/Financial Report: EC apologized to the council for not having a financial report for the meeting. She noted that Staff and the contracted Bookkeeper are still working on transferring from the past process of tracking to QBO. She also spoke that most of the grants are caught up for payment except for 17173, as we are waiting on an advance from CalFire. EC also noted that there should be about \$100k in the General Fund. NM spoke about the conversation had with the Executive Committee meeting on 1/25 that staff will be reviewing all accounts to match transactions and tracking, as well as research for any open accounts under Y/S EIN.

-Public Comment: None

-Director and Project Report

Erin Capuchino

Current projects:

SNC 972 Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program WIP Capacity Program Subgrant

-Tulare County: Contractor Great Basin Institute is moving forward to create the MOU and Contract for the planning process of the Tulare County Sugarloaf Fire Prevention Project.

-Kern County: Raini Patteson updated the Council on her progress with Kern County. She highlighted an upcoming first Committee meeting in February.

-Grant Writer: EC introduced Jessica Rowley, contracted Grant writer, for the Grant writer portion of the deliverable. JR has sent a list of nearly 60 grant opportunities over the 11 months. The first focus is CalFire Fire Prevention Grants Due 3/15/23. JR thanked the council.

Dinkey Creek Collaborative Agreement: EC shared the Post Fire Workshop organized by UC Extension.

8GG18655 Madera Projects - Southern Sierra All Lands Recovery and Restoration Project: Van Kane and Liz van Wagtendonk from the University of Washington reviewed the progress made with the Lidar portion of the grant. There are many uses for the reports being created. Many of these reports will help to determine SOW for future projects.

NEW BUSINESS

CERF Project: EC introduced Karen Aceves, CERF Coordinator with Central Valley Community Foundation. KA provided information about the CERF program and how Y/S is included in the planning process. Many Council partners are also included in the program. The first meeting for planning is coming soon, Estimated in early March.

SPONSOR & PARTNER UPDATES Please limit updates to 2 min.

-Madera County: Jeannie Habben: Madera County Flood Action plan will be published and fully operational by March 31, 2023.

-Coarsegold RCD and Eastern Madera FSC, Jon Cottington: Jon continues to grow the Firewise Community Program in Madera County but has also shared best practices with other county coordination in the southern Sierra. CRCD is waiting on upcoming funding from CalFire to counties more projects. For The Easter Madera FireSafe Council, Jon noted the progress on the evacuation plan and that EMRCS received \$175k from the County. BM Thanked Jon for his work in his short tenure with CRCD and announced that on Tuesday, Jan 24th, Madera County also awarded CRCD an additional \$175k.

-Sierra Vista Scenic Byway, Doug Waltner: USFS is still determining the destruction from the January storms. He noted that the USFS has funding for the Byway, but there is concern that those funds might be utilized for fixing the roads instead of the signage in plans.

-NRCS: Johnnie Siliznoff, Mira Dick, and Lurana Strong: Updated that NRCS programs are continuing, and the EPIC program has been funded again. EC asked for Johnny to connect her with the Madera County contact. Mira Dick spoke up and will send program opportunities to EC to share within Madera County.

-Tulare County: Doreen Alvez: Mentioned a Save the Date for Feb 22, 2023, Tulare County Forest Health Task Force meeting.

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- Tulare County RCD, Bob Puls: TRCD has many projects and is working hard and consistently.
- Golden State Natural Resources: Chris Trott: updated the Council on wood pellet factories in the state. EC thanked Chriss and asked to keep in contact so YS can help facilitate the BioMass collection from Sierra and Sequoia NF.
- EC informed the Council that YS had hired a new Digital Outreach staffer, Mi-Ling Wong. She requested that the Council members share upcoming events and projects with Mi-Ling for digital outreach.

OLD BUSINESS

MOU and Dues: NM informed Council that EC had updated the MOU and Dues information. EC will be sending out the documents. NM noted that he is already working on adding the MOU to the Fresno County Supervisors agenda and requests that the rest of the council work to do the same.

ADJOURN

11:13 a.m.

Future Meeting Date(s)

- Executive Committee Meeting: Thursday, 2/23/23 @9:30
- Executive Committee Meeting: Thursday, 3/23/23 @9:30
- Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, 4/26/23 @9:30
- Executive Committee Meeting: Thursday, 4/27/23 @10:00