

Fall Quarterly Full Council Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2021
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Held Via Zoom (Remote, Virtual)

Attendees

Executive Committee

Tom Wheeler, Madera County Supervisor – President
Nathan Magsig, Fresno County Supervisor – Vice President
Lynn Gorman, Sierra Foothill Conservancy – Second Vice President
Rosemarie Smallcombe – Secretary

Staff

Rubie Teffeteller, Program & Project Manager
David Konno, Program Administrator
Hazel Lavender, Project Assistant

Sponsor Organizations

Steve Haze, Sierra RCD

Denise England, Tulare County Water Resources
Sarah Campe, SNC

Partners

Justine Reynolds, American Forests
Bobby Macaulay, Madera County BOS – District 5 Chief of Staff
Jeanie Habben, County of Madera
Robert Puls, Tulare RCD
Lurana Strong, NRCS

Guest

Greg Stangl – Phoenix Energy
Teresa Finn
Jodie Payne

FULL COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

10:03am

Meeting called to order by Tom Wheeler.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Pledge of Allegiance

Recite Mission Statement

Roll Call & Introductions – Tom Wheeler led roll call and introductions were made by all present. Quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve agenda made by Lynn Gorman (motion) and Steve Haze (2nd), agenda approved.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve April Full Council Meeting minutes made by Lynn Gorman (motion) and Steve Haze (2nd), minutes approved.

Executive Committee Report – Rubie Teffeteller gave the executive committee report. Motion to approve the executive committee report by Lynn Gorman (motion) and Steve Haze (2nd), report approved.

Treasurer’s Report – David Konno provided the Treasurers report, attached in meeting packet. Motion to approve the treasurer’s report made by Lynn Gorman (Motion) and Steve Haze (2nd), report approved.

NRCS Update – Mira Dick and Michael Kazzi (Fresno County) reported 53,000 acres being worked on by NRCS, Dec. 10, 2021 is the deadline for applications and April 1st, 2022 is the deadline for CSP. They

are working with the local RCDs workgroups to establish a projects list and have submitted a letter to Carlos Suarez (Calif. State Director) to fund the local workgroup programs and projects.

Public Comment – No public comments were made.

OLD BUSINESS

10:30 am

Rubie Teffeteller highlighted current program/project successes. Further updates are included in the Programs & Projects report (attached to meeting packet). All awarded projects are moving forward. SRCD assistance appreciated 17173 project. CRCD reports that they now have 12 communities in the Firewise program covering about 2000 acres. Fundraising Report: The Cal Fire grant proposal was not awarded. SNC- Early Action Project proposal has been submitted. North Fork Bioenergy Update: Stangel reported that the North Fork project made the front cover on BioMass magazine and that they may have a start of 6/30/22. They have secure an additional \$4.5 million in funding to complete the project. Forest Health Prioritization Subcommittee: Justine conducted a Mentimeter Survey to provide a prioritized list of projects for the RFFCP program.

NEW BUSINESS

11:30 am

Council, through SNC 943, has retained the assistance of McKenna Consulting to develop a strategic plan. The Council is interested in determining our priorities, staffing needs, and where our growth and potential lies. The Council will be contacting members for input. Board resolution for continued virtual meeting (Brown Act). Motion to approve by Rosemarie Smallcombe (motion) and Nathan Magsig (2nd). USDA R5 Post-Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management and USFWS Proposed 554, 454a acre Fisher Habitat Designation: presented to the Council by Board members Magsig and Micari, requesting that the Council review the proposals. The proposals would limit access and limit fire mitigation actions in the Sierra National Forest by increasing the Fisher protection area. Board member Magsig on behalf of Fresno County has filed a Letter of Opposition and requested that members of the Council do the same. Many of the membership stated that they would have to discuss this with their membership before committing to a Letter of Opposition or Support. Deadline for Letters to Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is Dec. 18, 2021.

SPONSOR/PARTNER UPDATES

12:15 pm

Sponsor Organizations and attending partners provided updates on current programs, projects, funding, and job opportunities.

Adjourn at 12:30 PM