



Meeting Agenda for: Thursday, June 9, 2022, from 4pm to 5:15pm

Zoom meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97419301643>

Dial in: 16699006833, (97419301643#) US (San Jose) or 14086380968, (97419301643#) US (San Jose)

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email julie.konno@crccd.org with your request no later than 3pm the day before the meeting. Items provided to directors prior to the meeting will be emailed with the agenda to all recipients requesting to be on the distribution list.

3:45 **Executive Session – Personnel**

4:00 Call to Order 4:04

Approval of the Agenda Nancy makes the motions and David seconds.
Introductions Mary Stalter (North Fork Rancheria), Jeannie Habben , Pete Stapp, Jay Seslowe, Mike Keyser (Cal Fire), Mira Dick (NRCS), David Konno, Julie Konno, Jon Cottingham, Melissa Cottingham, Nancy McPherson

Public Comment -Mary Stalter-July 9th 10am-2pm Open House for the Galen Lee Heritage Center at Old Mill Site Court.

4:05 **Consent Agenda**

- Approval of the Minutes of 5-12-22
- Financial report Nancy makes the motion to approve and Melissa Seconds it.

4:10 **Reports – Please limit to 10 minutes per organization**

- NRCS – including **EQIP** and Civil Rights discussions – Mira Dick- We are doing our batching periods. We are wrapping up batch 3 catastrophic fire and they are just getting funding for batch 4. Jonnie asked to share that *Joint Chief* agreements are beginning soon. Please reach out and ask Mira for more information and Jonnie and Dennis can offer more information. Let the agency know if we are interested in the funding from these. We are wrapping up Pride Month. There will be additional efforts and resources with connections with tribes.
- Madera Dept of Water Resources– Jeannie will be on the Firesafe council. Flood emergency action plan is being sent for approval. North Fork Citizen Maps presented and shared and they will be printed out and sent to communities. We can post on social media once they are approved. We have North Fork, Oakhurst, and Madera Ranchos. Multi-benefit Land Repurposing Grant- received

the funding 10 million dollar grant partnering with Madera-Chowchilla RCD supporting outreach. Oakhurst River Parkway Grant will hear back from that soon 1.6 million and they would love to partner with the CRCD.

- Madera County – Bobby Macauley- absent
- North Fork Rancheria - Mary Stalter-Gaylen Lee Heritage Center Open House, 57906 Old Mill Site Court, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser- 7 out of the 8 grants were announced last week. We can help homeowners with defensible space and get rid of the heavy fuels. California has the most Firewise communities in the United States, but homeowners and insurance. Call email, text, and continue to reach out.
- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – David- Completing work in Cedar Valley and Sugar Pine areas.
- Firewise – Jon – See attached report. We will be busy with implementation for the next 3 years.
- Executive Director report - Julie- See attached report. We will be able to start work in the Fall as we get our contracts. Julie will send information out as desired for those who request it. Fire Prevention Coordinator it is an 18 month program where technical assistance will be given. The contract will be signed on Aug 1st, 2022 for the Fire prevention Coordinator.

4:45

Old Business

- Succession Planning – Additional Staff: Jon and Julie are finishing up the edits on the job posting and will be ready next week.
- AB 361 – continue with distance meetings- Melissa makes a motion to continue and David seconds. Motion carried.
- Audit update- The auditing has begun.

5:00

New Business

- Correspondence
- Website- The Webdesigner asked for 25% of the final cost in the beginning. Nancy makes a motion to approve the 25% payment and David seconds, Motion carries. We should post the treasurer's report on the website. We can post the last audit. Salary schedules and wages posted on the website.
- Jon- Wage Increase: David makes a motion to discuss Jon's wage increase and Nancy seconds. Julie will complete a written evaluation. Julie proposes that Jon gets a pay increase to \$30 an hour to be ready this coming pay period. Once funding has come in in Aug, the board will discuss another increase.
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5:05 **Workshops / Events / Presentations**

IRWM meeting: May 23, 2022 @ 1:30pm Zoom

Next Meeting July 14, 2022, 4:00pm via Zoom

Adjourn 5:26 pm



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 9, 2022

CALFIRE GRANT APPLICATION: We are proud to announce that we have received the grant award! \$1.191mil for implementation and expenses that include a truck and trailer plus our admin fee of \$121,645. We are waiting for the grant administrator to complete the contract so we are thinking we can start work this Fall. I will include the application with Scope of Work and budget to this month's packet.

CA FIRESAFE COUNCIL: CFSC has awarded Madera County for the Fire Prevention Coordinator position. Rubie and Julie assisted the Madera County Grant Manager is writing this last Fall. This is an 18month grant for \$175,000. This grant is structured to assist Madera County with expanding the Firewise program and to act as a liaison for Fire Prevention activities in our County. This includes CALFIRE, USFS, OES, NFPA Firewise© Communities and any Firesafe Councils that are formed. CRCD is the contractor for this grant as described last Fall. I will include the application with Scope of Work and budget to this month's packet.

NACD: We continue to discuss the NRCS programs during Firewise outreach and speaking engagements. We have worked directly with applicants through this TA grant including assisting with application packets and informational emails and phone calls through our outreach efforts.

One Tree Planted: We received the payment of \$2500 for the April and May activities at Earth Day and the Conservation Day at Calvin Crest.



This was a very easy grant to work with and the payment came very quickly after the invoicing. I would like to see CRCD continue this program in the coming years.

Web Site review and updates: Through the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) and CARCD's Forest PACE program, we are able to hire a web developer to make some necessary changes to the web site and Facebook. This includes some hands-on training for Jon to be able to make the regular changes himself and to create some missing pages on social media. We have limited the expense to \$1500 and we are working out the billing process with CARCD. As previously discussed, this will allow us to meet mandated requirements and programmatic outreach to our district.

Julie Konno, Exec Director



Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

Sub-contractor/partner: Coarsegold

Resource Conservation District

Reporting Period: June 2022

Report Preparer & Title: Julie Konno,
Executive Director

Email address: julie.konno@crcd.org

Phone Number: 559 760 3659

Date: 7-11-2022

Progress reports are an explanation of what occurred during a one-month period. If no fiscal activity occurred, that is acceptable, but explain what did occur during the reporting period (challenges encountered, plans made or changed, etc). Please include details about upcoming projects, workshops, or purchases that you will be making to accomplish the tasks/deliverables outlined in your scope of work.

Summary of activities that occurred during the reporting period (e.g., communities established, communities outreached, workshop coordination, products created/developed):

- CRCD received official confirmation from CAL FIRE that Coarsegold RCD has been awarded a \$1.19 million dollar Wildfire Prevention grant to continue hazard fuel reduction in our current and prospective Firewise® communities.
- CRCD, YSRCDC, and Madera County established that Jon Cottington, current Firewise® Coordinator, will also take on the role of County Fire Coordinator for CRCD.
- Attended the first meeting of the Eastern Madera Fire Safe Council.
- Completed contracted work with contractor Black Bear Tree Service in Sky Ranch community.
- Continued outreach to communities to schedule contractor's for Firewise® projects.
- Nelder Heights community received Firewise® certification.
- Firewise® Presentation at Miami Highlands (Prospective Community).
- Firewise® Presentation/ Q&A for Mountain Area Conservative Forum Group.
- Continued outreach to in-progress communities (Miami Highlands, Ahwahnee Estates, Hillsborough Loop, Still Meadow Estates) in varying stages of completion and interest.
- Continued to distribute educational materials to existing and prospective communities.
- Web designer, Sigal Cossman, has begun the update process to our website and Firewise® pages.
- Social Media outreach on contracted work and grant awards to engage new communities.
- Maintained technical assistance and communication with all established Firewise® communities.

Relation of activities to overall goals, deliverables, and timeline. Please quantify progress where possible (e.g., XX community members engaged on MM/DD/YYYY for kick off meeting, XX new communities established, XX action plans developed):

- Implementation funds from the newly awarded CAL FIRE grant will greatly increase the available financial assistance to certified communities. These funds also help to fulfil CRCD's need to acquire further program funding, as set forth in the agreement with Yosemite Sequoia RCDC and Madera County.
- Coarsegold RCD is looking for ways to partner with the newly established Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council in order to expand our role in fire prevention, while also expanding outreach on the Firewise® program.
- The Nelder Heights community is the third community this year to receive certification. Certification of this new community fulfils CRCD's need to certify 2-3 new communities per year, as set forth in the agreement with Yosemite Sequoia RCDC and Madera County.
- Communities have been contacted to identify smaller scale brushing/felling work that can be completed by local contractors using available funds in the grant. The Sky Ranch community had

The mission of the Coarsegold Resource Conservation District is to promote, protect, and improve the diverse natural resources of Eastern Madera County

hazardous trees removed from one property. This project fit into the scope of the Firewise® program and created a safer environment in the community.

- Firewise® Presentation for Mountain Area Conservative Forum provided outreach to multiple communities and resulted in the reinvigoration of the Still Meadow community, which began the process and went dormant over a year ago.
- Presentation at the prospective community of Miami Highlands helped to draw a larger portion of the neighborhood into the program, while also explaining the risk assessment and application process to the community as a whole.
- Outreach to all Resident Leaders re: Scheduling contracted workdays, community meetings, Recertification deadline, Tool Cache reminder; continued assistance to individual communities as needed, including portal uploads for recertification efforts and new applications.
- Updates to the CRCD website will make the Firewise® program more visible and easier to access.
- Social Media outreach has increased the visibility in the community, leading to additional inquiries on the program.

Challenges encountered during the reporting period and possible challenges in the future (e.g., meeting cancelled, unresponsive homeowner's, personnel change):

- CRCD continues to face the challenge of waiting for the in-progress communities to essentially make progress. Coarsegold RCD must wait for the committees to complete the application process in their own time.
- Lack of response for scheduling contracted workdays from approved Firewise® communities.
- Negative Social Media Response to the lack of transparency on the new CAL FIRE grant funds, after the grant award was announced.

How challenges impact overall accomplishments and plans to remedy the situation (e.g., personnel change required additional time to onboard for program but they began outreaching communities this month; unexpected weather required cancelling a risk assessment but it has been rescheduled for next month, etc):

- CRCD continued outreach to individual resident leaders through email, site visits, and community meetings has kept energy high in recertification, as well as progress on community action plans. Some communities remain silent so continued correspondence will be necessary.
- CRCD continued outreach to prospective and in-progress communities.
- Negative social media could hurt outreach. However, a very strong online community response, as well as a public meeting about the program helped to calm all concerns. Updates to the website were made to ensure that all legal requirements were met regarding financial disclosure.

Next steps (please provide a brief summary or list of activities planned for the next month):

- **Begin program development on the CAL FIRE grant.**
- **Continue program development on the County Fire Coordinator Position.**
- **Continue scheduling the existing Firewise® Communities for contracted work.**
- **Schedule CRCD to attend WFAP Home Assessment training, hosted by CFSC.**
- **Schedule Community meetings for continued outreach.**
- **Continue to attend meetings and webinars for additional grant funding opportunities.**
- **Complete update of Firewise® page on CRCD website.**
- **Review Action Plans for each community to see where implementation funding can be used to the best advantage.**
- **Continue to be flexible and available to any community in need of assistance towards becoming Firewise®.**
- **Continue community outreach to find new prospective Firewise® communities.**