



PO BOX 1306
North Fork, CA 93643
559-760-3659

Meeting Agenda for: Thursday, July 14, 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@crkd.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.

4:00 Call to Order: **4:03 Julie Calls to order**

Approval of the Agenda

Introductions: David Konno, Julie Konno, Bobby Macaulay, Jon Cottington, Ashley Nebeker, Brain McNamara, Jeannie Habben, Mike Keyser, Jay Seslowe, Nancy McPerson

Public Comment **Please limit comments to 2 minutes**

4:05 **Consent Agenda**

- Approval of the Minutes of 6-9-22 and Executive Session 6-17-22
- Financial report: **Melissa makes a motion and Nancy seconds. Motion carries.**

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

- NRCS – including **EQIP** – Mira Dick- **Absent**
- Madera Dept of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben
Binder and maps of the emergency floods will be shared after two more board reviews. Senate Bill 552- requires all counties to have a drought plan. The next meeting for this is this Friday, July 15th at 10 am. 6 months to get it written. Oakhurst River Parkway project grant announcement is still on its way. We can link the flood pages plan from maderacountywater.com
- Madera County – Bobby Macauley
Opened a test to treat the center in oakhurst. If you test positive a telemedicine appointment will be made and then 10-4 Oakhurst community center. Measure T has road tax and we will have more dollars for maintenance. The tax will continue until the public does not want this tax any longer. Sierra National Forest is looking at more clearing and more recreation. Washburn Fire update this evening. \$375,000 grant for an evacuation route. 5 million dollars for resilience funding. Economic funding of 1 million dollars for Madera county. Wanting to form a caucus dedicated to environmental justice asked Julie and Jon to participate. Its a two year process. This will be the 3rd meeting. Put in a plan for the central sierra. Meeting will be in August.
- North Fork Rancheria - Mary Stalter- **absent**
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser- **No information with regards to the funding projects of the grant contracts.**
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council - Brian McNamara- **Legal as a 501c3 and the first board meeting occurred this past monday, July 11th, 2022.**

Forming partnerships and collaboration with everybody. Seeing where this board fits in. CRCD can help with funding with any technology and office supplies.

■ Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – David-

Eastern Madera Road Abatement Project road 426. Working over 500 acres of hazard removal with hand crews and mechanical. 1.3 million dollar project. Down to 2.5 people lots of support with the local groups- forestry, The Rancheria. Funds have to be spent by March 2023 for the Eastern Madera Road Abatement Project. Open recruitment for an outreach coordinator.

■ Firewise and Pollinator programs – Jon

See Attached reports. No contracts signed yet for the grants. A contract was finished at Sierra Sky Ranch. Natasha Fouts partnered with Jon for a community meeting. Nelder Heights was certified last week. The first Fire Safe Council recent board meeting was July 11th. Wildland Fire Prevention Conservation Tech- two applicants have shown interest. Regarding covid vaccine of the job posting, we will get clarification. Jay approves the milkweed plugs and Melissa seconds it. Jon will email Erin from YSRCD regarding interest regarding the

■ Executive Director report - Julie

See attached report. Inflation is coming to the forefront meetings regarding the budgets of the grants. It may be that projects are scaled down. One Tree planted partnership meeting next week.

4:45 **Old Business**

■ Succession Planning – Additional Staff: Job posted.

■ Audit update- work has started on the audit.

■ Web site update - Jon- 62 of 60 hours have been used by the web designer. She is looking at an additional 10 hours for technical support documents to be able to train other members. Motion carried for donation button. Jay made the motion to approve and Melissa seconds it.

■ AB 361 – continue with distance meetings? Nancy makes a motion to continue zoom meetings and David seconds it.

5:00 **New Business**

Correspondence - Sending a letter of support to Sierra Foothill Conservancy. Jay approves and David seconds it.

5:05 **Workshops / Events / Presentations**

IRWM meeting: July 25, 2022 @ 1:30pm Zoom
Eastern Madera Fire Safe Council –

Next Meeting August 11, 2022, 4:00pm via Zoom

Adjourn 5:40

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

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

Firewise and Website Update 7/14/2022

Firewise – Although we have been awarded funds from CalFire and Fire Safe Council, neither contract will be ready for review until August at the earliest. CRCD hosted a firewise and defensible space meeting along with CalFire Defensible Space Inspector Natasha Fouts for the Mountain Conservative forum group this month. This meeting revived the community of Still Meadow and they are once again pursuing certification. We also presented at the newly forming community of Miami Highlands. They are collecting Risk Assessment forms and will begin the application process soon. The communities of Ahwahnee Estates and Hillsborough Loop are also in the process of conducting Risk Assessments. Nelder Heights was certified this month as our newest community, bringing our total number of certified communities to 11.

I attended the first Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council meeting hosted by Brian McNamara and Ashley Burns. I have since been asked to join the board of the Fire Safe Council, which will help our organizations coordinate our fire prevention efforts. We completed contracted work in the Sky Ranch community. Not all communities took advantage of this round of funding despite outreach. We will soon be releasing another round of funding to the communities from our Title III funds. There was continued outreach to both our in progress and certified communities.

Tomorrow I will be attending a 2-day training in Auburn, CA on the Wildland Fire Assessment Program from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), put on by the California Climate Action Corps Fellows and California Fire Safe Council. After completion of the training, I will receive your WFAP Certificate. This certificate will allow me to conduct home assessments and teach the WFAP course to others. The WFAP Training is an overview of home hardening and defensible space. This is a non-regulatory program and will not be going over any area specific codes.

Our Firewise webpage has been overhauled and now includes a variety of resources, forms, and maps to assist in functionality and ease of access to our program. We have also released a job posting for a fire prevention Conservation Tech position. We have posted to our website and social media. However, we have only received two inquiries. One didn't go beyond a general request for information. The other is concerned about us following county guidelines for vaccine mandates and is inquiring as to whether there are options to this Being that we work remotely, if this applicant agrees to masking/distancing guidelines, would this be enough for the board to consider the application?

Pollinator – We submitted a finalized proposal to be part of the CARCD's block grant for the creation of pollinator habitat that they are submitting to the California Wildlife Conservation Board. Our proposal aims to create 10-12 (up to 3 acres) of new pollinator sites in our district. This would improve upon our past habitat work while also creating new sites and partnerships. We have been awarded 2 habitat kits from the Xerces Society to install at our North Fork School Site.

Julie and I are currently attending a weekly Monarch Essentials web training, put on by Monarch Joint Venture. This training discusses the biology and life cycle of the monarch, threats to the monarchs and their habitat, and the creation and conservation of pollinator habitat. We felt that our attendance in this course would further our knowledge of habitat installation as well as increase our knowledge and ability to provide outreach and education on the subject.

We recently received an email for an opportunity from a group called Monarch Watch. They have a surplus of milkweed suited for the central valley that they are offering to RCD's for just the cost of shipping (\$.20-.40 per plant). They do not want to keep caring for the plugs and will destroy them soon if interest is not shown. Gallon size milkweed is for sale at our local nursery for \$7.50 a piece. We have not received the grant so there are no current funds to cover these plants, but we are wondering if the

board feels like these plants could be covered by general funds, to be used at one of the prospective sites or cared for in pots until ready for planting. Is there any thoughts on the idea?

Jon Cottington
Program Manager