



Meeting Agenda for: Thursday, March 9, 2023, from 4pm to 5:15pm

Zoom meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86999943919?from=addon>

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email kayla.rohrbaugh@crd.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 4:06

Approval of the Agenda- *Melissa makes a motion to approve the agenda and David seconds the motion.*

Introductions -Jerry Sharp starting a forestry consulting business and is sitting in on various meetings.

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

4:05

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the Minutes of Feb 9-2023
- Financial report January and February 2023- *Nancy makes a motion to approve the financial report and the consent agenda. Melissa seconds. Motion carried.*

4:10

Reports – Please limit to 5 minutes per organization

- NRCS – *Mira Dick-Inflation Reduction Act deadline for this year is March 17th, 2023. All you have to do is call the office to apply. There is a fast turn around on the funds. All of the money needs to be spent in 5 years. Earmarked for conservation. Does include forestry projects. Focused on conservation stewardship program. Starting from scratch will be a good place to start. April 14th is the CSP application deadline. National Air Quality Program- Tractor and mobile engine replacement-Lot of monies available for this. The funding comes from EPA-purpose is to mitigate regulation on these tractor motors. Deadline would be April 3rd. Want to see documentation regarding civil rights training in regards to a National Civil Rights Review. New staffing due to IRA monies.*
- Madera Dept of Water Resources – *Jeannie Habben- not present.*
- Madera County – *Bobby Macauley-not present.*
- North Fork Rancheria - *Mary Stalter- Reports a great presentation from Jon and Kelly from Firewise. New Firewise member. Then the Mission firewise community will be up and running. The strip of land between the firehouse and the Tribal Offices are a recommended site for a pollinator garden. The elders were really happy with the clean burning that has occurred around the lake.*
- CALFIRE – *Mike Keyser- Cal Fire will release funds for tree removal due to the storms. Limited information at this time, more to follow. 130 acres of burning and clearing around Bass Lake-the majority of the fuel has burned. Some large logs were left behind.*
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – *Ashley Nebeker-awarded COCO aim grant. A multi year fire reduction plan with shovel ready projects. Looking*



at historical data as the funds are not available for surveyors. Currently writing a Cal Fire grant for brushing, chipping, and education.

- *Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino-On 426 between the Forks and the road, the cleared piles cannot be burned and the debris has to be removed by hand due to cultural sites and areas with lots of trees. Submitting two CCI grants for Kern and Mariposa. Asking for Mariposa cities, counties, and organizations to be on fire prevention list to be at the top of grant opportunities. Looking at Earth Day opportunities. Working on a hiring fair for the Biomass plant will be up and running in North Fork this summer. Looking for 12 locals. A job fair will be around Earth Day. UC Merced will be here to oversee the beginning of operations. New PG and E grants looking to clean up under the lines from debris that has come down. A max of \$100,000. Deadline is the 20th of this month.*
- *Firewise and Pollinator programs – Jon/Kelly-See attached report.*
- *Executive Director report - Jon- See attached report.*

4:55

Old Business

- *Succession Planning and Personnel; Outreach & Education; Welcome Kayla. Julie has been training her. Kayla's new computer was a lemon and will get a replacement computer. She is moving forward with what she can. She is working well and a fast learner.
Ashley is partnering with us beginning on the 16th of the month working on curriculum and education for k-5th graders in schools and at events.
Savannah Donahue is our hired bookkeeper.*
- *AB 361 vs AB 2449 – continue with distance meetings. Melissa makes a motion to continue with AB 361 for next month and David seconds it. Motion carries.*

5:10

New Business

- *Correspondence and Bills - Renewed the CSDA membership. Sexual and harassment and ethics training will be sent to new associate directors and employees.*
- *Form 700 for staff and Board members- Kayla will send out a current link for the Form 700.*
- *Associate Director-Erin Capuchino- Melissa makes a motion and Nancy seconds it. Motion carries. Erin is now an Associate Director of the CRCDC.*

5:15 **Workshops / Events / Presentations**

IRWM meeting: March 27, 2023 1:30pm Zoom

Adjourn: 5:31

Next Meeting April 13, 2023 4:00pm via Zoom



Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

Sub-contractor/partner: Coarsegold

Resource Conservation District

Reporting Period: February 2023

Report Preparer & Title: Jon

Cottington, Executive Director

Email address:

jon.cottington@crd.org

Phone Number: 559 760 6019

Date: 3-6-2023

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):

- Oak Creek Estates submitted Firewise application
- Attended Klette's Pride Community FW meeting
- Continue outreach to Resident Leaders in certified communities to begin planning neighborhood meetings with CRCD.
- Presented Firewise at Sierra Eco Action Rotary Meeting
- Presented Firewise at Bass Lake HOA meeting
- Presented Firewise at NF Rancheria Meeting
- Continued outreach to in-progress communities (Still Meadow Estates, Jean East, Oak Creek, Indian Lakes, Pine Ridge Way,) in varying stages of completion and interest.
- Planning/Prep for work days in River Knolls, Bright Oak, Miami Highlands, and Klette's Pride
- Continued to distribute educational materials to existing and prospective communities.
- Social Media outreach on defensible space and home hardening 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):

- The creation of the Oak Creek group will help expand fire safety in Coarsegold.
- Attending the Klette's Pride meeting helped to onboard 1 new members into the community and plan project for this year's funding.
- Attending the Bass Lake HOA FW meeting helped the board better understand the process and how it can work for the community.
- Attending the NF Rancheria meeting helped begin the Firewise conversation in 3 different communities.



Progress Report: CFSC County Coordinator

Sub-contractor/partner: Coarsegold
Resource Conservation District
Reporting Period: February 2023
Report Preparer & Title: Jon
Cottington, County Coordinator

Email address: jon.cottington@crccd.org
Phone Number: 559 760 6019
Date: 3-2-2023

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):

- **Oversaw CRCD's Firewise program, which had 2 community workdays scheduled and 1 community resubmit application**
- **Attended FireWise community meeting in Klettes Pride way to provide 1 new homeowner WFAP assessment.**
- **Presented at Oakhurst Rotary's Sierra Eco Action Club Fire Prevention/FireWise Community Meeting**
- **Presented at Bass Lake HOA Fire Prevention/FireWise Community Meeting**
- **Hosted North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians Fire Prevention/FireWise Community Meeting**
- **Attended CFSC County Coordinator check in meetings.**
- **Participated in PBA prescribed burn and provided Firewise event table.**
- **Attended meetings with Madera County and YSRCDC for project planning/program management.**
- **Attended planning meetings with EMCFSC, NF Rancheria, CAL FIRE, CFSC, and PBA**
- **Created agreement with EMCFSC to share part time education/outreach coordinator to create educational program for schools, WFAP trainings, and other County Coordinator Outreach.**
- **Assisted EMCFSC with their upcoming wildfire prevention grant**
- **Created agreement with YSRCDC to assist PBA with website/social media creation.**
- **Continued correspondence with Fire Prevention groups to collaborate on a quarterly meeting.**
- **Social Media outreach on defensible space and home hardening to engage new communities.**
- **Hours – 42.5**
- **Travel Expense – 59 miles**



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):

- The ability of the county coordinator to grow public outreach through the firewise program is essential to engaging with the community while also creating some personal buy in from homeowners. Because a main focus of CRCD's fire prevention funds will focus on these communities, these communities will be listed as active wildfire prevention work sites in Madera County.
- The WFAP assessment has provided CRCD the ability to professionally assess a home's vulnerability to wildfire. We offer this assessment to any new Firewise members, and hope to offer it to the community at large in coming months.
- Hosting Fire Prevention/Firewise presentations for the Bass Lake HOA, NF Rancheria, and Rotary club helped to expand the discussion on defensible space, home hardening. fire prevention and the FireWise program. These meetings had 42 attendees and brought the FireWise program into 4 new communities.
- The Prescribed Burn Association is another Wildfire Mitigation Group that is just establishing itself in Madera County. The prescribed burn was attended by members of CRCD, EMCFSC, PBA, CALFIRE, USFS, and interested property owners. By partnering with the PBA, CRCD can play a larger role in prevention activities by sharing prescribed fire as another tool. The County Coordinator is assisting a new group while also tracking its current projects and goals. By assisting PBA with website and social media presence, CRCD will create a new avenue for sharing fire prevention information and help the PBA gain credibility.
- Attending meetings with partner agencies is very important to keep up the ongoing relationship in fire prevention.
- By sharing an employee with EMCFSC, we are assisting funding and program development for both groups.
- The County Coordinator is helping to establish the newly created EMFSC by attending meetings and staying up to date on current grants.
- We have set up reoccurring meetings with the county and YSRCDC to continue program development
- CRCD attended both the CFSC Southern Region meeting as well as the County Coordinator Check in Meeting. These meetings must be attended by Coordinators, but they are very important to share ideas between counties.
- CRCD is tasked to create a quarterly meeting for county fire prevention agencies. CRCD has been in contact with EMFSC, YSRCDC, PBA, CAL FIRE, Madera County Public Works/Supervisor, SNC, NRCS, USFS, and NF Rancheria to develop a group and begin to schedule meeting.
- 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):

- Correspondence was slow at the end of month because many agencies and/or representatives were experiencing power outages and storm related damage.



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):

- **The severe winter weather made correspondence temporarily difficult. CRCDD has begun to create the necessary contacts throughout the county. Activity will return to normal as soon as inclement weather decreases.**

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

- **Continue program development – educational outreach with EMCFSC, 2023 grant opportunities.**
- **Continue collaboration with EMCFSC and PBA**
- **Create documents to track progress until GIS portal is available**
- **Create monthly check in meeting with Wildfire prevention groups**
- **Schedule FireWise Community meetings**
- **Continue to attend meetings and webinars for additional grant funding opportunities.**
- **Continue community outreach to find new prospective Firewise® communities.**

Number	Item
10	Number of wildfire mitigation groups engaged with during this reporting period?
~ 25 in person; ~135 on Zoom and social media	Number of community members engaged with during reporting period (educational materials distributed, meeting attendance, etc.)
2 meetings (presented) 5 meetings (attended) 1 events (hosted)	Number of events hosted (meetings, workshops)
3	Number of people employed whose position is relevant to the County Coordinators grant
15 social media posts 1 meeting flyer	Number of original materials created (only report materials created with grant award funds such as brochures, web pages, educational packets.)

Expenses

Amount	Item
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	Personnel
\$0.00	Fringe (if not included above)
\$38.35(59 miles)	Travel
	Supplies
\$0.00	Contractual
	Other
\$0.00	Indirect

- Continuing Resident leader discussion to help committees plan projects for the 2023 year.
- Timely assistance to prospective communities has allowed for consistent progress in certifying new communities. 1 new community reapplied this month.
- 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.
- 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 community meetings from approved Firewise® communities. Community members are not reaching out to schedule meetings.

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.
- We have created a new project application that can be shared with the whole community in order to create a list of shovel ready projects in the community.

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

- Continue program development on the CAL FIRE grant.
- Expand use of new Firewise surveys to streamline process in larger communities
- Continue scheduling the existing Firewise® Communities for contracted work.
- Schedule Community meetings for every certified community to plan for future funds/projects.
- Continue to attend meetings and webinars for additional grant funding opportunities.
- 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.**