

## Meeting Agenda for January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Raley's Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 93644 Or join is via zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84366607385>

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email [coarsegoldrcd@gmail.com](mailto:coarsegoldrcd@gmail.com) 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.

3:30 **Call to order**

Introductions – *Jon Cottington, Melissa Cottington, Julie Konno, David Konno, Lyndall Erb, Kelly Green III, Whitney Lecat, Christopher Garza, Kai Hansen, Christi Hansard*

Approval of the Agenda

Public Comment: *Please limit comments to 2 minutes*

3:35 **Consent Agenda**

- Approval of the Minutes
- Approval of December Treasurer's Report/Financial Report – *Melissa makes a motion to approve the agenda, minutes, and December TR, David seconds*

3:40 **Partner Reports – Please limit reports to 5 minutes – No partners in attendance at this meeting**

- NCRS – Mira Dick
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebeker
- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino
- Madera Dept. of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben
- Madera County – Bobby Macaulay
- North Fork Rancheria – Lance Fink

3:55 **CRCD Reports**

- Firewise Report – Kelly Green – *see attached*
- Executive Director Report – Jon Cottington - *see attached*

4:10 **Old Business**

- SNA Fellow – *Welcome Kai Hansen! Kai will begin working with Jack and Kelly on Firewise related projects and familiarizing himself with CRCD and the team*
- Board Member Addition Update – *Application for Christi has been submitted, waiting on it to go to the next county board meeting for approval*

4:30 **New Business**

- New Executive Director to address Board, Partners, & Stakeholders – *Chris Garza expressed concern about signing grant documents that he didn't create and would like additional time to go over documents in depth before signing, board expressed understanding and will allow additional time. Chris Garza thanked staff for assistance in his first week and expressed excitement about continuing to learn more about the program*

4:40 **Workshops/Events/Presentations - No events to discuss this month**

4:45 **Adjourn to Executive Session**

**Next Meeting February 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:30PM, Raley's Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 93644**



PO BOX 1306  
North Fork, CA 93643  
559-760-6019  
Jon.cottingham@crccd.org

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
January 10, 2025

3:30 Call to order Introductions Approval of the Agenda Public Comment: Please limit comments to 2 minutes

3:35 Consent Agenda

♣ Approval of the Minutes

♣ Approval of November Treasurer's Report/Financial Report

3:40 Partner Reports – Please limit reports to 5 minutes

♣ NCRS – Mira Dick ♣ CALFIRE – Mike Keyser

♣ Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebeker

♣ Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino

♣ Madera Dept. of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben

♣ Madera County – Bobby Macaulay

♣ North Fork Rancheria – Lance Fink 3:55 CRCD Reports

♣ Firewise Report – Kelly Green

♣ Executive Director Report – Jon Cottingham

4:10 Old Business

♣ SNA Fellow

♣ Board Member Addition Update

4:30 New Business

♣ New Executive Director to address Board, Partners, & Stakeholders

4:40 Workshops/Events/Presentations ♣ 12/11-12/12: CARCD Annual Conference

4:45 Adjourn to Executive Session

Next Meeting February 14th at 3:30PM, Raley's Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 9364

### Program Report:

**CALFIRE GRANT:** Central Sierra Enterprises is currently providing chipping days and/or roadside fuel reduction to Firewise communities. Recent projects Crooks Mountain Road, Pettit Road, Italian Bar Road, and Jean Loop. We are working with Central Sierra to begin invoicing. We still have a few communities to schedule as the crews continue to work through the list. We have spoken with Central Sierra and they would be interested in extending the contract a few additional weeks should the funds not be expended by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. Otherwise the project is moving along well

### MADERA FIREWISE© COMMUNITIES:

We are still waiting on the new Community Wildfire Defense Grant funding from the USFS to be finalized. The county has received an award agreement and we are hoping the agreement can go before the board of supervisors on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

### CA FIRESAFE COUNCIL FIRE PREVENTION COODINATOR:

- Oversaw CRCD's Firewise program (30 renewals and 1 community ready for submission)
- Worked with Melanie and Provost and Pritchard to complete the Madera County Firewise and Fuel Reduction map
- Updated CFSC's GIS portal with all Firewise information.
- Continued work with Jack on CWPP's and Be Firewise Education proposal
- Worked with YSRCDC's grant writer on a USFS Underserved Community Outreach Proposal for a CARCD Block grant



PO BOX 1306  
North Fork, CA 93643  
559-760-6019  
Jon.cottington@crcd.org

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- Begin grant closeout planning
  - Social Media Outreach

**NACD/RCPP** – Our new proposal for additional funding of \$29,070.00 for NACD Technical Assistance Grant has been approved. This will allow us to provide outreach for NRCS programs as well as provide some admin time to continue funding planning discussions with NRCS. We have not received the award agreement and expect to see these documents in the coming weeks. RCPP funding has still not been accessed and CRCD hopes to work with NRCS and CARCD to find a pathway to spending those funds and being reimbursed in a timely manner. These discussions are ongoing.

#### **Fork Fire Post Fire Rehab:**

CRCD was able to schedule two properties in the fire scar for some assistance from the Americorps crews. These projects helped defensible space around homes and driveways. The material will be pile burned by the home owners or removed by chipping once we get the contractual portion of the grant moving.

CRCD also attended a Post Fire Rehab presentation to present our progress and plans to CARCD and USFS. CRCD also attended post fire workshops at the CARCD conference. Continued outreach and program planning will continue in 2025.

#### **WCB Pollinator Block Grant:**

We were not able to

Oak Woodlands – We reviewed the proposal and now are waiting on more information from CARCD. As I mentioned last month, the Wildlife Conservation Board gave the green light to resubmit. This grant would allow for some minor fuel reduction around planting sites but is mainly focused on replanting oaks. This funding would start funding the acorn nursery at North Fork and multiple other school sites, providing habitat improvement and education. The total may be adjusted. We are expecting to hear about the talks between CARCD and WCB in the coming weeks.

#### **RFFCP**

EMCFSC has received the first advance funds for the RFFCP program. CRCD and EMCFSC have executed the subaward agreement. Melanie is using her GIS skills to help create mapping for the Regional Priority Pipeline of projects that CRCD/EMCFSC will be working to create. (This also provides funds for a 6 month term for a staff member, admin time, as well as funds for trainings, supplies, and travel. (\$135,248.46)). CRCD approved the hiring of a new SNA fellow last month. Kai will come on later in January. Because CRCD is listed as a subcontractor, we will be invoicing EMCFSC as needed over the 23 month agreement.

#### **Old Business:**

**SNA Fellow** – As I mentioned in the RFFCP report, CRCD is working with SNA to act as a host site for another fellow for the 2025-2026 year. Kai Hansen will be starting in a few weeks. I have invited him here today to meet everyone and say hello. Kai, thanks for joining us. Do you have any comments or questions for us today?

**Board Member Update-** Chrisi has accepted our invitation to join the board. Julie and Whitney were working on drawing up the paperwork to start the process with the county. The county has the paper work. It should go in front of the Board of Supervisors at the January.

#### **New Business:**



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**New ED to address Board and Stakeholders** - Chris would like to address the board at this point. We can insert statement here for the minutes. Because Chris is currently not listed as the signatory for the organization, we were hoping for the board's approval for Chris to review and sign the CWDG and NACD agreements that the board has previously approved. This will allow the agreements to move forward in a timely manner and allow us to receive funding to continue our technical assistance in the Firewise program and NRCS outreach.

**Workshops** – Chris is currently in Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Grant Writing workshop. Other than that, we have no workshops scheduled in the coming weeks.

**Adjourn**

**Executive Session.**



## Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

**Sub-contractor/partner:** Coarsegold  
Resource Conservation District

**Reporting Period:** December 2024

**Report Preparer & Title:** Kelly Green II  
- Firewise Coordinator

**Email address:** [kelly.green@crccd.org](mailto:kelly.green@crccd.org)

**Phone Number:** 559.389.8781

**Date:** 01-10-2025

*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):

- Maintained technical assistance and communication with all established Firewise® communities.
- Community Application Status
  - **Woodcrest** – In-person document review resident leader will edit documents per meeting notes.
- Continued Social Media outreach focusing on defensible space and home hardening to engage and inform mountain residents of Madera County.
- Firewise community meetings, events, and presentations
  - Kelly attended community meeting for Pettitt Road.
  - Jon attended community meeting for Woodcrest.

**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):

- Timely assistance to prospective communities has allowed for consistent progress in certifying new communities.
- 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.
- Review and updating maps in Arc GIS Pro allow us to quickly identify and quantify communities and surrounding forest service lands.

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

## Sub-contractor Progress Report: Title III Firewise Coordination Program

- 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 scheduled 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 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):

- Expand use of new Firewise surveys to streamline the 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.