

Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2025

Oakhurst Satellite Government Center, 40232 Junction Drive, Oakhurst, CA 93644 Or join is via TEAMS:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MzYyMGM4MGltOWVhOC00ODM4LWE2ZGYtNzZjYTQwZDdjMzU5%40t_hread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2281a8c200-fcf5-48ac-84cf-1cf5fcd30722%22%7d

Meeting ID: 275 160 691 942

Passcode: bF9Jm6Vj

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email 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 3:35 PM

Introductions Allison Medley (Madera County Flood Control), Kevin Scisco (Madera County Flood Agency), Kevin Kirk EMCFSC, YSRCDC note taker, Jon Cottington, Julie Konno, David Konno, Lyndall Erb, Kai Hansen, Whitney LeCat, Christi Hansard, Melissa Cottington, Ashley Nebekar, Jeannie Habben (Madera County Water Resources)

Approval of the Agenda motion made by Melissa 2nd by David, unanimous consent

Public Comment: *Please limit comments to 2 minutes*

3:35

Consent Agenda motion made by Melissa, 2nd by Christie, unanimous consent

- Approval of the Minutes 2-14-2025 & 2-27-2025 (March meeting cx'd due to weather)
- Approval of January, February, and March 2025 Treasurer's Report/Financial Report

3:40

Partner Reports – Please limit reports to 5 minutes

- NCRS – Mira Dick EQIP selections have been made, not sure but possibly 1/3 is forestry, IRA funding is suspended and most likely not coming back. CSP is still open. RCPP is still open. Sierra Ryker's notes on Otter are not accessible by NRCS system due to security. Jon mentioned that funding for the RCPP is very limited. Mira states that if applications go into RCPP pool, they can't be added to other potential funding pools. The deadline is April 18. Julie asks about the deadline for CSP and Mira believes it is May 15. No new agreements are being issued. Rumbings about a new farm bill, but none of the activities associated with the start of a farm bill so will watch that. New Chief is Audrey Bettencourt from the Valley so that is exciting. Overall assured that changes will be coming but not sure of what those will be. Shawn, who was released in January is now back for now but no other staffing information regarding office space etc.
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser via Jon, just waiting for new grant funding period to be released
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebekar 2nd round of CALFIRE defensible space funding released, moving slowly, also funding for hazard trees and chipping but having a slow time getting folks to be willing to move brush to side of road. Finished with Road 200 brushing. Continue with SNC RFFCP in partnership with CRCDD, making great progress with the deliverables - project management handbooks were great. New projects in partnership with YSRCDC as well. New grant out for funding for home hardening retrofits looking for PGE to fill this gap. She attended CNRA meeting just before this meeting and would love to share the info with everyone. Madera County invited the Collaborative (including CRCDD) to tour the Oakhurst

Government Center for the possible office space on Wednesday at 10:30. Whitney will join her.

- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino per email, doing another round of River Parkway cleanup, looking for hand tools to accomplish the work, in particular weed eaters. Jeannie will connect her with Sandy Brinley from the Oakhurst River Parkway who has an entire tool cache for this type of work. Ashley will send out an inclusive email to get everyone in the loop regarding the workday and needs.
- Madera Dept. of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben introduction of Keven and Allison
- Madera County – Bobby Macaulay
- North Fork Rancheria – Lance Fink

3:55

CRCD Reports

- Firewise Report – Kai Hansen We now have our 31st Firewise Community, Woodcrest Estates. New meetings at Sugar Pines and at YLP on Saturday. The Quarterly newsletter is out this week. There was also an evening event at Shut Eye Brewery for Firewise. The turnout wasn't great, but the information and interactions were good. Looking for ways to crack the code on effective outreach. Possible advertising at the movie theater. Lyndall mentioned that she did not know about the Shut Eye event until late yesterday and Jon brought up the problem of having resident leaders getting the info out to the community members – especially those that are not good with technology. Ashley mentioned FSU Communications dept has done marketing videos for groups for free and will link us to the program. Melissa mentioned that even with our tabling events with 100's of folks walking through we might get a 10-15 folks showing any interest. The question remains how do we increase our visibility to folks and increase the program. Possible location is Idle Hour music nights. Mira suggests burned debris, melted equipment etc. as a visual, possibly contact OES. Jon mentioned a fire demo and Julie had some photos come up in one drive memories of small scale easily moved structures that were monthly demos. Julie will send pics to Jon. Jeannie found them on her computer and shared with the meeting. We will continue to collaborate and brainstorm on how we can use this as an educational tool moving forward.
- Executive Director Report – Jon & Whitney – see attached

4:10

Old Business

- Board Member Addition Update Christi Hansard is now an official member of the Board. Lyndal makes a motion to have David and Melissa continue as board members, Christi 2nd, motion carries.
- Election of Officers After a vote, all officers will continue with their positions (Lyndall as President, David as Treasurer, Melissa as Secretary, and Christi will take the position of Vice President.
- FW Title III Funding Agreement We will submit a 2 year funding, but will submit a small contract through July when the 2 year will take effect.
- Federal Freeze Status CWDG grant is frozen and the NACD grant is waiting for wording adjustments based on Federal requirements. RCPP will make some adjustments regarding our payments: if CARCD doesn't get payments we won't get payments.

4:40

New Business

- Staffing update CRCD had a special board meeting on Feb 27. Effective March 3, Whitney is now the Interim Executive Director, Julie will be working as Admin support, Jon has received a job at Mountain Oaks Continuation/Alternative School effective August and will continue to work part-time as project manager. Jon is also now the President of the EMCFSC. Melanie, our Grizzly Corp Fellow, had to resign to take a regular full time position

and was not able to give us a 2 week notice.

- Double Signature policy for checks Our board policy states we need 2 signatures on all checks. Banks no longer audit for this nor do check printers add 2 lines for signatures. This is no longer the industry standard. It is also a burden due to the remote work environment. Lyndall made the motion to eliminate this policy and Christi 2nd, the motion passed unanimously.
- Board involvement for Spring and summer activities Whitney requests pictures of the board members engaging in our activities and joining us in our fun work activities such as tree plantings and outreach.

5:00 **Workshops/Events/Presentations:** Earth Day, NF Rancheria April 19th, 2025, 9-2pm, May
May 2nd Heritage Days, Coarsegold Rodeo Grounds May 10, 2025 9-3pm Wildfire Ready
event , EMCFSC time to be determined

5:05 **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting May 9, 2025 at 3:15pm, Oakhurst Satellite Gov't Center, 40232 Junction Drive,
Oakhurst, CA**

Meeting Agenda for April 11, 2025

Oakhurst Satellite Government Center, 40232 Junction Drive, Oakhurst, CA 93644 Or join is via
TEAMS:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MzYyMGM4MGltOWVhOC00ODM4LWE2ZGYtNzZjYTQwZDdjMzU5%40tHread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2281a8c200-fcf5-48ac-84cf-1cf5fcd30722%22%7d

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- 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 2-14-2025 & 2-27-2025 (March meeting cx'd due to weather)
 - Approval of January, February, and March 2025 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 Cottington
- 4:10 **Old Business**
 - Board Member Addition Update
 - Election of Officers
 - FW Title III Funding Agreement
 - Federal Freeze Status
- 4:40 **New Business**
 - Staffing update
 - Double Signature policy for checks
 - Board involvement for Spring and summer activities
- 5:00 **Workshops/Events/Presentations:** Earth Day, NF Rancheria April 19th, 2025, 9-2pm,



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www.crcd.org

May 10, 2025 Wildfire Ready event , EMCFSC time to be determined

5:05 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting May 9, 2025 at 3:30PM, Oakhurst Satellite Gov't Center, 40232 Junction Drive, Oakhurst, CA

Board Meeting ED REPORT
April 11, 2025

Program Report:

CALFIRE GRANT: Central Sierra Enterprises has finished this round of chipping days and/or roadside fuel reduction for Firewise communities. We had additional equipment funding left over for the truck and trailer due to the lower cost of the truck. So we were able to make a budget amendment and get approval for a second trailer, so we purchased a 5x8 dump trailer that fits within the hauling specs of the vehicle. We hosted a Firewise Resident Leader Meeting and Fire Night at Shuteye Brewery to expand outreach and gather ideas and input for current and future projects. We were also able to purchase a new hitch for the truck that is adjustable so one hitch fits all of our equipment. CRCD submitted close out reporting on 3-12-25. We will be asking for our next advance in the near future. Till then, planning will continue in preparation of the next round of funding, we will just be on a reimbursement schedule with CALFIRE.

MADERA FIREWISE® COMMUNITIES:

Due to freezes in federal grant funding, we are still waiting on the new Community Wildfire Defense Grant funding from the USFS to be finalized.

NACD/RCPP – Similarly, all the funding from the NACD is on pause. CARCD has been in discussion with NACD. NACD has not received full approval to move forward with the TA agreements. These discussions are ongoing.

Fork Fire Post Fire Rehab:

CRCD received the green light to continue working on the Post Fire grant, however CARCD is updating the agreement to say that “if they do not receive money from the USFS, then they will not reimburse the RCD’s. This makes any large expenditure on the grant concerning because we will be unsure if they will have money to reimburse. Staff has not had much time to dissect the issue, so I would open it up to discussion today. We have set up a small reforestation event with the Ponderosa Pines that we have received. We will work with North Fork School to replant Ponderosa Pines along the edge of road 228, within the burn scar. Because this area is part of the Willow Creek Firewise group, homeowners were able to participate in roadside management. CRCD staff will visit the road next week to weed eat along the planting site to allow students safe access to participating properties. The event is to be held Thursday, April 24, 2025.

WCB Pollinator Block Grant:

We have chosen a habitat kit for Coarsegold Elementary school and are going to move forward with a habitat at this site. They are reaching out for approval from the school board this week. We did not finalize the site expansion at YHS or a new site with North Fork Rancheria. Kai connected with a local Mutual Benefit Corporation, Three Springs, on starting a new habitat in an area that was once a commercial flower garden. With no plans on returning the field to commercial use, they were excited to plant a wildflower habitat kit in the area to promote expansion of Monarch habitat in the area. We have completed 2 maintenance days at YHS and Mountain Oaks Sites. Mountain Oaks and YHS staff and students helped do the work. We are also working with Hillside Elementary and Madera/Chowchilla RCD to host an Educational event at the school on Earth Day. We have begun working on putting together an activity packet for the schools as well. This will not be as in depth as Firewise curriculum, but instead have a handful of science experiments, coloring pages, Information, and links to partners and informational sites. We will let the board know when we pick a date.

North Fork Rancheria has also asked us to attend this year’s Earth Day event on April 19. We will hand out trees and information on Firewise and other various programs.

RFFCP

The RFFCP program has had some ups and downs in the last few months. Kai has done a nice job with the Firewise program. He is also diving into the pollinator program as well. Whitney has worked with EMCFSC to submit our first invoice. We have all been working on the regional priority planning, with Kelly and Melanie taking on the bulk of the work. Melanie has continued adding maps from CRCD and partners on our new Web map. Kelly has created a variety of firewise and fire assessment surveys which are linked or in the process of being linked to the web map, which will allow homeowners, staff, and partner agencies upload information that will help CRCD and EMCFSC identify and plan projects in Eastern Madera County. The downside is that Melanie unexpectedly quit 7.5 months into her fellowship. Melanie found a permanent position with a large GIS firm. She tried to provide us a 2 week notice, but the organization wanted her to start on Monday. So Melanie's last day with CRCD was today. Her fellowship fee will be pro-rated so that it is less expensive, but we were really hoping Melanie could be here to continue her work through the course of the fellowship.

Old Business:

CRCD Board – Christi has been approved by Madera County BOS and is now an official board member for CRCD. Thanks for joining us Christi. With that, can we also approve Melissa and David as staying on the board in their current positions? We also need to have board "elections" to decide which roles our board members are playing.....

MADERA FIREWISE© COMMUNITIES:

We are still waiting on the new Community Wildfire Defense Grant funding from the USFS to be finalized. The county has approved the award agreement and we are hoping the agreement will be discussed with CRCD in the near future. However, the federal funding freeze has put this funding on pause, hopefully only temporarily. However, CRCD had a special board meeting that was announced ahead of time and held on 2/27/25 to discuss a one year agreement with the county to extend our Title III funding. The board approved the agreement. The award agreement was signed and returned on 3/3/25. The county then decided to look into the possibility of extending the funding to a 2 year agreement due to the uncertainty of the CWDG grant. Therefore, the new agreement would be for 2 years of Title III funding for a total of \$156,800. We have already approved the agreement, so unless anyone has additional issues or concerns, I think that no action is needed

Federal Grant Freeze

Nothing new to report. The issues are unresolved and ongoing

New Business:**Staffing**

CRCD had a special board meeting that was announced ahead of time and held on 2/27/25 to discuss the hiring of a new Executive Director. Due to ongoing financial uncertainty, the board felt that hiring for a new position would not be in our, or a new employee's best interest at this time. Therefore, the board decided to name Whitney as the Interim Director of CRCD as of 3/3/25. Whitney has been with the organization for 12 months now and has done an amazing job on the administration side of things, making my job so much easier. Because she is so well versed on our grants, the board felt that Whitney would be the perfect candidate to run CRCD at this time. She will have any guidance and assistance needed from Julie and myself, however she has done a great job stepping into the role. Once the uncertainty around our current grants is resolved, the board will decide what steps to take next. But until then, Whitney will be here doing an amazing job. So I just want to say Thank you to Whitney for all your hard work. I also want to thank the board for their support over the last 27 months as the Director of CRCD. I think we were able to do some great work in establishing important



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programs up here in the mountains and look forward to the next chapter with Whitney at the helm. I'll be here to help in any way I can.

Double Signature Policy For Checks

Do we need to keep the double signature policy for checks? This seems to be an outdated check and balance that is not fully needed. Checks do not even have a second line for signatures any longer. This is also a hardship at times because we work remotely throughout the county. We can keep this as part of our procedures, but if the board doesn't see the need for 2 signatures on a check, can we get a motion to update this procedure?

Board involvement for Spring and summer Activities

Workshops/Events/Presentations

- ☐ North Fork Earth Day April 19 at 9am
- ☐ Fork Fire Planting April 24 at 9am
- Coarsegold Heritage Days May 2 at 9am

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 Cottington

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 31st 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 21st.

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

-
- 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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Jon.cottington@crd.org

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@crkd.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.

Meeting Minutes for February 14th, 2025

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[join/19%3ameeting_ZmJmNDFjOGMtM2Q3Yy00NjcyLWExY2QtNzlhN2M3ZjI0Mzcw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221e343e74-eae1-498c-9b6c-82bad01e887a%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZmJmNDFjOGMtM2Q3Yy00NjcyLWExY2QtNzlhN2M3ZjI0Mzcw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221e343e74-eae1-498c-9b6c-82bad01e887a%22%7d)

Meeting ID: 285 543 308 252 Passcode: Yj9LD2tu

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3:30

Call to order - 3:38

Introductions – Jon Cottington, Mira Dick, Melissa Cottington, Lyndall Erb, David Konno, Julie Konno, Christi Hansard, Kai Hansen, Whitney Lecat, Jay Seslow, Erin Capuchino, Kelly Green

Approval of the Agenda – Melissa motions to approve, all approved

Public Comment: *Please limit comments to 2 minutes*

3:35

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the Minutes – *Lyndall makes a motion to approve, Melissa seconds, all approved.*
- Approval of January Treasurer's Report/Financial Report – *Bookkeeper is out sick and was unable to produce a TR in time for the board meeting*

3:40

Partner Reports – Please limit reports to 5 minutes

- NCRS – Mira Dick – *at a stand still due to federal freeze, waiting on an answer for RCPP updates, Inflation Reduction Act EQUIP contracts are not being paid on currently and are not obligating any new contracts until further notice, still working on updating projects to give to CRCd for project map, EQUIP contract applications and engagement in TA is still active for now but the exercising of the program is currently paused.*
- CALFIRE – Mike Keyser
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebeker
- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino – *YSRC&DC also dealing with Federal Freeze repercussions, two grants are at a full stop including CocoAIM grant, awarded a microgrant from Sierra Institute to continue to work on Sierra Sequoia interactive map, hosting a partner workshop and virtual workshop soon, Erin has meeting with Fish & Wildlife for potential beaver restoration on their Oakhurst River project and would potentially want to involve CRCd in the project as a subcontractor hopefully, informed on Tuesday that CALFIRE grants will come available March/April with funding available in December.*
- Madera Dept. of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben
- Madera County – Bobby Macaulay
- North Fork Rancheria – Lance Fink

3:55

CRCd Reports

- Firewise Report – Kelly Green - *No Firewise report this month due to the federal freeze. A few FW events planned for February, otherwise continuing CSE contractual work on FW communities*
- Executive Director Report – Jon Cottington – *see attached report*

4:10

Old Business

4:10

New Business

- Federal Grant Freeze – *a little over a million dollars in funding that is frozen at the moment*

over various grants, CRCD has enough state funding to survive for over a year but a second year of a freeze would be difficult. Underserved community grant and the NACD TA grant are at risk for being taken away completely.

- *Staffing - Need to add Whitney as a signer for the bank, Melissa makes a motion, Lyndall seconds, CRCD will need to post job opening for Executive Director. Jon agrees to stay on to help training. Jon/Whitney working with Bizhaven HR Consulting and will post hopefully next week after we receive updated documents*
- *New Grant Proposals – Oak Woodlands \$249,000 grant proposal moving forward, Arbor Day Community small proposal submitted recently, Title III Funds waiting to come in*
- *Board Member Updates – Christi added to next county meeting for board addition, Whitney was notified that David & Melissa’s terms were up and county clerk was curious if they’re automatically renewed or if they need to be voted on. Will table the vote until next months meeting when Christi comes on.*
- *Trainings & Form 700s – Harassment & Ethics training need to be done every two years, Whitney will send out form 700s next week.*

4:40

Workshops/Events/Presentations

- YLP Fire Brigade 2/11/25 @ 6PM
- North Fork Auxiliary Fire Department Meeting 2/22/25 @ 2PM

4:45

Adjourn to Executive Session -

Next Meeting March 14th at 3:30PM, Raley’s Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Special Session Meeting Agenda for February 27th, 2025, 3:30pm

34000 Koso Nobe Road North Fork, CA 93643

Or join us via Microsoft Teams:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Mjg4NTQxYmUtYTAWOS00ZWQ2LTlmNTUtYzMyOGVkZmRlM2I5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221e343e74-eae1-498c-9b6c-82bad01e887a%22%7d)

[3ameeting_Mjg4NTQxYmUtYTAWOS00ZWQ2LTlmNTUtYzMyOGVkZmRlM2I5%40thread.v2/0?
context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%
221e343e74-eae1-498c-9b6c-82bad01e887a%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Mjg4NTQxYmUtYTAWOS00ZWQ2LTlmNTUtYzMyOGVkZmRlM2I5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a6a25f0a-cd36-499d-9cb3-9b89b26e58ee%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%221e343e74-eae1-498c-9b6c-82bad01e887a%22%7d)

Meeting ID: 265 189 728 182 Passcode: hu34KV9t

3:30pm – Call to order

- Introductions - *Jon Cottington, Julie Konno, David Konno, Lyndall Erb, Melissa Cottington, Whitney Lecat (remotely)*
- Approval of the Agenda - *Julie requested we add "EQUIP-Notify Neighbors" to the agenda. Lyndall agreed to add this and Melissa makes motion to pass approval of the agenda. All agreed.*
- *Board suggested calling Mira from NRCS to let her know that CRCD would be communicating with those in contract regarding stopping work due to the federal freeze and the potential of work costs not being reimbursed.*
- Public Comment: Please limit comments to 2 minutes

3:35pm – New Business

- Discussion of new agreements with Madera County for Firewise Coordinator Role - *Bobby mentioned the benefit of a three year contract and Jon agreed, but progress was stalled so Jon suggested signing the current agreement and then we could always sign a new one. Board suggested signing it as "equal and above" to cover any potential contract changes. A three year contract may require more deliverables, so there could be additional changes to a contract. Melissa makes a motion to go ahead with signing the contract, and all in favor.*

4:00pm – Adjourn to Executive Session - *Adjourned at 4:01*

Next Meeting – March 14, 2025 Raley's Conference Room, Oakhurst CA