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Meeting Minutes for October 9th, 2026
Oakhurst Government Center 40232 Junction Drive
Oakhurst, CA 93644

Or join us via TEAMS: https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2Fl%2Fmeetup-join19%3Ameeting_MzYyMGM4MGItOWVhOC00ODM4LWE2ZGYtNzZjYTQwZDdjMzU5%40thread.v2&type=meetup-join19:meeting_MzYyMGM4MGItOWVhOC00ODM4LWE2ZGYtNzZjYTQwZDdjMzU5@thread.v2&deeplinkId=6d8b2aa6-44a5-4274-8760-0ed3933763c9&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true
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.

3:15 **Call to order**
Executive Session
Personnel Review and Legal

3:45 Adjourn

3:45 **Call to order Regular Session**

- Introductions Jeannie Habben, Lacey Sparkes, Melinda Barrett, Melissa Cottington, Christi Hansard, David Konno, Gary Gilbert, Courtney Dyer, Julie Konno, Jerod Weeks, Kelly Green

Approval of the Agenda Melissa makes the motion to approve, David 2nds motion carried

Public Comment: Please limit comments to 2 minutes Gary Gilbert expressed concern over the lack of work and funding being put into Firewise communities over this last year and Whitney was able to respond by explaining the lack of implementation is due to a new CalFire CEQA requirement that came about this year after the grant was awarded. No work can be done until the CEQA Neg Dec is in place. Mariposa Fire Safe Council is also going through this. CRCD is working with Mason, Bruce and Girard for our CEQA permit and it is expected to be completed by early 2027.

3:50 **Old Business**

- Jeannie Habben – Survey Results Jeannie proposes 4 workshops held during lunch hours to go over Grant management, Communication and collaboration, Budgeting, and Tier 1 requirements. These are not mandatory for us but could be helpful. Whitney is interested in attending, but not sure if these will apply to our organization. Melinda is interested in the Tier 1 topic for Mariposa RCD. Jeannie felt the hours could be billed to the CFSC grant but Julie discussed that the training deliverable was for technical assistance not internal operations. Whitney will discuss this with Tristan at Madera County, lead for the CFSC grant and with the Grant Admin at CFSC.

Consent Agenda – Board approval for all items listed below: Motion made to approve by Melissa, David 2nds, motion carried

- Approval of the Minutes September 2026
- Approval of August ~~& September~~ 2026 Treasurer's Report/Financial Report September's TR was not completed by Savannah in time for our meeting.

3:55 **CRCD Reports**

- Interim ED & Programs Report – Whitney Lecat & Courtney Dyer See attached

4:10 **Partner Reports** – Please limit reports to 5 minutes None to report

- CalFire
- Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council

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- Yosemite Sequoia RCDC
- Madera County

4:30 **Old Business**

- CRCD/CARCD Speak-off Marisa, our speaker from last year who took 3rd place at the State competition, is entering the contest again!

4:50 **New Business**

- Executive Session Announcements: Courtney has completed her probationary period, and everyone had glowing reports of her work over the last 3 months. She has taken the role of full-time Field Tech, working independently and with enthusiasm. She was given a one-time pay increase to reflect her value to our organization and will now earn all stipends for a full-time employee.

5:00 **Workshops/Events/Presentations:**

- CFSC Conference/Workshop in Sacramento – October 26th & 27th
- Oakhurst Fall Festival – October 9th-11th
- CARCD Conference November 17th-19th

5:05 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: November 13th, 2026, at 3:15PM, Oakhurst Government Ctr, 40232 Junction Dr. Oakhurst, CA

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INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & PROGRAMS REPORT
October 9th, 2026

General Updates:

- YSRCDC received the check from American Water and have paid us our portion in full which is $18,000 so we can start planning some project. Kyle, Courtney and I have picked out a few spots that we have interest in and will be looking into necessary permits that may be required.
- I have begun working on the Pollinator Presentation that Kyle & I will be giving at the CARCD Conference next month
- Our "join the board" presentation is almost complete and will be sent to the board early next week for review after photos from the Fall Festival are added
- Listos is wrapping up, we are currently waiting on payment for May, July, and August. September's invoice will be sent over early next week. May's payment from QuickBooks is "pending" and is expected to hit our bank account 10/14
- The senior resource fair event went great, met some good partners, including a gentleman that specializes in insurance. He works with Sierra RCD a lot and has offered to come up and do a presentation on insurance so we are thinking of having him do a general one for the public and maybe one at our next FW resident leader meeting.
- We have officially moved into our new storage unit! We are currently in the process of organizing everything nicely, and it will be so nice to have a place that is easily accessible and organized!
- Courtney spoke about pollinators at a Master Gardners event and had a chance to talk with members from the Senior Center about working together on a potential garden idea as well as additional community workshops and events.
- CWDG presents a lot of opportunity to work with the community, so please brainstorm and talk to your friends about Wildfire Prevention Awareness workshops that they'd like to see in our community
- SNC conference, CFSC County Coordinator Workshop, CARCD conference, YLP Fire Station 10 Update Meeting, Continuation of Firewise Community Meetings, and additional events are coming up..

CALFIRE GRANT:

- Submitted the budget amendment to include CEQA cost. A majority of funds was pulled from Contractual, but some have been pulled from staff wages and benefits due to us not working on the grant as much for this first year. Once the amendment has been approved I will submit an advance request so we can get Mason, Bruce, and Girard paid and the CEQA process started. The goal is to begin contractual work next spring, possibly late winter depending on conditions.

MADERA FIREWISE© COMMUNITIES:

- Preparing for the next round of renewals. Several of our communities have already started their renewal and have been approved. We will be reaching out to resident leaders to remind them, and we will be offering a webinar on the renewal process if it's needed.
- We received our third payment from the Title III funds and will be planning some defensible space work possibly before the winter comes in, if not it will be early spring.
- Courtney hosted individual zoom meetings with FW resident leaders, and attended 10 community meetings. These meetings allowed her to introduce herself and meet the residents, as well as check in on each community's individual goals, needs, challenges, and potential project ideas.

Fork Fire Post Fire Rehab:

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- Absolute Tree Service finished up their work last month and did an amazing job. I will be submitting the quarterly invoice next week and will start planning the next round of contractual work.

CFCS Grant

- Coordinating a possible Home Hardening Vendor Fair, next Firewise Resident Leader Meeting, an insurance webinar, and collaboration with Jannai from Master Gardens about doing a home landscaping webinar for zone zero.