

MARIPOSA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FINAL MINUTES

Approved as amended (10/03/24)

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024
Time: 8:30 AM
Location: Board Chambers, Upper Level
Government Center
5100 Bullion Street
Mariposa, CA 95338

1. **Roll Call and Introductions:** Tony Toso called the meeting to order at 8:33 am and called for the roll:

Members present: Tony Toso, Jordan Cory (alternate), Carla Kelly, John Shimer, Kelly Williams.

Members absent: Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin (alternate).

Planning Staff: Steve Engfer, Sophea Craighead, Katy Casner, Hannah Harrison, Ben Goger.

Other County Staff or Representatives Present: Monica Nielsen and Mikaela Cory (Ag Commissioners Office), Mick Herman (District 3 Planning Commissioner), Fadazyi Mashiri (Mariposa County Farm Advisor).

2. **Public Address:** Persons wishing to speak on a matter not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the committee. None.

3. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair:**

Toso noted that he has been the Chair for the past couple of years and that John Shimer has been Vice Chair. Currently, he is asking for nominations. Shimer suggested keeping the Chair and Vice Chair the same.

Toso and Shimer accepted the nominations.

By Motion of Kelly Williams, Seconded by Carla Kelly, the AAC re-elected Tony Toso as the Chair for the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2024. Motion passed. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

By Motion of Tony Toso, Seconded by Kelly Williams, the AAC re-elected John Shimer as the Vice Chair for the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2024. Motion passed. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

Steve Engfer, Planning Director, noted for point of information, that the AAC has newly appointed committee members. It was noted that new members were Kelly Williams representing the Farm Bureau and Jordan Cory an alternate for the Farm Bureau.

4. Approval of Minutes from: September 28, 2023.

By Motion of Carla Kelly, Seconded by Kelly Williams, the AAC approved the Minutes of September 28, 2023 as presented. Motion passed. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

5. Actions Items – Recommendation Requested:

a. Review and recommendations on the Agriculture Working Landscape Conservation Plan (AWLCP) DRAFT #3.

Hannah Harrison, Community Design and Development Planner, spoke about the AWLCP Draft #3 along with a PowerPoint presentation. Afterwards, she provided a handout that listed the AWLCP goals.

Harrison noted that receiving the AAC's support is the first step in the AWLCP grant approval process; then staff will move forward to the Planning Commission for approval, then the Board of Supervisors for the final adoption.

Engfer noted that the purpose of today's presentation is to receive the AAC's input, discuss and make recommendations to the draft, which will be considered and incorporated into the draft.

After the presentation, a long discussion occurred with the committee still feeling unclear and uncomfortable in recommending the approval of the draft. They did not have a clear understanding of what the state mandates and requirements are and if the General Plan could be developed without the AWLCP recommendations. In addition, Toso commented that Mariposa County is an area primarily consisting of cattle ranches which is the most common agricultural practice.

Engfer provided information and directions received from the Board regarding the AWLCP grant along with the CEQA document requirements that will need to be included in the General Plan in relation to the greenhouse gas reduction plan presented in the draft.

In conclusion, staff will bring the draft back to the committee at the next meeting.

b. General Plan 20 Year Rewrite - AAC Role

i. Creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee for Review of GP and Preparation of GP 20yr Update Recommendations to the full AAC

After discussion, Shimer made a motion to nominate Toso to be on the Ad-Hoc committee, seconded by Williams. Toso declined the nomination and concurred with Kelly to recommend that this item be tabled to the next meeting to allow the committee time to determine who to nominate or decide if an Ad-Hoc Committee would be necessary. Further discussion led to the committee deciding not to move forward with creating an Ad-Hoc

Committee.

ii. Request staff to prepare documents and schedule for AAC - GP 20yr Rewrite meetings

By Motion of John Shimer, Seconded by Carla Kelly, the AAC denied creating an Ad-Hoc committee and for staff to create the GP 20yr Update Rewrite for the full committee to review. Motion passed. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

c. Annual Review of \$3,000 Income Requirement Established by Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 10-150.

Engfer spoke about the item being a yearly recommendation in accordance with the Williamson Act. The committee did not provide any input.

By Motion of Carla Kelly, Seconded by John Shimmer, the AAC recommended retaining the \$3,000 minimum income requirement for intensive use. Motion passed. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

6. Informational Items: no action will be taken by the Committee.

a. Board of Supervisors Activities.

Engfer and Goger provided the following updates:

- Board of Supervisors working on a county wide work study.
- Grants – Mariposa Creek Parkway and ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units).

b. Planning Commission Activities.

Engfer provided the following updates:

- The Approval of the Biomass Project, PC-Resolution 24-006 Amended Conditions.
- The PC made a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the zoning ordinance update related to Title 16 & Title 17.
- The Tyler Project (New Development Services Permitting Software)

c. Member and Staff Activities.

Nielsen, Ag Commissioner provided an update on their activities:

- Wildlife Services comes in-house from the USDA.
- Livestock Pass and Training are completed in the office.
- Nielsen has been working on the device registration fee and registration process for the new year.

d. Planning Department.

Information provided during the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission update by Engfer and Goger.

7. **Set Next Meeting (if necessary) and Adjourn**

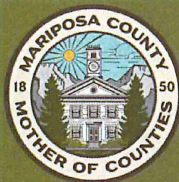
Katy Casner, Planner III, requested a meeting in September for the second or third week. The committee agreed to the next meeting date of September 12, 2024 at 8:30 am.

By Motion of John Shimer, Seconded by Carla Kelly, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am. Motion Moved. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Excused (Dave Mecchi, Lyle Turpin), 0 Abstained.

Respectfully Submitted by Sophea Craighead, Acting Secretary for Agricultural Advisory Committee, Office Technician, Planning Department



**Items that came in
after the Agenda and
packet was prepared
and publicly posted.**



AGRICULTURAL AND WORKING LANDS CONSERVATION PLAN DRAFT 3

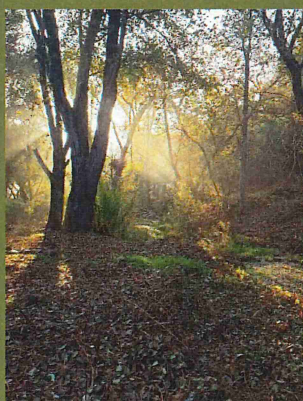
➤ **AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Discussion on Draft #3 of the Agriculture and Working
Lands Conservation Plan

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AGENDA



1

LAY OUT COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND
HOW THEY WERE ADDRESSED

2

DISCUSS FEEDBACK ON DRAFT #3
OF THE AWLCP

2



PLAN FOR DRAFT 3 FEEDBACK

➤ FARM BUREAU	➤ AG ADVISORY	➤ PLANNING COMMISSION	➤ BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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OTHER GROUPS WE ARE SEEKING FEEDBACK FROM: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, SOUTHERN SIERRA MIWUK NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL, AND THE SALC CORE TEAM

3



CONCERNS

READABILITY
AND NEED
FOR LOCAL
CONTEXT

REQUIREMENTS
FROM THE AG
COMMUNITY

IMPLEMENTING
THE GENERAL
PLAN

ADDITIONAL
REGULATIONS
AND
REQUIREMENTS

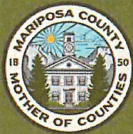
CHANGING
PROTECTIONS
FOR AG

INCLUDING
ARTS AND
CULTIVATION

30X30 AND
SUBVENTION
FUNDS

CONFLICTS
BETWEEN THE
PLAN AND
EXISTING
REGULATIONS

11



DISCUSSION ON DRAFT 3



**WHAT
SHOULD
CHANGE?**



**WHAT
SHOULD BE
ADDED?**



**WHAT
SHOULD BE
REMOVED?**

12



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?



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