



Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday OCTOBER 20, 2021
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: Go To Meeting/Call in – Conference Meeting (see below for participation information)
Host Location – Mariposa County Government Center
5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa, CA 95338
Lower Floor, Development Services

1. Roll Call: Steve Engfer, Barbara Cone, Dave Angelini, Tom Sweeney, Russ Marks, Fadzayi Mashiri, Melinda Barrett, Chris Bernard and Laura Norman. And speaker Mikey Goralnik.
Meeting called to order at 9:37.

2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of July 21, 2021 and August 18, 2021. September no quorum.
ACTION- Both sets of Minutes approved.

3. Public comments - none

4. Discussion and Possible Action:

- a. **Recognition of Allen Johnson; his life, service on MCFAC and related fire activities such as SWIFT.** Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to execute a recognition letter of service for Allen Johnson.
- Allen was present for anything to do with fuels management, including Tree Mortality and Fire Safe Council in Mariposa County. Send any thoughts to be included in the resolution. He has been active in fuels management and fire prevention going back 30 years. Allen built a very useful mapping tool using QR codes that are very helpful to fire fighters from outside the area
- Motion to request the Resolution in honor of Allen Johnson by BOS.
- **ACTION:** Approved

- b. Mikey Goralnik to give an update on Mariposa Creek Project.

Mariposa Creek Project is broken into 4 phases.

- Phase 1 – County received a grant for \$415,000. This is Riparian Restoration work.
- Phase 2 – From 6th St to 8th St
- Phase 3 – From low water crossing to Joe Howard St (grant \$4.4M)
- Phase 4 – From Joe Howard to upstream terminus (grant \$450,000)

Work to include removal of invasive species and replacement with native and cultural native plants that thrive in the area. Will use mechanical and herbicide to remove, plus burning like done culturally.

November CCC crews and CHIPs (native based trail crew) will be brushing and piling to burn later.

Whole project will take 2.5 years to complete.

- Cal Recycle Grant came through Public Works to remove trash and debris from creek before brushing. Delay to hire contractor, may need BOS input/approval.
- No volunteers are needed at this time. Possibly during the revegetation at later stages. Or if after CCC/CHIPs depart and there is still work to be done. Community members would like to help.
- Sidewalks, stairs, pedestrian paths plan going to BOS. Once approved it goes to Caltrans.
- Phase 4 RFP released this morning. Contractor will be hired around Thanksgiving, with work to start in new year.
- Ask Ben to create polygons around Creek Parkway to see where fire reduction will occur.
- There is a separate trail diagram that connects Creek Parkway to Rim Trail around town.



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c. Countwide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

i. Report out CWPP implementation progress – CWPP ADHOC report. Work Plan Fires and Covid have stretched resources. Working on tasks with Permit software development. Hoping to move forward with contracting. Rollout next year, after 16 months implementation. Grant from Civic Spark Program provided candidate Hannah to help with CWPP progress. She will be helping Open House events previously discussed.

ii. Next steps for CWPP implementation – CWPP ADHOC report. Work Plan ADHOC meets next week and will report afterward. Cover drafts of community plans to put on timelines.

iii. Discussion on public outreach and recommendation to BOS on town hall meeting. Request outline/template to be sure messaging is consistent. Include drafts of community plans to show at these meetings.

d. Discussion and committee direction on Public Education Adhoc
Consider resurrecting Defensible Space signs originally distributed by Fire Safe Council. Dave and Barbara will work together.

e. Discussion and committee direction on membership and participation
Encourage peers to participate so we have a quorum. Consider sending a letter to committee members with poor attendance.

f. Grant Application Coordination updates

FSC: Looking for grants for brushing and chipping.

State of California: \$15B budgeted by State with Fire included. Steve to provide a link to synopsis. Focus on resiliency. Still needs to make it to grant funders. Resource agencies are getting lots of money.

Melinda: Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant has been submitted. No feedback so far. Funding is for safe roadway projects on Hwy 49. Working on right-of-entry from every property owner.

Letters of Support discussion: Letters need to come from BOS. BOS and County Fire Chief are the only ones who can sign letters. Agenda items need to go on MCFAC agenda two weeks ahead of meeting, then get submitted to BOS and goes on their agenda, another two weeks out. If letter is provided it can potentially be signed and go out in the mail soon after. If we want an action on any item it MUST be on the agenda. It cannot come up during a report and proceed to approval.

Melinda will update her list for approval and send out. She has 3 Grant Funded ongoing projects for fuel reductions/breaks: Fish Camp, Wawona and Yosemite West.

Fish Camp: partnership with SNF, \$800,000, starts soon

Wawona: road clearance from downed trees

Yosemite West: road clearance from downed trees around sewer plant.

\$10M awarded and will take 3-4 years

Mariposa County: applied for grants for more water tanks for Lushmeadows, Midpines and Hunters Valley. Need more money for Bootjack. Everything is costing over budget. Contractors move in next week. DWR addendum requested; they like providing additional funds for current projects.



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5. Updates, Activity Reports and Future Items

a. Members

Melinda working on Sarah Priest Allotment tribal land clearing project.

FSC: Stumpfield and Foran projects are about 80% complete. Bid Walk for Wagner begins in November. Immediate implementation should go quickly once contractor is selected.

b. Any future agenda items

- *Melinda's* requests for Letters of Support

6. Adjourn

Adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Agenda Documents Download link: <https://www.mariposacounty.org/DocumentCenter/Index/2715>

- If you require a hard copy of the agenda please notify Cathy Garrett, County Fire Department:
cgarrett@mariposacounty.org