



Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee MEETING AGENDA January 13, 2023

DATE: January 13, 2023
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: Mariposa County Fire Department Head Quarters
4802 Highway 140 (Executive Meeting Room)
Mariposa, CA 95338

PLEASE NOTE- This meeting will be at the Mariposa County Fire Department However, it is a hybrid meeting – **Public and MCFAC members may either call-in or attend in person.**

Teleconference option available (see below for call in participation information)

Dial in- United States: +1 (786) 535-3211
Access Code: 135-062-653

Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting are invited to do so by submitting written comments (instructions follow) or by joining the teleconference by:

MCFAC Advisory Committee written commenting processes are as follows

WRITTEN COMMENTS: Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Postal Service, email or may be dropped off at the Planning Department. In your written communication please note in the subject line: Which Advisory Committee you are commenting to and indicate which “PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM #” (insert the item number relevant to your comment) or “PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEM” that you are commenting on.

1) Mail • Send written communication to:

Mariposa County Fire Department
PO Box 2039
Mariposa CA 95338

2) Email • Send an email to the mcfac@mariposacounty.org

3) Drop Off: • Written communication can be dropped off at:

No matter which of these formats you choose to use for written communication (Mail, Email or Drop Off) please know that in order to ensure distribution to the committee prior to their consideration of the agenda, and in order for your written comments to be placed into the record it must be received no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Fire Department at 209-966-4330.
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Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

MEETING AGENDA

January 18, 2023

1. Roll Call

2. **Resolution:** A resolution of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee proclaiming a local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020 regarding an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as Covid-19), and authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee for the period January 18, 2023 to February 15, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

County Counsel advised us that even with the hybrid style meetings, in person and teleconference, the Committee still needs to adopt the Resolution at the beginning of each meeting in order to be compliant with the Brown Act. The agenda includes the required Resolution.

3. Approval of Minutes: December 21, 2022

4. Public comments

5. Discussion and Possible Action:

- a. MCFAC Officers Election
- b. Update on County Coordinator Statewide Grant Project - awarded
- c. Title-III Funding
- d. Discussion of proposed updated Fire Severity Zones

Final CWPP is available here: <http://www.mariposacounty.org/2448/Community-Wildfire-Protection-Plan>

6. Updates, Activity Reports and Future Items

- a. Members
- b. Any future agenda items

7. Adjourn

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meeting, please contact the Fire Department at 209-966-4330

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

A RESOLUTION OF THE MARIPOSA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 4, 2020 REGARDING AN OUTBREAK OF RESPIRATORY ILLNESS DUE TO A NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (A DISEASE NOW KNOWN AS COVID-19), AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE MARIPOSA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 18, 2023 TO FEBRUARY 15, 2023 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Planning Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee's legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District's legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist, specifically, COVID-19 has spread and is continuing to spread at rates that threaten the capacity of the health care system and the health of the community, and

WHEREAS, in-person meetings that include members Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee as well as members of the public would expose attendees to transmission of COVID-19 in ways that present imminent risks to health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee does hereby find that community transmission of COVID-19 has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the community that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and

facilities of the Fire Advisory Committee, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee does hereby find that the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, efforts are being made to ensure public access to the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee meetings, including providing public call-in numbers which are part of the meeting packet and public noticing materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MARIPOSA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Committee hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the community, and that meeting in-person as a committee and with members of the public in attendance would present an imminent risk to the transmission of COVID-19.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Committee hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The County of Mariposa and legislative bodies of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) NOVEMBER 16, 2022, or such time the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Fire Planning Advisory Committee this 18ST day of JANUARY, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

December 21, 2022

1. **Roll Call:** Steve Ward, Mike Keyser, Chris Bernard, Barbara Cone, Melinda Barret, Tara Fouch-Moore, Russ Marks, Steve, Engfer, Gary Colliver, Albert Boyd, Debbie Peters, Fadzayi Mashiri
2. **Resolution:** A resolution of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee proclaiming a local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020 regarding an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as Covid-19), and authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee for the period December 21, 2022 to January 18, 2023 pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

*Motioned by Gary Colliver, Seconded by Russ Marks
Approved unanimously*

County Counsel advised us that even with the hybrid style meetings, in person and teleconference, the Committee still needs to adopt the Resolution at the beginning of each meeting in order to be compliant with the Brown Act. The agenda includes the required Resolution.

3. Approval of Minutes: November 16, 2022

Corrections

5b, line 1: Russ Marks explained that the Mariposa has a customer base of four million people that use services in Mariposa County but 8,000 people actually pay for the services.

6b, paragraph 2: Replace Russ Cahill with "Russ Marks"; Replace "Public Works" with "Mariposa County"

*Motioned by Tara Fouch-Moore, seconded by Barbara Cone
Approved unanimously with noted corrections*

4. Public comment

Albert Boyd – Interested in pending US Forest Service lawsuit in Southern California.

**** Chair noted that this comment is not relevant to the committee.**

5. Discussion and Possible Action:

a. Discussion on public relations education on pile burning for the community

UC Cooperative Extension is hosting a statewide pile burning webinar on January 31st from 6-8pm that will be followed by in-person field days hosted by UCCE advisors in counties throughout the state. Topics covered by the webinar include pile burning fundamentals, safety and liability considerations, weather conditions and interpretation, and navigating the permitting process. UCCE would like to do demonstrations in Mariposa, Madera, and Fresno counties, covering burn and smoke permitting and give participants hands on experience building, igniting, and monitoring piles. UCCE could use help organizing the pile burn demonstrations if anyone is interested in presenting about pile burning (burn and smoke permitting, pile building and lighting, safety, monitoring, etc.), having representation for

their organization at, has a property in mind that these could be held at, or helping lead the field day(s).

Discussion: Fire Safe Council could coordinate with UCCE to find property owners on the Alta Vista Fuel break where we could host pile burning demonstrations. Contractors will begin working in February and could create piles to burn during the demonstration.

Flyer will be shared with committee

Public comment – Recommendation to have participants dress appropriately and be prepared for weather

b. Discussion about CALFIRE Prevention Grants, who will be applying and coordination of applications.

Barbara Cone – Fire Safe Council is applying for two Cal Fire Fire Prevention Grants. First, a Lushmeadows ladder fuels project to reduce fuels on 160 acres within Lushmeadows HOA properties. Second, Bumguardner fuel break, anchoring at Highway 140 and crossing the ridge to the Mariposa County Landfill. This project was based on a Cal Fire request.

Melinda Barrett – Mariposa County RCD will not be applying for the Fire Prevention Grant but still is very interested in working on the Highway 49 corridor. However, they need to be able to make their grant competitive through Cal Trans.

Discussion: The issues that Mariposa RCD is facing are that Cal Trans' contractor costs are \$15,000/acre while Mariposa RCD's are ~\$1,500/acre. This is because Cal Trans is required to hire union-represented employees rather than independent contractors because state law requires public works projects on state-owned lands pay a union-prevailing wage on anything over \$3,500. The project Mariposa RCD is proposing would expand the work already done on the Highway 49 corridor combining Cal Trans right-of-way with private and USFS lands. The issue with maintenance is it has to be built into the project overall and grants only allow for maintenance costs to be built into them during the life of the grant. Long-term maintenance could be funded through the County by zone of benefit, but that tax has to be paid by the direct user of it and requires legislative action. MCFAC could make a recommendation to the board to determine a zone of benefit but otherwise, this is beyond the purview of MCFAC

Tara Fouch-Moore – Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation is interested in pursuing a grant but are facing challenges because they do not have a land base.

Fadzayi Mashiri – UCCE is applying for the Cal Fire Fire Prevention Grant to continue the work with the PBA. The goal is to hire a PBA coordinator, buy more equipment, do more community education, and work on defensible space/home hardening education for the community. We would also like to sponsor PBA members interested in becoming California Certified Burn Bosses that can work with the PBA. One of our issues is liability and having burn bosses would alleviate that issue. UCCE would also like to host a TREX in our area eventually. Potentially complementary opportunities with the Fire Safe Council and Mariposa RCD.

Discussion: UCCE and Mariposa Fire Safe Council should coordinate and reference one another's grants in their applications.

Public comment – Can private landowners apply for these grants?

***Chair explained that nonprofits can apply for the grant and landowners can work with those organizations to receive grant monies if their objectives fit the grant.

c. Nominations for MCFCAC officers: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

Steve Ward nominated Alison Deak for secretary

Barbara Cone nominated Steve Ward for chair

Melinda Barrett self-nominated as Vice Chair, but Steve Engfer could continue in the position as well.

6. Activity updates and future agenda items

Mike Keyser, Cal Fire – The majority of the 17-acre fuel reduction project in Greeley Hill has been completed by Cal Fire. Cal Fire has begun working on Grist fuel break. Mike was able to get access to the 300-acre county parcel on Oak Road – wants to know if the county is still pursuing the FEMA grant because he can share the contact information for the landowner that granted him access. Cal Fire has an agreement signed with the landowner for access.

Steve Ward, Mariposa County Fire – County Fire received notice that the grant for county fire coordinator is in review status. Chief Bernard has begun working on the position description and will share with the committee soon for review before taking it to the board. Mariposa County is selling four type-1 engines. By early February three new type-3 engines will be in service. Steve has continued to talk with communities about the Firefighter Reserve Program. Also working with Human Resources be able to have 24-hour employee(s) for the county and will hear back in February. County Fire put in FEMA grant in 2021 and was not successful for self-contained breathing apparatuses; will continue to look for funding. Six additional reserve firefighters were hired, hoping to move to increase from a five day/week to seven days/week staffing model out of the downtown station. Chassis for two water tenders should be in by March and will begin being built. Type-2 structure engine has been ordered but will likely not be secured until 2024. The fuel break equipment has been delivered. County fire was awarded second CCI grant. Cooperator agreement for Cal Fire to operate equipment has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Still need to order \$20,000 of additional supplies for fuel break maintenance.

Barbara Cone, Mariposa Fire Safe Council – Alta Vista bid will be separated into two separate contractors to be more efficient in implementation.

Melinda Barrett, Mariposa RCD – Mariposa RCD has assessed ~30 properties for erosion control issues in the Oak Fire Burn Scar and are doing work on those properties. Will be able to treat all of them. Contractor is on board for home hardening; expected to be started in February once completed with erosion control treatments. Working on regional study through Governor's Office of Planning and Research related to woody biomass products to create reports and education efforts mid-2023. Money is devoted to pilot projects in five counties: Mariposa, Tuolumne, Amador, Calaveras, and Alpine to look at more efficient and profitable ways to deal with biomass. Would like to do a presentation at future MCFAC meeting about results.

Steve Engfer, Mariposa Planning Department – Planning has been working on options for Oak Fire Survivors for temporary trailers – survivors are beginning to get trailer assignments. Clean-up is ongoing on Triangle Road. Mariposa Biomass Project permitted for Mariposa Industrial Park is working to secure grading permit.

Russ Marks, Mariposa County – Roadside clearance on Triangle Road is being completed. Darrah bridge is moving along but is weather-dependent; should be opened by May. Consultant has been hired for water tanks project.

Tara Fouch-Moore, Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation – Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation were awarded grant funding to dig 60 wells for tribal members. Have hired a stewardship coordinator, similar to a PBA coordinator. Interested in partnering with the PBA to coordinate a Training Exchange with the tribe and to coordinate burns. Partnering with two tribes with goal to create a Sierra-wide fire network to share fire resources and knowledge.

Marshall Long, Mariposa Board of Supervisors – At the Board of Supervisors meeting there was a discussion about funding for the PBA to hire a coordinator and purchase supplies that was tabled while county council looks into liability. This was for funding that was appropriated for the Fire Safe Council that they did not pick up. There has been push-back from some that would not like to see prescribed fire. Will continue to work on that. May ask the Board to put him on as a citizen member of MCFAC. Steve Ward will send current roster to Marshall.

Fadzayi Mashiri, UC Cooperative Extension – The PBA completed a 2-acre prescribed burn with 30 participants in Ponderosa Basin. UCCE is hosting a 7-part Post-Fire Forest Resilience workshop series starting February 1st followed by an in-person field day to the Creek and Oak Fire burn scars. Topics covered will include: erosion control; invasive species, hazard trees, and fuels management; reforestation considerations; financial assistance; salvage logging and slash treatment; dealing with competing vegetation; post-fire rangeland management; and getting professional help. Flyer will be shared with committee

Debbie Peters, Sierra Tel – No comment

Gary Colliver, public member – No comment

Future agenda items:

- a. MCFAC officers election
- b. Update on county fire coordinator position
- c. Title-III funding
- d. Discussion of new fire severity zones

7. Adjourn

Motioned by Russ Marks; Seconded by Barbara Cone
Approved Unanimously

Mariposa County Fire Department POSITION ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS DUTIES STATEMENT Job Duty Statement		Working Title of Position Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator	
		Division and/or Subdivision	
INSTRUCTIONS:		Location of Headquarters Mariposa County Fire Department	
		Class Title of Position	
		Position Number	
		Effective Date	
Percentage of Time Required	Effective on the date indicated, the employee assigned to the position identified above performs the following duties and responsibilities.		
50%	The Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will work under the Mariposa County Assistant Fire Chief. The Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will partner with Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee, county staff and community stake holders. Build a system to track these groups and their efforts; attending and hosting regular communications/meetings between existing wildfire mitigation groups and county-level officials; analyzing gaps in county-wide wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness and developing recommendations to fill these needs; take the lead or function as the lead with the implementation and coordination of the community specific Wildfire Protection Plan and working to integrate existing community plans and Firewise hazard assessments; helping wildfire mitigation groups and Firewise communities both established and developing to coordinate and connect their existing and planned wildfire mitigation projects; developing tools to assist counties in outreach and coordination efforts to support wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness. The Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will work with all existing and any proposed wildfire mitigation group/agencies and community partners throughout Mariposa County. The Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will serve as the single point of contact as the County Coordinator on Wildfire Mitigation who will work to continue existing relationships while building new ones to encourage collaboration amongst all groups. The Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will participate in the County Fire Advisory Committee which is comprised of wildfire mitigation groups, fire agencies and the general public to discuss a variety of fire safety topics such as wildfire mitigation. The Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will build relationships by maintaining consistent outreach to all partners and groups while creating opportunities for collective meetings amongst all within Mariposa County.		
Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Statement: All Mariposa County employees are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner that demonstrates respect for all employees and others they come in contact with during work hours, during work related activities, and anytime they represent the department. Additionally, all Mariposa County employees are responsible for promoting a safe and secure work environment free from discrimination, harassment, inappropriate conduct, or retaliation.			
Job qualifications and/or conditions of employment:			
"We have discussed this document in its entirety and understand the duties of this position."			
Employee Signature	Date	Supervisor Signature	Date

Mariposa County Fire Department

POSITION ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS DUTIES STATEMENT

Job Duty Statement **PAGE 2**

Working Title of Position

Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator

Percentage of Time
Required

Effective on the date indicated, the employee assigned to the position identified above performs the following duties and responsibilities.

25%

Grants

Research, prepare and assess the need for prospective grants, apply in a timely manner and manage grants once awarded, that would be a benefit to county-wide wildfire mitigation efforts. Work to sustain efforts achieved during the grant term by identifying funding that could continue the position and the work.

15%

The Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will work with County/State GIS to track projects to support MCFAC, Firewise and Public Outreach.

5%

The Mariposa County Wildfire Mitigation Coordinator will work with Mariposa County OES and the Mariposa County Fire Department on identifying projects such as and/or similar to the Oak Fire Hazard Mitigation Grant.

5%

Other duties as required.

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Job qualifications and/or conditions of employment:.

"We have discussed this document in its entirety and understand the duties of this position."

Employee Signature

Date

Supervisor Signature

Date

Good morning, ??

The California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) is pleased to announce that your 2022 CAL FIRE County Coordinator Statewide Grant Project has been selected for award. **Congratulations!** We are excited to work with you toward improved county-wide wildfire practitioner collaboration and coordination. In total, CFSC will award \$2.975 million to 17 counties. The full Grant Award Announcement can be found on our website at www.cafiresafecouncil.org.

NEXT STEPS:

1. Your 2022 CAL FIRE County Coordinator Statewide Grant Program subaward agreement will be available in ZoomGrants by the end of next week. The subaward must be signed by Friday, February 10th, 2023. You will receive an email with instructions when subawards are ready to sign.
2. The project performance period will begin February 1, 2023 and run through July 31, 2024.
3. A Grant Award Handbook will be distributed soon detailing the award and program procedures.
4. Your CFSC Grant Specialist will reach out to you within the coming weeks to schedule an introductory call with the project lead(s).
5. CFSC will host an informative grant award webinar on February 16th, 2023 at 10AM over Zoom. Project leads are required to attend. Registration information to come.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions and, again, **congratulations** on your 2022 CAL FIRE County Coordinator grant award!

Sincerely,

Julia Marsili
Staff Grant Specialist
jmarsili@cafiresafecouncil.org

Nina Evans
Associate Grant Specialist
nevans@cafiresafecouncil.org