

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Merced River Trail Community Working Group

FINAL MEETING MINUTES (approved 4/24/2023)

DATE: January 25, 2023
TIME: 12:00 PM
LOCATION: IN-PERSON // TELECONFERENCE HYBRID
Board of Supervisors Chambers
5100 Bullion Street, Mariposa

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Goralnik called the meeting to order at: 12:05 PM

Members Present: Wendy Brown, Michael Martin, Tara Fouch-Moore, Art Baggett, Ralph Mendershausen, Jeff Jenkins, Rosemarie Smallcombe, Susie Clark

Members Absent: Miles Menetrey

Excused Absences: Jessica Thompson

Visitors: Bill King

2. **ADOPT AB 361 RESOLUTION:**

This resolution passed unanimously.

3. **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE 12/21/22 MEETING:**

The minutes were unanimously passed.

4. **ADOPT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR DRAFT MERCED RIVER TRAIL VISION PLAN:**

This item was moved by Michael Martin and seconded by Ralph Mendershausen. Prior to voting, there was a short discussion to clarify the future role for CWG following the adoption of the Merced River Trail Vision Plan. Goralnik clarified that many of those responsibilities are called out in specific recommendations in the action plan. Sue Clark added that she anticipates roles will evolve and change as the project moves forward following adoption. The CWG members expressed general comfort with this concept.

The resolution of support was passed unanimously, with a noted revision to the date.

5. **DISCUSSION ON VISION PLAN ADOPTION PROCESS AND NEXT STEPS:**

Goralnik shared that since the 2/14 Board of Supervisors meeting is cancelled, the hearing for the Merced River Trail adoption at the Board of Supervisors would need to be rescheduled to March 21 at 2PM. He indicated that he had been in contact with BLM, USFS, RTCA collaborators to provide public support at that time.

Mendershausen shared that he had called numerous people who have been connected with the project historically, including Jeff Gabe, Dick Ewart, and others who have expressed interest in the project, and noted that he would need to update them on the new Board adoption date.

Baggett shared that he was coordinating a letter of support from Yosemite National Park, and that he would coordinate with residents of Foresta so solicit their support at the March Board hearing as well.

Mendershausen expressed his hope that Foresta residents would indicate their support for the recommended route, in the context of the project's respect for and response to their preferred route.

Bill King provided public comment of thanks and appreciation for the project; is enthusiastic about the plan; appreciates the plan presenting options that will be evaluated in the future. Expressed enthusiasm for Mariposa Trails to participate in implementing the project—acknowledges the long timeline for the project. Reminded folks that Mariposa Trails received a significant grant to restore 14 miles of trails along the South Fork.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The group agreed to cancel the February meeting.

7. ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned the meeting at 12:38 PM.

Minutes Prepared by: Mikey Goralnik