MINUTES

Natural Resource Committee – SPECIAL Meeting
March 2, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.

Board of Supervisors Chambers - 2 South Green Street, Sonora

1. Call the meeting to order: Meeting called to order by Supervisor Kirk at 10:04 pm. (quorum reached).
   A. In attendance:
      i. Committee members present (quorum met)
         1. Jim Maddox (Committee Member) Fish & Game Preservation Fund Advisory
         2. Jim Phelan (Committee Member) Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District
         3. Dick Geiser (Committee Member) Agricultural Advisory Committee
         4. Supervisor Kirk (Committee Member)
         5. Supervisor Haff (Committee Member)
      ii. Staff Present
         1. Dore Bietz (CAO Staff)
         2. Tracey McKnight (CAO Staff)
      iii. Partners
         1. Jason Kuiken – USFS Stanislaus National Forest
         2. Don Perkins – TUD General Manager
      iv. Public

2. Public Comment:
   A. none

3. Consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on December 8, 2021.
   A. Jim Phalen moved to approve. Dick Gaiser seconded. All in favor. Motion passed

4. Partner Agencies
   A. Jason Kuiken of SNF update on Draft EIS and SERAL project. Public objection period closes April 11 and hoping for a decision in May. Looking forward to working with Tuolumne County on MSA.
      i. Committee members asked if anyone can reply to request of Randy Morris Mule Deer Foundation.
   B. Don Perkins of TUD updated on goals is to get out and about to be a better partner. TUD recently did sign a contract with consultant agency that created a Paradise study. TUD would like to develop fire water draft plan, dozen or two po

5. Committee Business
   A. Staff Reports and recommendations:
      i. Legislation update AB 522 An act to amend Section 4584 of the Public Resources Code,
relating to forestry.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB522

ii. April 7th Fuels Prioritization working will be held to discuss county wide fuels prioritization.

iii. Vegetation Ordinance
   1. Committee members think it is a good project and long overdue.

B. Committee member reports:
   i. Chair Kirk gave an update on NaCO resolution. Went to public lands steering committee of NaCO. Amended resolution was received and multiple commenters from all over. Committee decided to delay and consider it next year. Chairman Kirk is not sure where it will go and whether or not we will be involved.
   1. Committee members and Stanislaus Forest Supervisor talked about history and shared stewardship. How do we work together to resolve the wildfire risk that sits on all lands, public or private?

6. Discussion items
A. Committee make-up. Discussion continues discussion of committee make up. Jim Phelan made a motion to replace the voting membership of TCEDA to (1) representative from YSS and amend the at large member to remove the exclusion that they are a YSS member. Amended to include innovation & business Cole. Jim Maddox seconded and all in favor no abstentions. Motion passed. Staff will present to board at a future meeting as recommendation for approval (will check with county counsel).

B. Committee goals – continued discussion about Natural Resources issues. Staff reminded committee that the BOS will be discussing action items under Board Priorities for the year on March 15, 2022.
   i. Dick Gaiser commented:
      1. Explore the “fence out” possibility on grazing over 3500-foot elevation allotments in Tuolumne County. Committee goal
      2. Look at our county’s potentials for a “Camp” type fire situation and a) see what needs to be done to minimize the potential and b) take appropriate action to assure we do not create these situations in the future. basically, look at our zoning in the WUI.
      3. Our watersheds are transpiring back into the atmosphere way too much water. Can we continue to work toward reducing the fuel load on those watersheds by reducing the amount of brush and trees per acre.
   ii. Jim Phelan:
      1. USFS Travel management plan -
      2. Penal code that does not allow you to carry a gun on a public road? Will send more info.

7. Meeting Adjourned at 11:13 am.