

TUOLUMNE COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

2024 Strategic Priorities

- Support our local water utility partners in their effort to modernize and improve water supply infrastructure and mitigate risk.
- Maintain awareness of pertinent State and Federal legislation regarding natural resources, land use, water, and water rights.
- Maintain awareness of Tuolumne County Federal land use policy, planning, and implementation and provide recommendations and advocacy as appropriate.
- Promote landscape and watershed resilience through innovative solutions and capacity building.

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 1st, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Location: Board of Supervisors Chambers – 2 S. Green Street, 4th Floor, Sonora, CA 95370

Contact: Sean Hembree at shembree@co.tuolumne.ca.us (209)533-5554

Chair/Vice Chair

Supervisor Anaiah Kirk

Supervisor Kathleen Haff

Agency Representatives

Tuolumne Me Wuk

Diana Beasley

Chicken Ranch Me Wuk

Stephanie Suess

Tuolumne Utilities District

Don Perkins

Groveland CSD

Pete Kampa

Hetch Hetchy

Adam Mazurkiewicz

Fish and Game Preserve Fund

Jim Maddox

Agricultural Advisor

Dick Gaiser

Tuolumne Co. RCD

Jim Phelan

At Large Member

Chris Trott

Staff

County Administrator

Tracie Riggs

Water & Natural Resource

Analyst (CAO)

Sean Hembree

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL (5 minutes)

Introductions during roll call

Confirm quorum requirements are met (Quorum = 6 members)

III. PUBLIC FORUM (15 minutes)

The public may speak on any item, not on the agenda. No action may be taken by the Committee

Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per person)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING March 6th, 2024 (5 minutes)

V. CONSIDERATION OF GIVING DIRECTION TO THE TUOLUMNE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGARDING PROPOSED BIOMASS JPA

VI. CONSIDERATION OF CHANGING STATUS OF CHICKEN RANCH ME WUK TO ADVISORY MEMBER

VII. PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES (15 minutes)

a. Stanislaus National Forest:

b. CAL FIRE

VIII. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

a. Staff Reports and Recommendations

i. Drought Resilience Plan update

ii. Grants update:

1. CAL FIRE Forest Health – awarded

2. WaterSMART – pre-award notice

3. IFNF – submitted

iii. SWIFT Coordinator vacancy

b. Committee Member Reports

Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Next meeting will be held on June 5th, 2024



Tuolumne County Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes

For the Meeting on April 3rd, 2024

2024 Natural Resource Members (or assigned delegates)	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
Anaiah Kirk	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Kathleen Haff	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Don Perkins	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Pete Kampa		✓	✓	✓								
Adam Mazurkiewicz		✓	✓	E								
Stephanie Suess			A	E								
Dianna Beasley		✓	A	A								
Dick Gaiser	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Chris Trott		✓	✓	E								
Jim Maddox	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Jim Phelan	✓	✓	✓	✓								
Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E												

- CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Kirk called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. and confirmed a quorum was present.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Anaiah Kirk, Vice-Chair Kathleen Haff, Jim Maddox, Jim Phelan, Dick Gaiser, Abby Parcon (TUD), Pete Kampa, Sean Hembree (staff)
- PUBLIC FORUM:** The public may speak on any item not on the printed agenda. No action may be taken by the Committee. The amount of time allocated for the public forum is limited to 15 minutes. – None
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on March 6th, 2023 Jim Maddox made a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Phelan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- PARTNER AGENCIES UPDATES:**
 - Ben Cossel USFS Public Affairs Officer reported that:
 - There has been a significant comment on the SERAL DEIS regarding the use of herbicides. Interested parties should contact Mr. Cossel.
 - Cossel also indicated that it appears that the USFS Office of Personal Management has determined that the Stanislaus Forest will be placed under

- the San Francisco salary rate allocation for staff salary adjustment.
- iii. Cossel indicated pile burns would soon cease to allow the transition to broadcast burning which is of more value in mitigating wildfire in the coming season.
- iv. CAL FIRE – none

6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- a. Staff reports and recommendations:
 - i. SEC Natural Asset Company proposal was rescinded
 - ii. Board of Forestry Consideration of renaming Chinaman Creek as Chinese Miner Creek
- b. Committee member reports – There was a discussion about CAL FIRE project location near Priest Grade on BLM land. A request was made to reach out to BLM and encourage environmental permitting streamlining to facilitate the project.
- c. Pete Kampa gave a report on recent and ongoing GCSD projects including the completion of new wells as contingency water supply and 80 new fire hydrants which were installed from a County Grant with GCSD as a sub-recipient.
- d. Tony Diaz gave a report on recent and ongoing TUD projects. A discussion was held regarding water supply reliability.
 - i. Public comment: A comparison of wooden flume potable water supply currently under the jurisdiction of PG&E to the recent destruction of the PG&E penstock in Nevada County.

7. DISCUSSION OF the California Board of Forestry proposed update changes for utility vegetation management activities was held. Concerns were addressed. There was a consensus to track this issue and provide a recommended letter to the Board of Supervisors once the public comment period opens.

8. DISCUSSION OF endorsing the [Mountain Counties Water Resource Association - Forest Management Principle](#). There was a consensus to recommend that the Board of Supervisors formally support these principles. This will be brought before the next available Board of Supervisors meeting.

9. ADJOURNED: Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 11:03 A.M.
The next meeting is scheduled for May 1st, 2024.