

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

David Goldemberg, *First District*
Kathleen Haff, *Fourth District*

Ryan Campbell, *Second District*

Anaiah Kirk, *Third District*
Jaron Brandon, *Fifth District*

MINUTES

Natural Resource Committee Wednesday, October 13, 2021 @ 10:00 am.

Board of Supervisors Chambers

2 South Green Street, Sonora

1. Call the meeting to order: Meeting called to order by Supervisor Kirk at 10:07am. (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) TC Resources Conservation
 3. Supervisor Kirk (Committee Chair)
 4. Supervisor Goldemberg (Committee Member)
 - ii. Staff Present
 1. Dore Bietz (OES)
 2. Liz Peterson (CAO)
 3. Mervet Mitri (CAO)
 - iii. Public Members
2. Public Comment: None
3. Consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on September 8, 2021.
 - A. Jim Phelan made a motion to approve, seconded by Jim Maddox motion passed unanimously. One abstention Kirk
4. Partner Agencies
 - A. USFS Stanislaus National Forest (email from Beth Martinez – Deputy Forest Supervisor)
 - a. Fire Restrictions: Currently working on revised Forest Orders for fire restrictions and recreational shooting. Restrictions will continue to be in place for the high and moderate hazard areas on the Forest. Basically - in a nutshell - campfires will be allowed in developed sites and in the high country. Hope to execute the new orders prior to the weekend.
 - b. Rim Recovery Coordinator detail: Adam Rich, wildlife biologist on the HWY 108 corridor, will be coming into the SO for 120 day detail into the vice Maria Benech position (Rim Recovery Coordinator). Between Adam or Michael Jow, our Resource

Mgmt staff officer or Jason or myself, we'll aim to have a Rim update at your November committee meeting. Good work continues!

- c. National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM): 2022 is a new cycle for NVUM on the Stanislaus. Every 5 years, each Forest uses a national protocol to monitor visitor use for an entire year. Similar to 2021 NVUM on other Forests – the fiscal year 2022 monitoring looks a bit different due to COVID protocols and the use of a partnership with universities to conduct the monitoring. If the increase in use experienced since the Covid-19 pandemic started continues, this use will be captured. How do they capture? Kaitlyn from CSERC talked about stopping Supervisors Kirk asked about Pinecrest. Information about 5 day.
- d. Fire Suppression / Support: the STF continues to provide support to multiple fires across CA and the western US. Grateful for the cold / wet weather some are experiencing; mindful that So Cal typically has their fire season now, during the fall months here.
- e. Budget / POW fiscal year: just closed out our fiscal year '21 (September 30). Busy with our initial planning / budget cycle for FY22. On the budget side, hoping we get an appropriate bill passed by Congress soon. The current continuing resolution goes through December 3, 2021. From a program of work / project perspective -- SERAL will continue to be the focused priority project for veg / fuels treatment on the STF.

f. Ask for update on Travel management plan including dispersed camping?

- B. Prescribe Fire Association – Lindsay Mattos, Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District
Was not able to attend, a List of notes from Lindsay was read by Jim Phelan
 - a. Dore talked about Statewide Strategic plan workshop planned for October 26th. Will send to committee members the registration link.

Public Comment: None

5. Committee Business

A. Staff Reports/recommendations

- i. MSA update: Liz Peterson, CAO Senior Administrative Analyst
Introduced new MSA Analyst Mervet Mitri who will work exclusively on MSA. She will be available to committee to update.
- ii. Staff talked about why the letter of support was not moved forward to BOS as recommended. Committee members discussed need to coordinate and look at alternate ways to support both fuels reduction and biomass.
Staff also wanted to bring back
- iii. Supervisor Kirk expressed concerns about restrictions and concern for elevation restrictions on campfires. (Ask USFS in future meetings how decision is made on elevation for campfires).

B. Committee member reports: none

6. Discussion items

- A. Meetings –Discussion and approval of committee meetings venue. Must be either all in person meetings or all virtual meetings. They cannot be a combination. Jim Phelan motioned that meetings will be in person, Jim Maddox seconded that we have meetings in person.
Discussion amongst committee members. All in favor. Motion passed.

7. Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 am.

Next Meeting set for (November 10, 2021):

In accordance with Government Section 54954.3(a), the public may comment on any item on the agenda. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact the County Administrator's Office, (209-533-5511). Notification 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting will enable staff to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this public meeting.