

**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

August 3, 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 10:01. (quorum reached).
 - A. In attendance:
 - i. Committee members (quorum met)
 1. Jim Phelan (Committee Member) Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District
 2. Dick Gaiser (Committee Member) Agricultural Advisory Committee absent
 3. Jim Maddox
 4. Supervisor Kirk (Committee Member)
 5. Supervisor Haff (Committee Member)
 - ii. Staff Present
 1. Tracey McKnight (CAO Staff)
 - iii. Partners
 1. Benjamin Cossel – USFS Stanislaus National Forest
 2. Jeremiah Zamora, TUD Supervisor
 3. Don Perkins, General Manager with TUD
2. 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.
 - A. Public Comments
 - i. Discussion regarding the goals for fence in and fence out for livestock grazing. Request for an action item on this topic to be placed on next month's agenda to reexamine the fencing requirement livestock for fence-in and fence-out.
 - ii. Requested an action item for next month's meeting agenda to discussion possible consolidation the Natural Resources and Water Policy meetings made by Supervisor Haff.
3. Consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on July 6, 2022.
 - A. Jim Maddox moved to approve with the minutes. Jim Phelan seconded. Abstention by Dick Gaiser. Motion passed.
 - B. Public Comment
4. Partner Agencies
 - A. USFS – updated on forests status and projects.
 - i. Committee Comment
 1. Discussion regarding SERAL project that have been signed and others signed projects will follow possibly in August. In this regard, USFS will continue to partner with agencies on some high priority fires and provide support.

2. Forest service provided status regarding stay limits. Updated committee about a meeting has been established to discuss current fencing issues. Reported recreation has been very popular this year. American council had a meeting with a good turnout.
 3. TUD – Water supply is in good standing in conservation above last year levels. Residents are doing well conserving water. Received the letter regarding the acquisition regarding Pinecrest.
 4. Supervisor Kirk reported out the most recent updates regarding the NACo resolution including earlier timeline details that including how the resolution was sent back in March and was well received.
 5. Supervisor Haff provided an update to the committee that the Phoenix Lake letter will be sent out.
 - ii. Public Comment
 1. Discuss regarding YSS leadership team defining the SERAL boundaries and the road maintenance. Noting the main project just got approved and is now moving forward. Feedback included that many good things are coming out of this funding and initiatives including improving roadways. Many conversations have taken place and many points of objections were addressed.
5. Committee Business
- A. Staff Reports and recommendations:
 - i. OES report – none.
 - ii. Committee member reports – none.
6. Discussion items
- A. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking public input in the preparation of a draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Barred Owl Management Strategy to address the threat of the non-native barred owl to native northern and California spotted owls in Washington, Oregon and California. Comment period ends August 22, 2022. Discussion and recommendations for comment letter to go to the board.
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/07/22/2022-15739/barred-owl-management-strategy-intent-to-prepare-an-environmental-impact-statement-washington-oregon>
 - i. Committee reviewed information addressing the threat of the non-native barred owl with the focus on impacts to the animal. The committee discussed topics including displacement and threats, possible impacts of the barred owl, the native habitat to the owl, and the recommendations for the comment letter.
 - B. Climate Action Plan – discussion of suggested comments to recommend.
 - i. Committee discussed the upcoming planning commission meeting to be held later in the month and the actions related to the Climate Action Plan. Conversation included the idea of incorporating the forest plan which could potential allow for carbon credits and other potential benefits. It was also noted the possible disconnect with the interpretation of the plan. The committee discussed the opportunities to highlight and promote some non-controversial initiatives related to the CAP. Some of the highlights discussed included the initiatives focused on the implementation of the hazardous vegetation ordinance, prescribed burnings, addressing the need for electric charge stations current initiative in this area by TCTC/TCA, input from special interest for climate change impacts, the Rain Harvesting Plan, and forest health.
7. Meeting Adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

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.