FULL COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER
Meeting called to order by President Tom Wheeler.

Pledge of Allegiance
Recite Mission Statement

Roll Call & Introductions – Tom Wheeler led roll call and introductions were made by all present. Tom briefly mentioned he has a new Chief of Staff Bob Macaulay, Tom Burdette is the new planning commissioner and a Town Hall meeting is scheduled later this evening on January 30.

Approval of Agenda – The agenda was approved at the same time as the meeting minutes.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the July full council meeting and the October meeting were reviewed. July meeting minutes will be amended to reflect that the Madera County Water and Natural Resources has a newsletter and not the IRWM. Tom Burdette made a motion to approve the past meeting minutes with the amended change and approve the agenda (motion) and Nathan Magsig (2nd), minutes and agenda approved.
Executive Committee Report – Justine Reynolds gave the executive committee report. Motion to approve the executive committee report by Tom Burdette and Nathan Magsig (2nd), report approved.

Treasurer’s Report – David Konno provided the Treasurer’s report. David Konno changed the treasurer’s report format last month which lists all the debits and transfers. The ending balance is $4,667. Cal Fire had some administration changes so advances were delayed. We will need to most likely take an advance on our line of credit to cover our debts. David noted that a final payment was made to Claiborne and that Miller and White declined to represent the Council. After some discussion about the line of credit the council directed staff to look into increasing the line of credit with Bank of America. Recommended that community reinvestment credits may also be an opportunity. Tom Burdette (Motion) and Kuyler Crocker (2nd) Treasurer’s Report approved.

NRCS Update – Johnnie Siliznoff provided an update from NRCS. There will be two batching periods for 2020, one in April and one in June. Coarsegold RCD is partnering with NRCS on some projects and Julie Konno of CRCD is the contact. NRCS has a new Madera County planner named Taylor Friederichs

Public Comment – David Konno talked about Earth Day and the tire recycling event in April. Chris Trott introduced himself as a representative of Wheelabrator Shasta which is a 50 MW biomass plant and provided details of their operations and their biomass intake service.

OLD BUSINESS 10:30 a.m.

Projects and Programs – Justine Reynolds reviewed the projects and programs (see attached Projects and Programs sheet). Justine mentioned the specific sub grants and Steve Haze had a question about the scope of the Madera Projects – SSARRP and whether Tulare is included. Chris Trott asked if the Blue Rush Project has biomass removal or if the biomass will be pile burned. There was a general request for the results of the CASA project bio-char study.

North Fork Biomass Project – The Biomass project plant has been funded as of December 31, 2019. Construction on the 2MW plant is expected to begin in April 2020. Current equipment will be sold to recoup costs, new equipment is being provided by the new investor.

Grants and Fundraising 2020 Outlook – Justine Reynolds went through the grants that will be applied for including the CCI Fire Prevention and Forest Health grants, SNC grants California Fire Safe Council grant. We will be pursuing private donations and requesting dues from our sponsor organizations.

Council Membership and MSA – An MOU is being developed between Y/S RCDC and sponsor organizations and a preview was shown to the Council via power point. Justine mentioned that the draft MOU would be sent out soon. Robert went over a draft cover letter and supporting membership form for sponsors to review. There were no comments and a final letter and supporting membership dues form would be distributed to all of our sponsor organizations. John Blossom mentioned the Sierra Nevada Research Institute as a possible sponsor organization.
Strategic Action Plan – The strategic action plan is being updated and a short survey was provided to sponsor members at the meeting. The Council was asked to fill out the survey and return to Justine Reynolds.

NEW BUSINESS

Sierra Corps and WIP Capacity Program – Rubie Teffeteller gave a presentation (see attached) on the program. Rubie mentioned that a survey for our sponsor organizations would be sent out as part of the WIP Capacity Program. Brittany Dyer provided comments from American Forests perspective and there was general discussion about the program. Tom Burdette asked about the demonstration project. Justine discussed some possible projects such as the Madera SSARR Project could be used as an exemplary demonstration project and the possibility of a new project as the demonstration.

Fresno & Tulare Project Workshops – Justine provided an overview of the project workshops. It was mentioned that a meeting with Sierra RCD was scheduled to see what makes sense for Fresno county partners and we would be attending the Tulare RCD meeting next month in February. We would be pursuing individual interview approach with the Tulare partners as opposed to a workshop. Kuyler noted that he would prefer to hold a group meeting with partners verse conducting individual interview/meetings.

Full Council April and October Meeting Locations – The Clovis Veterans Memorial District will not be available for meetings on the specific dates we requested. It was suggested that we move the April meeting to Tulare County and this was accepted by the Council. The October meeting would be held in Clovis at an alternate location.

Sierra Nevada Alliance – Member Group? – It was discussed that Yosemite Sequoia RC&DC become a member of the Sierra Nevada Alliance group. After some discussion Nathan Magsig made a motion that the Council become a member of the Sierra Nevada Alliance group (motion) Tom Burdette (2nd), motion passed.

SPONSOR/PARTNER UPDATES

Jack McGowan, Sierra Vista Scenic Byway
- There continues to be a trash issue along the Sierra Vista Scenic Byway.

David Konno, Coarsegold Resource Conservation District
- Coarsegold RCD completed a monarch butterfly habitat project that included multiple sites in North Fork.

Kuyler Crocker, Tulare County Board of Supervisors
- Three Rivers is getting bear resistant trash bins for the community. He mentioned Denise England was heading up the forest health initiative as deputy CAO. Kuyler Briefly mentioned that the county was looking into an emergency declaration for fuel reduction modeled after the tree mortality emergency declaration. Kuyler made one final note regarding prescribed burning
and that the San Joaquin Valley air board will work with people.

**Steve Haze, Sierra RCD**
- Sierra RCD is looking at expanding their district area to Highway 99 and submitted an application for that. Sierra RCD is working on a regional collaboration with Tulare RCD. Steve mentioned that they are funded through July of next year to participate at the state level working on wood utilization and work force development. Will also be sending out a press release for the Fire Safe Program.

**Jeannie Habben, Madera County WNR**
- Sustainable ground water management plan will be submitted tomorrow February 1st. WNR department has taken over 6 flood control grants. They are working on a 1602 permit to control vegetation along waterways to keep those waterways clear.

**Nathan Magsig, Fresno County Supervisor**
- Fresno County is looking at ways to pay for USFS firewood permits so citizens can cut firewood without paying the fee. There is a clean up event on February 8th in Auberry to revitalize the town of Auberry.

**Adjourn at 12:30 p.m.**