

# J O I N T M E E T I N G

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE MADERA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AND

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCEDC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS THE CEDS COMMITTEE

# M I N U T E S

**October 9, 2024**

*This meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. Social distancing per the Executive Order were used at the meeting. Members of the public were advised at posting of the agenda that comments were accepted via email at [info@maderacountyedc.com](mailto:info@maderacountyedc.com).*

**PRESENT:** *Ollia Ridge, Waseem Ahmed, Santos Garcia, Rob Poythress,  
Melissa Jones, Jordan Wamhoff*

**ABSENT:** *Laura Young, Cathey Thornburg, Maiknue Vang, Adam Olivares, John McCann*

**STAFF:** *Bobby Kahn, Lois Leonard*

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Poythress.*

### **2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

*None.*

### **3.0 INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITIONS**

*Fawn McLaughlin, FJMcLaughlin & Associates was attendance.*

### **4.0 CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

*On motion Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Garcia, Item 6.2 California Jobs First Economic Development Pilot Grant will be removed from the agenda..*

### **5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

**5.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission Minutes**  
*-July 10, 2024*

**5.2 Madera County Economic Development Commission Financial Report**  
*- September 2023*

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Jones, the consent calendar is approved as presented. Motion carried.*

## **6.0 ACTION ITEMS**

### **Action Items**

#### **6.1 Bank Signature Card**

*On motion by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed to add Jordan Wamhoff as a signer on account # 5105218. Motion carried.*

#### **6.2 California Jobs First Economic Development Pilot Grant**

*This item was removed from the agenda under Item 4.0*

#### **6.3 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs)**

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, MCEDC Board of Commissioners will adjourn to the CEDs committee meeting at 3:05 pm. Motion carried. Returned to the MCEDC Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:02 pm.*

## **7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

None.

## **8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

#### **8.1 Letter in Support of Railroad Crossing Elimination**

## **9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORT/INFORMATION**

#### **9.1 Commissioner Reports**

**Commissioner Poythress - (Madera Chamber of Commerce)-** *reported the Senior Farmer of the Year event was held, honoring Bob Houlding. The Chamber Co-Hosted a candidate forum. And they will hold their annual Pomegranate Festival on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

**Commissioner Ahmed- (City of Chowchilla)-** *the Chamber will host a candidates forum. Jack and Box is now open and the Rancho Calera housing development is moving forward.*

**Commissioner Wamhoff- (Board of Supervisors) -** *reported he will attend a lunch and learn session at Madera Community College. They will discussing a new Agave distillery program at the college, with hopes of creating an Agave Tasting Trail. Valley Children's Hospital has put out their preliminary plans for their development that includes commercial, retail, residential. Avenue 12 expansion project will begin second quarter of next year that is estimated to take 12-18 months.*

**Commissioner Ridge -(Golden Valley Chamber)-** reported there is a new DMV satellite office in the Ranchos. A new dentist that has taken over for a previous dentist. They have a new UPS/Postal service office that is really good for the community. There's a lot of development going on including road improvements.

**Commissioner Jones -(Bass Lake Chamber)-** reported half of Bass Lake is officially shut down for the season. South Shore businesses, The Forks and Millers Landing had their last day of operation on Sunday. The Pines Resort also just expanded. They brought in a large cabin into their inventory to expand their services to travelers. The Chambers 4<sup>th</sup> of July event is one of their biggest fundraisers and draws people to the community. The Chamber held elections and she is now President Elect for the Chamber and Leslie Cox is taking her spot. PG&E is taking the water down faster than normal so that can work on the tower at the dam.

**Commissioner Garcia-(City of Madera)-** reported the hospital announced they should open the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week in November. Senator Padilla announced he got federal funds for the Avenue 12 high speed rail facility. The City has sent a formal invitation asking him to come to Madera so they can share their plans are for the project.

9.2 **Interim Executive Director-** Report as presented. The State of the County event will be held on October 31<sup>st</sup> .

9.3 **Manager of Business Development & Marketing-** Report as presented.

9.4 **Business Assistance/Office Manager-** Report as presented.

10.0 **NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Commission will be held January 8, 2025.

11.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary