



MEETING MINUTES

Central Sierra Economic Development District Board of Directors
Thursday, May 18, 2023 (9:30am)

Teleconference (Non-voting Attendees): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6067573943>
Phone audio: (669) 900-9128
Meeting ID: 606 757 3943

In-Person (Primary Location):
197 Mono Way, Suite B
Sonora, CA 95370
(209) 588-1150

In-Person (Amador Location):
1 Prosperity Court
Sutter Creek, CA 95685
(209) 267-5590

In-Person (Calaveras Location):
7 Main Street
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 754-4242

In-Person (Mariposa Location):
5362 Lemee Lane
Mariposa, CA 95338
(209) 966-3643

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll call / Establish quorum

| JPA Member | Member Name | Present | Absent |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Alpine County Supervisor | Terry Woodrow | X | |
| Alpine County Citizen Member | JT Chevallier | X | |
| Amador County Supervisor | Frank Axe | X | |
| Amador County Citizen Member | Karen Warburton | | X |
| Calaveras County Supervisor | Benjamin Stopper (Chair) | X | |
| Calaveras County Citizen Member | Kathryn Gallino | | X |
| Mariposa County Supervisor | Rosemarie Smallcombe | | X |
| Mariposa County Citizen Member | Tara Schiff | | X |
| Tuolumne County Supervisor | Anaiah Kirk | X | |
| Tuolumne County Citizen Member | Robbie Bergstrom | | X |
| City of Angels Camp | Caroline Schirato, Council Member | | X |
| City of Sonora | Suzanne Cruz, Council Member | X | |

Guests: Nina Rhodes (Mariposa Citizen Member Alternate), Len DeGroot (Tuolumne County), Courtney Farrell (Chico), Vicki Doll (Chico), Erika Harvey (Sierra Business Council)

2. ORAL COMMUNICATION

Guest Len Degroot, Tuolumne County Broadband, addressed the board for public comment. He notified the board that there is an upcoming Central Sierra Broadband Utility Zone Consortium grant that pays for support for Internet Service Providers (ISP) who want to apply for grants. Although important for all ISPs, it will be especially important for local ISPs to apply to get the support and consultants they need. The grant opens for applications in a couple of weeks.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1. Approval of Minutes of the February 16, 2023 CSEDD Governing Board Meeting
Item deferred to next meeting due to quorum.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.1. Review and approve contract with MLJT to provide administrative services to CSEDD
Item deferred to next meeting due to quorum.

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 5.1. Update on the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) Regional Planning Grant – Sierra Business Council
Erika Harvey (Sierra Business Council) notified the board that they have hired a Westside Project Navigator that will be starting on June 1st. She shared that the initial planning phase is complete and turned in, and the Sierra Business Council will be working on the Regional Summary next. The first HRTC meeting is set to take place June 16th in Bishop, CA and at Mother Lode Job Training Tuolumne. She also notified the board that the East Side has a focus group scheduled for next week with the tribe.
- 5.2. Update on Eastern Sierra K-16 Planning Grant – ARCHES
Amy Frost informed the board that Education, I.T., and Healthcare are the three industries that have been recommended to the Executive Committee for the K-16 Planning Grant. The Executive Committee will choose two industries from the list of recommended industries to create career development and career pathways in. The board will be updated with their selection once one is made.
- 5.3. Update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) project - Chico State Enterprises
Courtney addressed the board on this matter. She shared that her team is at a crucial part in the CEDS process where she is in need of specific project examples to connect with over-arching goals from the region.
- *Frank Axe suggested that the CEDS addresses coordination with Regional Biomass and possibly a regional Biomass Facility.*
 - *Anaiah Kirk proposed that the CEDS include an initiative around water, specific to forest health and restoration. He shared that Tuolumne just reactivated their Water Agency and have been partnering with Turlock Irrigation District and others to get a baseline of data and information to show the impact that forest management has on watershed downstream.*
 - *Anaiah also shared his idea of involving CalTrans and the impact that closed highways have on tourism in the county. He explained that if there was an updated policy set with CalTrans to open roads by Memorial weekend, or around our “High Economic Summer” timeframe, this would benefit the counties specifically with tourism.*
 - *Amy Frost, Mother Lode Job Training Deputy Director, notified Courtney that the education piece could also touch on Industry having a voice in determining educational opportunities and the development of curriculum. She shared that there has been recent successes in creating educational and career opportunities in the region with Forestry and Healthcare. Industry, Workforce Development, and Education are working together to keep the job opportunities available to our local workforce instead of bringing in outside workers.*

Courtney requested that board members send additional projects and initiative information by June 15th.

5.4. Board member topics of interest (Roundtable)

5.5. Form 700s are due

6. 2023 MEETINGS (all 9:30 – 11:00 am)

August 17, November 9

7. ADJOURN