

M A D E R A C O U N T Y
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION
B O A R D O F C O M M I S S I O N E R S
M I N U T E S

April 6, 2022

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. This was a zoom meeting.

PRESENT: *Ollia Ridge, Brett Frazier, Tracie Scott Contreras, Ron Flores,
Waseem Ahmed, Robert Poythress, Anthony Corales, Santos Garcia*

ABSENT: *Paige Hill, Darin Soukup, Aran Johal, Brad Ditton, Wade Wheeler*

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chair Poythress.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3.0 INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITIONS

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

No changes.

5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

**5.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission Minutes
-January 12, 2022**

**5.2 Madera County Economic Development Commission Financial Report
- March 2022**

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Ridge, the consent calendar is approved as presented. Motion carried.

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission Budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

On motion by Commission Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Frazier the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Budget is approved as presented. Motion carried.

6.2 Nominations & Terms of Office for the MCEDC Board of Commissioners

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Flores the MCEDC Board of Commissioners will approve the nominations and terms of office for the Board of Commissioners for Fiscal Year 2022/2023. Motion carried.

6.3 Election of Officers

On motion by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Frazier, Commissioner Poythress will serve as Chair. On motion by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Frazier, Commissioner Ridge will serve as Vice-Chair. Motion carried.

6.4 Conflict of Interest Code

On motion by Commissioner Scott-Contreras and seconded by Commissioner Frazier the MCEDC Board of Commissioners will update the MCEDC Conflict of Interest Code making the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors the filing office. Motion carried.

6.5 Changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act Opening Meeting Laws

On motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Ridge MCEDC will adopt Resolution 2022-04 authorizing Remote Teleconference for all Commission and Executive Committee Meeting in accordance of Assembly Bill 361 for a period of 30 days. Motion carried.

7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None.

8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None.

9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORT/INFORMATION

9.1 Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Ridge - (Madera Ranchos Chamber) - reported on their successful crab feed. Papi's restaurant opened in Riverwalk. They will have their Flatlanders Parade in May.

Commissioner Flores - (Industry at Large) - reported after being in Madera for over 32 years, he is proud of the business people. It's been a tough few years. Congratulations to the businesses that are hanging on.

Commissioner Frazier- (Board of Supervisors) - reported the county will likely approve the water rate study as part of the SIGMA/GSA. AB 1383 is not mandatory in the county. Residents can pay for recycling bins if they choose. There are seven items on the planning commission agenda so things are moving forward. County received a grant to do improvements for the rail station near Madera College. Attended the 99 Summit meeting in Tulare where funding was approved for widening Hwy 99 between Ave 7 and Ave 12.

Commissioner Garcia - (City of Madera)- reported he's been attending a lot of ribbon cuttings. He thanked Bobby. Other new businesses coming, Dutch Brothers, and In and Out. Boot Barn will provide more goods and services for the city. He received his 4th Booster shot. The East Yosemite/Gateway Caltrans project is in the EIR stage, looking at a 2024 completion.

Commissioner Scott Contreras - (Workforce Investment Board)- reported they are busy. Completed two regional grants for the Good Jobs Initiative. And working on a Regional Equity and Recovery grant focusing on programs that will be held at Madera College. Maintenance, Welding, Work readiness and soft skills. They have hosted several hiring events at the center. Have been asked to apply for the Wells Fargo foundation grant to help with remote education. Working with the state association on marketing campaigns. Increasing their outreach presence with platforms other than Facebook. Using text messaging, Instagram, YouTube and other video content. On behalf of the EDC, Bobby gave condolences on Commissioner Scott-Contreras fathers passing.

Commissioner Ahmed - (City of Chowchilla)- reported on their current housing projects. Lots of new retail, including Jack in the Box and Wienerschnitzel. They have funds available for Micro business loans.

Commissioner Corales - (Public Utility) – nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Poythress - (Madera Chamber) - reported the Chamber is doing a lot of ribbon cutting and working closely with the downtown association. They will have the annual Prayer Breakfast in May.

9.2 **Staff Reports-**

Executive Director- Bobby reported he attended the ICSC show in Monterey. Attendance was lighter than Pre-Covid. Many brokers didn't have booths but were available to chat in the hotel lobby. He will be attending the ICSC show in May at the convention center in Vegas. He will be at the West Pak Trade Show next week. Recently completed a marketing mission in Dallas recently with CCVEDC, where they made lots of calls. Update on projects: Dutch Bros is working out kinks with engineering. In & Out will go back planning. Riverwood is moving forward. Boot Barn had their ribbon cutting last Friday. Big Lots continues to move forward. He anticipates Almond World will have their groundbreaking in May. WHSE Partners is under construction. He introduced Leo Wilson a home developer to Pembroke Development for a discussion of home building in Rancho Calera in Chowchilla. Sealed Air is finishing up their solar project after some PG&E delays. They plan to do a ribbon cutting in early fall. Working with another manufacturer and their partners on a big expansion.

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

9.4 **Business Assistance/Office Manager-** *Lois reported the City of Madera Micro Program is almost complete. She is working with the county on another Micro Program Grant, giving \$2,500 to eligible micro businesses. Funds are available for 70 businesses.*

10.0 **NEXT MEETING** - *The next meeting of the Commission will be held on July 13, 2022.*

11.0 **ADJOURNMENT** - *The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary