

**M A D E R A   C O U N T Y**  
***ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT***  
***COMMISSION***  
**E x e c u t i v e   C o m m i t t e e**

**February 12, 2025**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**   *Robert Poythress, Jordan Wamhoff, Waseem Ahmed*

**ABSENT:**   *Elsa Mejia*

**STAFF:**   *Kristina Gallagher, Lois Leonard, Elena Estrada*

**1.0   CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Poythress.*

**2.0   PUBLIC COMMENT- *None.***

**3.0   INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITION – *None.***

**4.0   CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA-**

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed the agenda is approved as presented. Motion carried.*

**5.0   CONSENT CALENDAR**

**5.1   Madera County Economic Development Commission  
Executive Committee Minutes – December 11, 2024**

**5.2   Madera County Economic Development Commission  
Financial Report- January 2025**

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

## **6.0 ACTION ITEMS-**

### **6.1 MCEDC Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Audit Review and Approval**

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed the MCEDC Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Audit is approved as presented. Motion carried.*

### **6.2 "Shop Local" Campaign**

*The Executive Committee had a discussion on what it would mean for MCEDC to run a "shop local" campaign. They decided that a "shop local" campaign was outside the scope of MCEDC's mission, and that it would be more appropriate for the local Chambers to run the full campaign. The recommendation from the Executive Committee was, if the Chambers were to run a "Shop Local" campaign, MCEDC could include the campaign's messaging on MCEDC's social media platforms, as requested. MCEDC will do weekly highlights of local businesses from each of the three jurisdictions in the E-BIZ newsletter, and will work with the local Chambers to decide which businesses would be best to highlight.*

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed, MCEDC will work with the local chambers through the chamber representatives that serve on the EDC board to promote a business within their jurisdiction. MCEDC will share the businesses story on the EDC social media prompting people to support local businesses. Motion carried.*

## **7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS –**

### **7.1 MCEDC Basic Service Budget-Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

*Executive Director Gallagher reported this item has been taken before to the City of Chowchilla and the City of Madera per the JPA. The budget was approved by both councils. The budget will be taken to Madera County at their April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. She reviewed line items that were increased or changed from the prior fiscal year.*

## **8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION- None.**

## **9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORTS/INFORMATION**

### **9.1 Executive Committee Members**

**Commissioner Ahmed (City of Chowchilla) - Nothing to report.**

**Commissioner Poythress (Madera Chamber of Commerce) - Nothing to report.**

**Commissioner Wamhoff (Board of Supervisors)** - reported they did a tour of the hospital last week and looks like they are moving in the right direction. They have a few hurdles before they can open. They are looking at the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> to open. They need to have 20 patients admitted and discharged before they can start billing. They are sitting at 400 or so employees right now. Eastern Madera County started their mobility study. He gave an update on the 41 corridor and it looks like they are still on track to start spring of 2026. The \$28 million project on Avenue 12 is going out to bid next week for asphalt. Tractor Supply is in escrow in Riverstone as they continue to work on getting a grocery store. Nothing new with Gunner Ranch. He gave an update on the hospital's development project and the battle with City of Fresno.

**9.2 Executive Director-** reviewed her January update. Highlighting the CCVEDC legislative trip to advocate a \$275,000 budget item, which would allow CCVEDC to attend more trade shows, events and missions to market the central valley. Legislators recommended they go through GOBIZ as they were not interested in sponsoring a budget item bill at this time. GOBIZ does not have any additional funding in their budget. They also discussed AB 98, sharing the impact in the valley including warehouse projects and traffic patterns around industrial areas. She attended the CALBEE ribbon cutting and was able to connect their HR people with Madera Workforce Development Board. She attended the Chowchilla District Chamber dinner. She gave a brief update on the state budget and an overview of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulations. She shared information she received on the economy including inflation going up 3% with no plans of lowering the interest rates.

**9.3 Manager of Business Development and Marketing-** She reported the website has been moved to GoDaddy. She updated property listings on the website. Attended a meeting with the workforce business services team.

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

**10.0 NEXT MEETING-** The next meeting will be held on March 12, 2025.

**11.0 ADJOURNMENT-** The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary