

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

June 11, 2025

MINUTES

PRESENT: *Jordan Wamhoff, Rob Poythress, Cece Gallegos*

ABSENT: *Waseem Ahmed*

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT- *None.*

3.0 INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITION – *Cece Gallegos is serving as the alternate for the City of Madera.*

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA- *As presented.*

5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

**5.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission
Executive Committee Minutes – May 14, 2025**

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

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

6.0 ACTION ITEMS- *None.*

7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – *None.*

8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION- *None.*

9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORTS/INFORMATION

9.1 Executive Committee Members

Commissioner Poythress (Madera Chamber) – *Reported on next weeks Senior Farmer Event.*

Commissioner Wamhoff (Board of Supervisors) – *gave an update on the Hwy 41 expansion. Unfortunately, the county did not receive the LPP grant thorough the California Transportation Commission. They had applied for the grant to help fund the project with the California Transportation Commission. The county does have a federal match and \$85 million to help with the project. The project is still slated to go out to bid in January 2026. He will hold a Town Hall on June 18th in Riverstone and another joint Town Hall on June 26th with Supervisor Rogers at Grace Community Church, covering the Country Club and Madera Acres area. Reported the county approved their budget this week. They unfunded vacant positions and are pulling money from the reserve to balance the budget. All services remain status quo, except for fire that went up a little bit. Revenues went up 4.7%*

Commissioner Gallegos (City of Madera) – *reported City is doing good. There are a lot of sidewalks going up to create walkability, especially around schools, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. They are trimming trees all over the city. Sadly, the city received word that Rite Aid will be closing in Madera because of their corporate office. Hoping to find someone to rent that space. City has a balanced budget and is in the green. There are a lot of projects on the horizon. Unfortunately, one recently fell through. They are working on a Plan B.*

9.2 Executive Director Gallagher- *Reported Madera County saw a slightly lower unemployment rate of 7.9% which is typical due to seasonal labor demand. As we all know, it was announced in May, Raley's will be going into Riverstone. This is a huge accomplishment for the Riverstone area. With this anchor, other businesses will follow to the area. Madera County Transportation Commission will give a presentation at the next Board of Commissioners meeting. She reported on CCVEDC's planning meeting. Unfortunately, two counties will no longer participate. They are looking for ideas to bring in additional income. She will attend the CCVEDC mission trip to Dallas in a few weeks. Has been working with the Workforce Development Board and the Ardaugh, glass plant. She was able to get them the PG&E ED rate, receiving a 20% utility discount over 5 years. The Workforce Board is working with them on their different training programs. She gave an update on the 2025/26 California budget, where there is a \$12 Billion deficit. They are predicting \$10-\$20 billion deficits through 2028/2029. The legislature just passed their own budget. They will go through negotiations. The Governor will come out with a balanced budget*

by June 27th. They will do internal borrowing to balance the budget. She finished by giving a legislative bill update.

9.3 Manager of Business Development and Marketing- *Elena Estrada shared a booklet that was created for marketing to be handed out when the Executive Director attends marketing missions and when we receive a Request for Information. (RFI)*

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

10.0 NEXT MEETING- *The next meeting will be with the Board of Commissioners July 9, 2025*

11.0 ADJOURNMENT- *The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted, Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary