

**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**

**December 8, 2025**  
**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** *Rob Poythress, Jordan Wamhoff, Elsa Mejia*

**ABSENT:** *Waseem Ahmed*

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

**1.0   CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Chair Rob Poythress.*

**2.0   PUBLIC COMMENT- *None.***

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

**4.0   CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA- *As presented.***

**5.0   CONSENT CALENDAR**

**5.1   Madera County Economic Development Commission  
Executive Committee Minutes – November 10, 2025**

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

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

## **6.0 ACTION ITEMS-**

### **6.1 MCEDC Executive Committee Legislative Mission Trip**

*On motion by Commissioner Wamhoff and seconded by Commissioner Mejia the Executive Committee will set March 18, 2026, for the Legislative Mission Trip to Sacramento. Motion carried. Executive Director, Gallagher will put together a Legislative Principals document for review, prior to the mission.*

## **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 there's not much on the Chamber's calendar. They completed a successful Pomegranate Festival and auctioned off a tree at the annual Trees for Charity event.*

**Commissioner Wamhoff (Board of Supervisors)** – *reported the Board of Supervisors had one meeting in November and the last meeting of the year will be December 9, 2025. The owners of the Coarsegold Rodeo had previously sold a successful company and now would like to start a new business looking for a location and incentives. They are putting together a fact sheet. The Board is working on GSA things and Fee Study. The Fresno Bee article took everything out of context regarding the county financials at a recent board meeting.*

**Commissioner Mejia (City of Madera)** – *reported the City Council presented proclamations to small and big businesses nominated in each District in the City of Madera. Excited to participate in the tree lighting where the Madera PD had a drawing for a bicycle for kids that found the Grinch.*

**9.2 Executive Director Gallagher-** *Shared after reporting on Prop 19 at the last meeting, she discovered more information regarding an exception or exclusive on family farm property. Suggested a consultant should work with people on this issue Thanked those that were able to attend the November State of the County event. It felt successful with nearly 200 participants. She feels that we may have outgrown the Muni and is thinking about moving the event to the San Joaquin Winery. She has an idea for a real estate broker to speak. He's from JLL and the broker for Gimme Seaweed. If you have other ideas for speakers or any other feedback, please let her know. Gallagher spoke about the big win for the county, city, and the region. Governor Newsom announced \$2.8 million in Cal Competes funds for Gimme Seaweed. Madera has only received Cal Competes funds twice, in 2015 and 2017, neither one was successful. She put in a lot of effort to make this happen. Gimme Seaweed is also receiving an Economic Development Rate (EDR) from PG&E. PG&E is giving the EDC \$10,000 for sponsorship.*

*Gallagher, attended a ribbon cutting for Jr Auto Tire in Chowchilla and met with Denise Munoz, Community and Economic Development Director for the City of Chowchilla. She attended the CSAC conference to hear what they are advocating for and how to align with them. They're making efforts to get rid of impact fees and talking about future transportation revenue and permitting process through AI. She is attending Business Journal's Readers' Choice awards in Fresno. Not a lot of Madera Businesses are honored.*

**9.3 *Manager of Business Development and Marketing-*** Working on adding pictures to the website, showcasing new development in Madera County.

**9.4 *Business Assistance/Office Manager-*** Loan Committee approved a loan for the City of Madera's loan program.

**10.0 NEXT MEETING-** *The next meeting will be held with the Board of Commissioners on Monday January 12, 2026.*

**11.0 ADJOURNMENT-** *The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted, Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary