

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 8, 2026
MINUTES

PRESENT: *Rob Poythress, Waseem Ahmed, Leticia Gonzalez*

ABSENT: *Jordan Wamhoff, Elsa Mejia*

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Maiknue Vang.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT- *None.*

3.0 INTRODUCTIONS & RECOGNITION – *Leticia Gonzales is serving as alternate for Jordan Wamhoff and Brigitte Wickard was introduced as the new Business Assistance/Office Manager as Lois Leonard is retiring.*

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA- *As presented.*

5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

**5.1 Madera County Economic Development Commission
Executive Committee Minutes – March 9, 2026**

**5.2 Madera County Economic Development Commission
Financial Report- May 2026**

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

6.0 ACTION ITEMS-

6.1 MCEDC AUDIT 2024/2025

On motion by Commissioner Gonzalez and seconded by Commissioner Ahmed the audit for FY 2024/2025 is approved as presented. Motion carried.

7.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS –

7.1 SOCIAL MEDIA POLCY

Executive Director Gallagher reviewed the social media policy.

8.0 WRITTEN COMMUNICATION-

8.1 Support Approval of 2026 State Transportation Improvement Program

9.0 OPEN DISCUSSION/REPORTS/INFORMATION

9.1 Executive Committee Members

Commissioner Poythress (Madera Chamber) – *the chamber continues to advocate for small businesses, sharing legislative information, and holds events and ribbon cuttings.*

Commissioner Ahmed (City of Chowchilla) – *gave an update on projects in the city. This summer they will continue with Fridays with music in the park, and Saturday with movies in the park.*

Commissioner Gonzalez (Board of Supervisors) – *reported they are working on a new project. The permits were filed today with 90 day review period. Raley's in Riverstone will hold a groundbreaking in a couple of weeks.*

9.2 Executive Director Gallagher- *reported her conference and event season is winding down. Currently working on the annual report. She will be reaching out to each jurisdiction for information that may have been missed or any kind of data they would like to include. Alongside that, we will be working on the Real Estate Update. She noted the Department of Finance just came out with their latest data on population and housing estimates where Madera County is the 2nd fastest growing county in California and the 3rd fastest growing population. She had a meeting with Matt Treber and Ethan Smith, Pearson Realty with the Business Journal. It was a positive conversation on how Madera County can be the next logistics hub and discussed the growth happening in Madera County. On local economic development, she attended the SR 41 express way groundbreaking which is the largest public works project in Madera County. Attended the 7-11 ribbon cutting, breaking a record as it was the highest priced single tenant property in the state. Workforce Board had a ribbon cutting for their Mobile Unit, expanding access to unincorporated areas.*

Attended Camarena's new facility on Ave. 12 and noted Madera Community College is moving forward with *their Agave Innovation Center*. Regarding *Legislation budget update*, the May revise has come out with an improved fiscal outlook. There will be no new outgoing expenditures and a surplus holding. The counties aren't happy. They really wanted to see funding and investment for impacts of HR1. Although, there is \$87M allocated for that. Counties are also concerned about impact fees for affordable housing projects. The Governor is expected to sign or veto the budget by June 29th. On the legislative side, AB1761 passed, AB2462 died, and SB954 will be moving forward. She reviewed and distributed the Opportunities Zone 2.0 document to share with their planning departments.

9.3 Manager of Business Development and Marketing- As reported.

9.4 Business Assistance/Office Manager- As reported.

10.0 NEXT MEETING- *The next meeting will be held with the Board of Commissioners on July 13, 2026.*

11.0 ADJOURNMENT- *The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted, Lois Leonard, Recording Secretary