RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-303

MEETING: June 4, 2019

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Van Loben Sels, Acting Fire Chief

RE: Establish the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Adopt a Resolution establishing the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee (MCFAC).

The Board of Supervisors directed staff to convene an ad-hoc fire advisory group at the end of calendar year 2018 with the intent to consider a needed update to the Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CCWPP) as well as other related overarching fire issues.

Subsequently, the ad-hoc fire advisory group meetings occurred and the group concluded that an ongoing arrangement for a fire advisory committee was clearly needed to assist in the work on various tasks including the important CCWPP update and ongoing maintenance of the plan. (The group also assisted in preparation of the recently awarded grant for the CCWPP update received by the Firesafe Council.) The MCFAC formation is recommended by the ad-hoc group and this is supported by staff.

The MCFAC would take a holistic approach in considering and making recommendations on important topics such as pre-fire coordination, fire prevention education, fire risk reduction and resource resiliency to both the County Fire Chief and Board of Supervisors.

Currently the County does not have a specific stakeholder coordinating committee to make recommendations to the County Fire Chief and Board of Supervisors. This committee will move forward expeditiously to participate in the forthcoming CCWPP update and address other related fire issues.

The formation of the MCFAC is an excellent way to incorporate key stakeholder input on important and relevant issues while ensuring focused dialogue among the key stakeholders with the expertise needed to make informed, holistic and achievable recommendations.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
Resolution - Action Requested 2019-303

The Board of Supervisors requested staff to convene an ad-hoc committee to consider the Countywide Fire Prevention Plan in fall of 2018.

Board Direction on October 2, 2018 Board direction to County Fire to bring forward additional information regarding the CCWPP and fire related issues.

December 11, 2018 the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2018-601 approving a letter of support to the Mariposa County Firesafe Council for the submittal of the grant to update the CCWPP.

(Subsequently Ad-hoc committee meetings occurred and CCWPP grant application submitted and awarded to MCFSC.)

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Negative action will result in less stakeholder dialogue in the future development of County fire related work including the CCWPP and not enable some potential important recommendations to inform key decision making to occur in a collaborative way.

ATTACHMENTS:
Draft BOS Resolution Establishing the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee (DOC)

RESULT: ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
WHEREAS, pursuant to Mariposa County Code Chapter 2.96, entitled Mariposa County Fire Department, the Board established the Fire Department and Fire Chief; and

WHEREAS, the Board directed the Fire Department to form an ad-hoc committee in the fall of 2018 to consider an update to the Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CCWPP) and other related overarching fire issues; and

WHEREAS, the County Fire Department convened the fire ad-hoc committee to consider the CCWPP plan and other relevant issues; and

WHEREAS, the ad-hoc fire advisory committee concluded that an ongoing arrangement for a fire advisory committee was needed to assist in the work on various tasks including the important CCWPP update, ongoing maintenance of the plan and to insure stakeholder collaboration on all relevant fire related issues; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the review of the CCWPP the ad-hoc committee also assisted the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council in preparation of the Community Wildfire Prevention Grant to CALFIRE for the update of the CCWPP; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2018 the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2018-601 approving a letter of support to the Mariposa County Firesafe Council for the submittal of the grant to update the CCWPP; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 2018-601, the Board recognized the importance of updating the CCWPP and potential inclusion within the Strategic Fire Plan of the MMU; and

WHEREAS, the Community Wildfire Prevention Grant was subsequently awarded for the update of the CCWPP; and

WHEREAS, the ad-hoc committee recommended that the Board of Supervisors establish the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee as key to insuring the involved agencies and partners benefit from the CCWPP cohesive work plan and related fire programs and to continue the important work to which partners and public will benefit.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa does hereby establish the Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee (MCFAC) as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors with purpose, functions, and procedures as described in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein.
ON MOTION BY Supervisor Jones, seconded by Supervisor Long, this resolution is duly passed and adopted on June 4, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

EXCUSED:

ABSTAIN:  

Attest:

Miles Menetrey, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

René LaRoche
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Approved as to Form:

Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel
EXHIBIT A
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Resolution No. 2019-
Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Resolution No. 2019-
Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee

1. Purpose and Functions

The purpose and functions of the Fire Advisory Committee (MCFAC) shall be as follows:

a. Formulate, design, implement and participate in stakeholder engagement to ensure full participation by the committee in the establishment of recommendations for fire related issues to the Board of Supervisors, which will facilitate the implementation and ongoing maintenance of the Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CCWPP) and other needed fire plans, strategies, goals and documents;

b. Identify, evaluate and recommend the implementation of feasible fire related projects, programs, and policies pertinent to the County and stakeholders;

c. Incorporate a holistic approach in considering and making recommendations on important topics such as pre-fire coordination, fire prevention education, fire risk reduction and resource resiliency to both the County Fire Chief and Board of Supervisors;

d. Support the work of staff and others in the conduct of fact finding and data gathering necessary to (1) identify existing fire related resources and opportunities, (2) recommend projects, programs, and policies needed to efficiently implement the County’s fire-related activities, plans and program goals, and (3) ultimately realize the recommendations contained in the Board of Supervisors approved fire codes, polices and relevant plans; and

e. Provide periodic assessment, evaluation of, and feedback to the Board of Supervisors regarding the success of Mariposa County Fire and Fire Advisory Committee efforts.

2. Membership

The Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee (MCFAC) shall be established with thirteen (13) voting members as follows:

a. Representatives should be selected from or represent the following groups in Mariposa County:

• CALFIRE
• Mariposa County Fire Safe Council
• Mariposa County Resource Conservation District
• United States Forest Service
b. The committee may call upon representatives of other organizations and the
general public as resources on certain topics related to fire such as resiliency, land
management, economic development, and resource conservation; and

c. Two (2) Ex-Officio (non-voting) members from the Board of Supervisors.

3. Term and Manner of Appointment

a. Appointments to the MCFAC shall be made by the Board of Supervisors
based on the joint recommendation of the Fire Chief or designee and MCFAC.

b. All terms shall expire two (2) years from the date of appointment.

c. The Board of Supervisors may remove at any time and without cause any
member of the MCFAC.

4. Participation By Member Required, Vacancy

a. If any member of the Advisory Committee is absent (unexcused) for two (2)
consecutively scheduled meetings, then that member may be removed from the MCFAC by
the Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors shall fill the vacancy for the
unexpired term.

b. The Board of Supervisors shall fill any vacancy in the MCFAC membership
for the unexpired term.

5. Selection of Officers

At its first meeting, the MCFAC shall elect a chair, vice chair, and secretary to serve
a term of one (1) year or until the successor of each is appointed.

6. Duties of Officers

The chair shall preside at all meetings of the MCFAC and shall perform all of the
duties necessary or incidental to the office, including approval of the agenda topics for the
meeting. The vice chair is chair in the absence or inability of the chair to act. The secretary
shall maintain notes and prepare minutes for the approval of the MCFAC.
7. Meetings and Quorum

a. The MCFAC shall hold its first meeting at the call of the County Fire Chief or designee. The MCFAC shall establish a meeting schedule deemed necessary by the MCFAC to accomplish its purpose.

b. A quorum shall be a majority of those appointed as voting members. A quorum is required to transact any MCFAC business at a regular meeting or special meeting.

c. Notice of MCFAC meetings shall be posted and published not less than 72 hours prior to the date of the meeting at the following locations:

   (1) The Mariposa County Website at the following locations: Planning, Economic Development; and

   (2) The meeting location.

d. The Fire Chief or designee may supplement required notification in any manner deemed appropriate for the content of the proposed agenda.

e. Meetings of the MCFAC shall be subject to the provisions of the California Open Meeting Law (Brown Act).

8. Administration and Support

a. County staff shall provide support to the MCFAC. The County Fire Chief or designee shall be the lead member of County staff responsible for supporting the MCFAC. The County Fire Chief or designee shall be empowered to call upon appropriate departments to provide information required to assist the MCFAC in carrying out its designated responsibilities.

b. The County Fire Chief or designee shall be responsible for meeting notices, preparation and distribution of meeting support materials, and coordinating the meeting arrangements.

c. In the event that the MCFAC does not appoint a secretary, the County Fire Chief or designee shall be responsible for recording the meetings, archival storage of electronic recordings, and preparation and publication of minutes for MCFAC approval.