

MADERA COUNTY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Oath of Office</i>	<i>CAA President</i>	<i>Retired</i>	<i>Deceased</i>
L. Hoskins	1893				
Houston	1898				
C.F. Bonner	01/07/1907				
F.E. Briscoe	01/04/1915				
John S. Moore	01/08/1923		1942	01/05/1952	
Robert E. Schwartz	01/01/1952				
Richard E. Gordon	11/07/1978	12/01/1978		12/31/1994	
Thomas P. Kidwell	06/07/1994	01/03/1995			
Gary L. Svanda	06/03/2014	01/06/2015			

Madera County was created on March 11, 1893. "Madera" in Spanish signifies "timber", and the county derived its name from the town of Madera, situated within its limits. The town was originally surrounded by groves of trees. *

The origin of its name is not clear. One story says that the county was named for Chief Marin, of the Licatiut tribe of Indians who inhabited that section and waged fierce battle against the early Spanish military explorers. The other version is that the bay between San Pedro and San Quentin points was name Bahia de Nuestra Senora del Rosario la Marinera by Ayala in 1775, and it is quite possible that Marin is simply an abbreviation of this name. **

* H.M. Moreno, Moreno's Dictionary of Spanish-Named California Cities and Towns, (San Luis Obispo, CA, 1916)

** California State Association of Counties, The Creation of California Counties