



SIERRA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 24, 2017 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Clovis Memorial Building, 453 Hughes, Room 2, Clovis, Ca. 93612

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER: 4:15pm

Meeting called to order by President Pete Lassotovitch at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call: Directors present were Pete Lassotovitch, Alan Fry, Sherman Pennebaker

Associate Directors: Gary Temple

Staff present: Steve Haze, Jeannie Habben

Guest: None present

Partners present: David Durham (NRCS)

Absent: Ted Kimbler, John Heywood

II. Approval of Minutes for May Meeting

- Jeannie H explained to all to review their files and make a note that all minutes from January to June will require for the date to be changed from 2016 to 2017.
- Review notes from June and minutes from May
- Alan F made the motion to accept the minutes from May; Sherman P second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment for any item not on the agenda (No action can be taken)

No public in attendance.

IV. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics: (A): Action (I): Info

A. Farewell to David Durham

Dave D. remained on staff an additional month and will be retiring at the end of July. Hugo Calvillo from the Hanford office will be the interim DC at the Fresno office until someone is found to replace David. He will work very part-time with the NRCS office for a while.

B. 2017/2018 Annual Plan (I) (A)

Steve H presented the 2017/2018 Work Plan based on what the Board would like to accomplish and the grant funding received for specific work to accomplish during this work year. Along with the usual goals and tasks this RCD completes each year, some additions to this Work Plan are the Biomass utilization and Biomass Conversion Technologies and water use efficiency. Also, the expansion beyond USFS's Dinkey Creek Collaborative and continued development of Auberry Mill Site Campus and District-wide Carbon Management Program and establishment of Carbon Farming Plans in association with Carbon Cycle Institute, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, San Joaquin Valley APCD and others. Also, the addition of Sierra Conservation Day.

Sherman P made the motion to accept the Annual Work Plan for 2017 to 2018; Alan F second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously.

C. 2015-2020 Long Range Plan (I) (A)

Steve reviewed sections of the Long-Range Plan for discussion. He again referred to the grant funds and how they could be used to meet the objectives of the Long-Range Plan. He is reviewing this based on staff changes and the additions to the Annual Plan. No vote is required at this time.

- D. 2017/2018 Annual Budget (I) (A)
Steve H distributed and explained the proposed 2017/2018 annual budget. Steve H added the areas that will be covered by the REV funding or SRT. Alan F made the motion to accept the Annual Budget for 2017/2018; Sherman P second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously.
- E. DOC – REV Grant – Contact List & Letter for electronic payroll (I) (A)
Grantees who received the REV funding, need to complete and submit this completed form to DOC to begin the grant process and anytime there is a change of staff. Alan F made the motion to accept the information on the contact list and Pete L to sign the letter provided; Sherman P second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously.
- F. HEATech and others potential interest in working with SRCD-NDA (I) (A)
Non-Disclosure Agreement and non-circumvent agreement has been created to work with the RCD. This is to be proactive to protect the RCDs ideas.
- G. CARCD – Capacity Development Program – Directors Bootcamp, Collaboration with Tulare County RCD and Business Planning (I) (A)
Alan F and Ted K signed up to participate with the Directors Bootcamp. SRCD will be participating with Tulare County RCD with the Durable Collaboration program to support private non-industrial private forest land owners who are being environmentally and financially devastated. SRCD applied for an opportunity to develop a Business Plan working with CARCD. Alan F made the motion to approve all of the applications that were submitted; Sherman P second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously.
- H. Carbon Management Program with \$10K from CCI (I)
On hold currently, this will move forward with the adoption of the Annual Plan.
- I. CA FireSafe Council – HW168 & OTL Community Wildfire Protection Plans (I)
This will be continued after a revisit with the change of staff. Tomorrow evening Steve H will meet with the group again to review the tasks remaining to line it up for the remaining year of the grant/project. August 10 is the next HWY168 meeting.
- J. Tree Mortality Crisis and Biomass Resource Management Development
1. Supervisor Magsig's interests in Auberry Mill Site as opportunity (I)
Supervisor Magsig is still showing interest.
 2. Opportunity as co-owner of Auberry Mill Site & SNC Prop 1 funding (I) (A)
Steve H will complete the pre-application on-line by 9/1. The RAC (Resource Advisory Committee) will be back in session again. Funds will be available for local projects in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa for areas that are located next to Forest Service lands. SRCD to submit for \$24K to cover appraisal, Phase I Environmental Assessment and Conditional Use Permit (CUP) costs. The deadline for submission of projects is July 31.
 3. Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force (I)
Fresno County will continue to remove dead and dying trees that have resulted from the current drought and subsequent bark beetle infestation.
 4. SJV Air Pollution Control District – Emissions Reduction Proposal (I)
The SJVAPCD is considering having a Biomass Summit in the valley; the SRCD needs to watch for this event and maybe be a part of it.
 5. All Power Labs (APL) – CA Energy Commission (CEC) – Epic Project – Unfunded Finalist – Contact w/CEC (I)
We scored high for the CEC grant, we are the only unfunded project now. Possible funding may come through.

6. CALFIRE Forest Health 2017 Grant Program – USFS (I)
Still in the proposal for the mobile units for Biomass.
 7. CFSC – Community Wildlife Protection Plans – OTL & 168 (I)
Hwy 168 has a draft of their plan so they just need to do a revision update. The OTL is working on the development on their CWWP – they need to identify the basecamp for their plan.
- K. Programs & Projects Status Report (I)
Many have been previously discussed above. There are nine projects/proposals submitted between March 2016 and June 2017. We are also working on the RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program). The Dinkey Creek public outreach project still has two outstanding invoices, Steve is working with them directly to rewrite the workplan for the Dinkey Creek project because of the staff change.
- L. NRCS – Diesel Tractor Replacement AQ Program (I)
NAQI (National Air Quality Incentive Program) – more funding was received for this program, so there will be a fourth batching period.
- M. NRCS – Conservation Planning & Support for SE Asian Specialty Growers (I)
Vue Her was hired to begin work with the NRCS and working with the SE Asian Specialty Growers on June 1.
- N. Dinkey Collaboration – Public Awareness and Education Program (I)
This project/collaboration is in the SRCD district and SRCD was one of the original founding members. Discussions with U.S. Forest Service on taking on more responsibility.
- O. Kings Basin Water Authority/ So. Sierra IRWM / SGMA WG / GSAs (I)
Southern Sierra IRWM is working on their Plan Update to Prop 1 standards, SRCD to have an agreement with them to provide an outreach program. Nothing to report for the other partners.
- P. Grant Opportunities Tracking List (I)
Steve H distributed the list of funding opportunities that are currently available and proposals submitted. He will be removing projects that no longer pertain to this group due to staff changes.
- Q. Web Site support
This will be funded with the REV funding. This is written out in the grant for specific tasks that are covered. Ted K stated that he will be working on this task. Steve H will be posting on the website the agenda and minutes.
- R. Other
- Steve H spoke with PG&E regarding the Kerckhoff FERC re-licensing, the fires and the effects that the silt from the fires has on storage. This is a possible future partnership / project.
 - The CARCD's 72nd Annual Conference is on November 15 to 18, at the Hilton Arden West in Sacramento. The REV funding will allow at least two members to attend the conference.
 - Land Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley – Free briefing to be held at the University Business Center, CSU Fresno on Wednesday, August 16, 2017, 8:30 to 3:30. This briefing is sponsored by DWR and the Water Education Foundation and will highlight the array of technologies available for subsidence measurement and monitoring, including information and technical support being provided by DWR.

IV. Financial Report

A. Monthly Reports (I)

Steve H distributed and discussed the:

- Check Register printed as of July 24, 2017
- Profit and Loss (July 1, 2016 to June 26, 2017)
- Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2017
- Transactions by Account as of June 30, 2017

B. Review & Approval of expenses – YSRC&DC use of room and payment of fees (I) (A)

SRCD was grandfathered in to not have to pay fees for the room usage, but the Veteran's group did away with all the grandfathered agreements. SRCD now must pay per meeting. This group has paid for the YSRC & D meeting space in the past. Now that the meeting room fee is no longer waived, the question is; should SRCD continue to pay for the YSRC&D meeting space. An invoice is due in arrears by July 26. Sherman P made the motion to pay all meeting room fees currently due by July 26; Alan F second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously. This board is no longer paying for the YSRC & D meeting space after the invoice currently on the books.

V. Reports:

A. NRCS Report (D. Durham): (Moved to front)

The Fresno office has another batch of contracts today. Last week Dave attended the Joint Chiefs tour with a Forest Service person from Washington. The Joint Chiefs funding assisted them with the take down of the dead trees on Dinkey Creek road; the rest of the funding was going to Mariposa. NRCS has noticed the need for information for or need for Seasonal-high Tunnels (small greenhouses). Last year there was 50% of the state's Seasonal-High Tunnels and will have more than that this year. There is a need for assistance with instruction for the assembly of these structures. There are safety issues and structural issues involved. Dave D suggested as an outreach project an instructional video of assembly instructions for the Seasonal-High Tunnels. This would need to be in English, Hmong, Punjab, and Spanish.

B. RC&D Report:

The next meeting is Thursday, July 27 at the Clovis Memorial Building. Justine R is now a full-time employee with them. Jeannie H will attend the meeting representing SRCD and discuss the room rental issue/option with them and report back to this board.

C. Correspondence, Fresno County EA Responses

No correspondence

D. Other:

- Gary T and Steve H met with the Forest Service regarding SRCD's goals and the Forest Service's goals and collaboration with projects and programs to be more efficient cost wise to complete programs as partners. They were focusing on Sierra National Forest.
- Gary T has a meeting set this Thursday with Jim Patterson's office to let them know what we are about and work on cooperation with these governmental offices.

VI. Adjournment: 6:30 pm -

Sherman P made the motion to close the meeting; Alan F second the motion; all voted and the motion passed unanimously. Next Meeting: Monday, August 28, 2017 – Clovis Memorial Building, Room 2

Respectfully Submitted, Jeannie Habben