



SIERRA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Monday, October 22, 2018 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Clovis Memorial Building, 453 Hughes, Room 2, Clovis, Ca. 93612

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER: 4:12 pm (by Ted Kimbler)

- A. Director Roll Call
 - B. Introduction of Guests
- Roll Call: Directors present were Ted Kimbler, Alan Fry
Associate Directors: Gary Temple
Staff present: Steve Haze, Jeannie Habben
Absent: Pete Lassotovitch
Partner: NRCS: Rob Roy, NRCS

II. Approval of Minutes for August Board Meeting

No Quorum – will hold over to the next meeting.

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

- Yosemite Peace Symposium – A Gathering of Peacemakers will be presented at the Tenaya Lodge on October 26-27, 2018. Peace and the Environment; Peace and Our Youth; Peace and Human Dignity are three tracks.
- Self-Help Enterprises is conducting two Ground water workshops in October. The “Groundwater Sustainability Plan Workshop” on October 27 from 10 am to 3 pm at the Marriott Hotel in Visalia.
- Nearly 2 Billion Now Available for Eligible Producers Affected by 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes - Agricultural producers affected by wildfires in 2017 now may apply for assistance to help recover and rebuild their farming operations. Signup began July 16, 2018 and continues through Nov. 16, 2018.

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

- A. Board Vacancies (I)
Steve H met an individual that may be interested. There may be a couple others interested in Clovis. Ted Lowen of Blossom Bluff Orchard is interested in possibly becoming a board member, but he/his property is not in the RCD District. Rob Roy gave the suggestion of Carl Carlson who lives in Clovis and owns/works for Western Ag and Turf.
- B. Caltrans and Sierra Foothill Conservancy Mitigation Agreement – 12 (I) (A)
Gary Miltimore and Melissa Odell contacted Steve H to work possibly work with SRCD for a Mitigation Plan. This could possibly be a 5% fee for SRCD. This is mitigation for planting plants and trees.
- C. Expansion of District’s Sphere of Influence CARCD/CVCF (I)
Central Valley Community Foundation agreed to fund the SOI expansion of the areas of Fresno County white areas that are not covered by any Resource Conservation District in Western Fresno County Jeannie H was requested to contact CARCD and to set a meeting with them and the Fresno County LAFCO office to clarify the boundaries.

- D. Dinkey Collaborative – Steering Committee, Com Planning & Socioeconomic WG (I)
Steve H gave a report about biomass utilization and there were many presentations on birds, bees, butterflies, and bats. The Communication/Planning Group had a booth with Reedley College at the Fresno Fair. There has not been a meeting of the Steering Committee or the Socioeconomic Committee have not met for several months.
- E. Tree Mortality Crisis and Biomass Resource Management Development
1. CALFIRE Forest Health 2017 Award with USFS-SNF & 5-Yr Agreement (I)
Steve H stated that they are looking into whether or not the Good Neighbor Authority is something that can be engaged in with this work. This will open up government to government authority to share resources.
 2. Auberry Mill Site - SNC and RAC awards (I)
SRCD can go by the DR2021 to allows for 680 days based on research and innovation – it waves the ATC requirement. Steve H is working on completing the authority to construct. SRCD has been invited back to submit a full proposal for funding.
 3. Setting up operations at AMS Owners and Phase 1 ESA (I)
Trying to make sure all are informed, and this is all moving forward. SRCD has a one-year lease agreement to start the process. The Phase 1 ESA has been completed and the payment has been received.
 4. Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force (I)
John Mount has been retained to represent Fresno up in Sacramento. Steve H and John Haywood met with him to explain SRCD's interest.
 5. CARCD/NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (I)
This funding will create a mini EQIP program that will be ran by CARCD for Tree Mortality issue. Steve H has met with Jenn Shepard about the program. Karen B is putting together a sub-committee to make decisions for this program. Around December there will be more information on how the process will work and what it means to SRCD as a partner.
 6. CFSC – Community Wildlife Protection Plans – OTTL &168 & FC MH-MP (I)
This has been approved and completed. The final report narrative has been completed by Craig J and Steve H will be closing the grant out. This can now come off of the agenda.
- F. Programs & Projects Status Report (I)
Steve H distributed the list of funded programs; he explained the programs/projects. Steve H will be contacting DOC for a Budget Change Request to use the remainder of the funds. Steve H is still waiting for invoices from the facilitator for the Dinkey Collaborative funds.
- G. NRCS – Diesel Tractor Replacement AQ Program (I)
The NRCS is anticipating positive funding in this area for next year.
- H. NRCS – Conservation Planning & Support for SE Asian Specialty Growers (I)
Sam Vang and Vue had the workshop on October 16 from 9:00 to 2:00 at the Keumoua Farm in Sanger there were 50 participating. Rob Roy made a presentation on cover crops and other farming with Sam V translating.
- I. Kings Basin Water Authority/ So. Sierra IRWM / SGMA WG / GSAs (I)
The SSIRWM is having their next meeting on Thursday, October 24. They will be voting on the Plan Update for approval and submittal to DWR. Also, the DAC workgroup was held the last week of September with Sierra Institute. The DAC Integrated Regional Water Management -

Disadvantaged Community and Tribal Involvement “Lessons Learned” Summit - November 8-9, 2018 in King's Beach, CA (Tahoe). The Mountain County Funding Area for the IRWM Disadvantaged Community Coordinating Committee is meeting on Tuesday, October 23 from 10:00 to 2:30 at the Department of Water Resources in Sacramento. Sierra Institute and Sierra Water Workgroup will be reporting.

J. Grant Opportunities Tracking List (I)

Steve H distributed the Funding/Grant Tracking List. The most significant changes on the list is everything after Number 7. Sierra RCD has been invited back along with their technology partners to submit a full grant proposal to the California Energy Commission (CEC). This is extremely competitive and the District along with their partners have quite a lot of work to do in order to develop and submit a solid proposal by November 19th. Other grants mentioned as opportunities are the CA OES – Pre-Disaster Mitigation; Forest Health – GHG Reductions; and Fire Prevention with CalFire.

K. Web Site Development and Support – <http://new.sierrarc.com/>

Jeannie H will be meeting again with Kristina P the Web designer in a week. Craig J would like to review the section on Forestry before the website is live.

L. Other –

- Speak – Off (6pm)
Alex Widman, a sophomore from Orosi High School, spoke at the Regional contest representing SRCD, and he won. He will now represent the San Joaquin Valley Region and SRCD at the State Conference. The subject of the speech is “How can RCDs help landowners reduce the threat of fires?”
- The California Association of RCDs 2018 Annual Conference registration is now open. The topic is “Celebrating Resilient Landscapes and Adaptive Communities” in San Diego, CA, November 14th-17th, 2018 at the Kona Kai Resort. Alan F and Steve H will be attending the annual meeting.

V. Financial Report

A. Opening of Savings Account for SNC Grant (I) (A)

This has been opened and Steve H and Alan F are signatory on the account.

B. Annual Audit (I) (A)

This is complete.

C. Monthly Reports (I)

Steve H distributed for review the:

- Balance Sheet as of October 22, 2018;
- the Profit & Loss for July 1 through October 22, 2018;
- the Transactions by Account as of October 22, 2018;
- Central Valley Bank Summary as of 10/22/2018

D. Line of Credit based upon A/R and grants (I)

This application will be resubmitted with the final financials for the fiscal year. This is still pending. Steve H is actually suggesting waiting past the next audit.

E. Review & Approval of expenses – Forestry Related Grant Development

VI. Reports:

A. NRCS Report:

Jay Lee has been selected to be the new District Conservationist for the Fresno Field Office. Jay was equal to Curtis's position in Riverside area. He will start in November 2018.

B. RC&D Report:

Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council is holding their Annual meeting on October 25. They are having a social mixer from 1 to 1:30 with a light lunch fare with a presentation on their successes from this year. This is held at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building.

C. CARCD – Area 9

The San Joaquin Valley Regional / Area IX Fall meeting is on Friday, October 19 at the Hanford Ag and NRCS Multi-Purpose Room, 680 Campus Drive, Hanford. There were 26 people in attendance. The speak-off contest was held and Mike Chrisman spoke to the group about capacity building.

D. Correspondence, Fresno County EA Responses

No correspondence

E. Other:

VII. Adjournment: 5:37

Next meeting: Monday, January 28, 2018; 4:00pm – Room 2

(Due to Holidays)

Respectfully Submitted, Jeannie Habben