



MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order: 4:07pm

A. Director Roll Call

Kelly Kucharski, Alan Fry, Blair Duncan, Ted Kimbler, Steve Haze, Faith McClure, John Heywood, Jae Lee, Matt Hurley, Pete Lassotovitch, Gary Temple, Kate Wilcox, Shawn Murphy. Attendance was virtual on MS Teams.

B. Introduction of Guests

Directors: Alan Fry, Pete Lassotovitch, Ted Kimbler, Gary Temple

Staff Present: Steve Haze, Kelly Kucharski, Blair Duncan, Faith McClure, Kate Wilcox

Guests: Jae Lee (NRCS), John Shelton (SJRC), Matt Hurley (TRCD), Shawn Murphy (CCC), Rebecca Ozeran (UC Cooperative Davis), Peter Wyrsh (Blue Forest Conservation), Shawn Hurley CCC, Nick Wobbrook (Blue Forest Conservation)

II. Approval of Minutes for January 2021 Board Meeting

Alan Fry: Correction to January Minutes- Sierra High changed to an elementary.

Ted Kimbler seconded the motion.

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

No comments.

IV. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics:

A. Blue Forest Conservation Presentation

Nick Wobbrook and Peter Wyrsh (Blue Forest) shared a presentation about their work and how they want to partner with Sierra RCD. 4:17-5:23

B. Creek Fire- Cal-OES/FEMA sessions and HMGP \$9.75M max – 5/1 due date

Kelly updated board on Community Workdays about challenges and accomplishments. She informed board in regard to positive landowner feedback. Blair updated board on SRCD transitioning to individual property owner needs after conducting PARs and utilizing partnership with United Way volunteers for work needed for individual property owners. Steve gave detailed information on the background of United Way AmeriCorps volunteers, recovery effort planned as required for grant.



Sierra Resource Conservation District
Monthly Board Meeting
Online MS Teams Meeting

Monday,
February 22nd,
2021

4:00pm-6:00 pm

C. Phase 2 Highway 168 Community FireSafe and Stewardship Program

D. Creek Fire Recovery – Community Volunteer Workdays – Peterson Road

E. Kings-Sequoia Gateway Communities FireSafe & Stewardship Prgm w/OTFSC

Blair (SRCD) updated board on start of partnership with OTFSC which included first PAR, meeting with OTFC for training on PARs, and anticipated scheduling for future PARs. Kate reached out to Shawn CCC for setting up meeting about partnering for Creek Fire effort.

F. CARCD/NRCS Tree Mortality, NRCS Post-Disaster TA & MOA

Kelly (SRCD) mentioned potential meeting with Coarsegold RCD about getting tree mortality program set up with them and a collaboration in post disaster technical assistance.

G. DOC – Southern Sierra Forest Health Watershed Program

COVID has made efforts difficult. SRCD is behind on reports and an extension is needed.

H. Southern Sierra IRWM Grants- Community Water Systems & Meadows

Funding came through. Kate (SRCD) will be involved in the future.

I. Dinkey Collaborative – Steering Committee, Com Plng & Socioeconomic WG

First meeting on February 18th, 2021

J. Tree Mortality Crisis and Biomass Resource Management Development

1) Biomass Utilization under USFS-R5 / SNF / SNC Interagency MOU **(I)**

The campus has halted and subsided for now. With the weather and with it being the command center for the Creek fire the operations have slowed.

2) CAL FIRE CCI Forest Health – Blue Rush & Hugger – COVID19 Extension **(I)**

An extension has been granted. Reporting is up to date.

3) Auberry Mill Site – SNC CUP grant- 1 year Extension thru 12/31 **(I)**

Extension granted for clean up.



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4) CARCD / Carbon Cycle Institute – Grand Bluffs FCP & Potential Sale (I)

No updates

K. Announcement of Funding Awards

1) SS-IRWMG – Meadows and Water System TA- Officially started

L. CARCD/CDFA SWEEP & NRCS/AFT Healthy Soils for diverse small growers

No update at this time. There are two potential candidates to replace Vue Her (SRCD), it's held off until the agreement between NRCS and American Farmland Trust is executed, looks like it will start in February and March.

M. CARCD- LAFCo SOI & Annex. – KRCA & MOU – Watershed Coordinator

There is a draft of a letter of agreement from the Kings River Conservation District, that all areas East of HWY 99 will be supported by Sierra RCD. SRCD is pursuing an agreement of some form with Kings River CD where SRCD will take the underserved areas and white areas.

Gary T. made the motion for the development of a MOU with Kings River Conservation District, Ted K. seconded the motion, all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

N. Website & District Enterprise Operations Development & support

Andrea from Bay Area wrote a nice article about SRCD. The article is posted on our website.

O. Programs and Projects Status Report

587k proposal for post fire recovery efforts in regard to watershed on private lands. Total awards at 4.6 million, 84k in receivables and advancements just under 900k in the bank. There are 15 programs and projects in progress or about to launch.

P. Grant Opportunities Tracking List



Reviewed the grant tracking list. The list is turning into developing programs that will support a various arrangement of projects. Some of the projects SRCD is not the lead, but the fiscal sponsor or the program manager, and provides admin and other types of support.

Working on a grant with Fish and Wildlife to augment the one that was submitted the State Water Control Board.

V. Financial Reports

A. Monthly Reports

Kelly K displayed for view the:

- Balance Sheet
- the Profit & Loss
- the Transactions by Account
- Central Valley Bank Summary

B. Review & Approval of expenses:

VI. Reports:

A. NRCS Report

NRCS Fresno office is slammed with work for other natural resource programs, particularly air quality programs with deadlines that have set back staff from being fully available for collaboration in the field with SRCD staff. John Chilcote is monitoring emergency watershed program. Blair, Jon Chilcote, and Mira Dick are continuing to work together in the field for VARS.

B. RC&D Report – Closer Consultations Request - Next meeting 7/30

Meeting on January 28th, SRCD planning to create work plan for possible PG& E funding

C. CARCD – Forestry Committee /SJV Region (Area 9)

No report.

D. Correspondence, Fresno County LAFCO Responses

No report. Notice of the subpoena, Alan and Steve worked on the subpoena for information only, submitted documents and emails with county council. \$169 for the billing.



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E. Other – Articles, stories and blogs

VII. Adjournment: Meeting end 6:50 pm

Next meeting: Monday, March 22nd, 2021 MS Teams videoconference

Respectfully Submitted, Faith McClure