



## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 23, 2022, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Clovis Memorial Building – Room 2, 453 Hughes, Clovis, Ca. 93612 and via MS Teams

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order** President
- A. Director roll call  
Pete Lassotovitch, Gary Temple, Alan Fry
- B. Introduction of guests  
Staff: Steve Haze, Karin Roux, Ian Ashby, Alyssa Flores, Elizet Gomez, Chelsea Hutchens, Kelly Kucharski, Justin Morgan  
Guests: John Heywood (Advisor, PFL), Tanner Michaelson (creek Fire Recovery Collaborative), Michael Kazzi (NRCS Fresno), Alex Hepler (NRCS Fresno)
- II. Approval of Minutes for April 25, 2022** Directors  
Deferment of meeting notes until next board meeting
- III. Public Comment for any item not on the Agenda (No Action can be taken)**
- IV. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics – (I): Info / (A) Action**
- A. Director applications to Clerk of the Board of Supervisors – NLT 7/6 (I) Directors  
Application to the clerk needs to be sent to the board members from SRCD staff for all board members to complete.
- B. Change of Board Meeting start time 3 pm (I) Directors  
Meeting was moved to 500 Club, the Memorial District was closed for cleaning this week.
- C. Request for funding by Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative (CFRC) (I)(A) Directors  
Tanner Michelson from the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative gave a presentation for a funding request for victims. Would be coming out the Covid 19 relief funds. A request is being made up to \$25,000 for up to 5 landowners, to look into application selection. **Gary Temple made a motion to set aside up to \$25,000 for the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative and predicated on a review on \$5,000 increments and managed by Kelly Kucharski Forestry and Watershed Programs Manager. Alan Fry seconded the motion, all voted and the motion passed unanimously.**
- D. CA Special District Assoc. & CA CLASS Investment Program (I) (A) Directors/ED/DDA  
CLASS investment program is a joint powers agreement between agencies, that is necessary for an investment to occur. The funds are managed by Public trust Advisors, 54 billion under management, they manage public funds. They work in conjunction with CARCD and move away with affiliation with Black Rock, where they were formerly. John Heywood suggested the general fund is the place the funding should go. Umpqua Bank requires funds to be 110% collateralized, in this CLASS fund they are not required to be. The investment is a conservative approach for a higher yield with the current trend of interest rates. Join as a joint power authority, don't have to join a JPA, but if you do, you have the possibility of having representation on the board of the CLASS fund as well. If joining as a JPA it shows support of this type of agreement with other public agencies. Join the JPA and making an initial investment of \$10,000 and learn more as we go. **Alan Fry made a motion to invest an initial \$10k into the Class Fund as a founding member in the joint power authority. Gary Temple seconded the motion. All voted and the motion passed unanimously.**
- E. MMR / Woodard-Curran Proposal; Finance & Insurance (I) Directors/ED/DDA  
Progressing through the feasibility study. Three main issues were identified. At 1/3 through the study. Waste in two forms right now, sludge and another broader term is waste liquids that come out of the process. No waste water system at the plant, only onsite septic system at the plant site. Finding ways to mitigate liquid waste and look into conversion into solid waste. Small quantities, but significant amount to be identified and mitigated and handled properly. Second was electricity production, how many would be required for a million gallons a year and some clarification for the power is required for that. 8 modules to create the diesel and an additional 4 to create the electricity. Making sure they have adequate electrical infrastructure to operate the equipment and maintenance on the equipment. The third item is defining how the feedstock will be coming into the site. The general assumption is for logs from logging trucks, and process with a chipper, dryer, and

intermediate storage. Still identifying offtake storage requirements. Tail gas from the units, and the most economical for tail gas use. Also question on graphite product as an option out of the process. Hope to finish in the next couple of months, the basic capital cost for construction and see what this plant could look like.

- F. Native Plant Operation **(I)** Directors/ED/DDA  
Earlier today with the joint forestry committee meeting, Steve Haze met with a Cal Fire representative on the possibility to work with propagation and introduced John Heywood to have a discussion on risks and benefits with a native plant nursery, once that leans less on commercial but more on the broader landscape.
- G. District and Grants Development & Programs Support **(I)** Exec. Dir / Dist Dev'l Staff  
Karin is getting acquainted to the District Programs and providing development support and opportunities.
- H. Craig School of Business – Marketing Students **(I)** Exec. Dir / Dist Dev'l Staff  
Marketing students have finished their program, it was a good experience for the District.
- I. Participation with Fresno County EDC and ATIP Regional Program **(I)** Directors / Dev'l Advisor  
Working on an agreement with Gina, the point of contact with Fresno EDC on the update for this program.
- J. Office arrangements with SJR Conservancy & PFL **(I)** Admin & District Dev'l Staff  
Waiting to hear from the San Joaquin River Conservancy for the agreement to be put in place for the new office building at the Lanes property. Oak Knoll property is ready to move in at any time, also the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative could potentially use the space as well.
- K. Personnel and other related policies **(I) (A)** Directors / DP&A  
Nothing new at this time to report. Staff was updated on the changes from the last meeting that were approved.
- L. Kings-Sequoia Gateway FireSafe & Stewardship Program w/ OTFSC **(I)** Forestry Operations Staff  
Ian Ashby Forestry Field Operations Supervisor gave an update on the program operations. Oak to Timberline Fire Safe Council there is having staffing arrangement, want to expand the Firewise community and get their board up and running. Hired Jordan-Slate contractors for 6 properties, that was completed, will be putting together another contracting project in this area in the coming weeks. The District Truck is in working condition at this time.
- M. CARCD / NRCS Tree Mortality, NRCS Post-Disaster TA & MOA **(I)** A. Heppler, DC / Staff / ED  
Ian Ashby received his Linc Pass and Justin Morgan received a new docking station. Alex Hepler gave an update that equipment was turned over a couple days ago, suggested SRCD staff looks into getting monitors for people to plug into. Doing it on a laptop is difficult. Mikhael Kazzi (NRCS) will be providing an update on some of the topics for the meeting that had to be rescheduled due to illness with the District.
- N. Southern Sierra IRWM Grants – Community Water Systems & Meadows **(I)** Staff / Exec. Director  
Chelsea Hutchens will be meeting with Lawrence Livermore labs to do water sampling at Alder Springs and Pineridge Elementary tomorrow.
- O. Dinkey Collaborative – Staff, Com Planning & Socioeconomic WG **(I)** DM/Develop Advisor/Staff  
Dinkey Collaborative is starting back up for a general meeting in the second or third week of June.
- P. Tree Mortality Crisis and Biomass Resource Management Development
- 1) Feedstock Aggregation – OPR & USFS-R5/SNF/SNC Interagency MOU**(I)** ED / Development Advisor  
Meetings about the 6<sup>th</sup> regional site are scheduled for tomorrow.
  - 2) CAL FIRE CCI Forest Health – Blue Rush & Hugger **(I)** Executive Director  
Approved for all the costs down to the penny, will be closing that out moving forward.
  - 3) Auberry Mill Site – MMR/Woodard-Curran/CEC District Dev'l Advisor  
Was discussed earlier in the meeting.
  - 4) Teaming with Highway 168 FSC Peterson Rd & Pine Ridge **(I)** FOS / ED  
Introduced the Pine Ridge Forest Improvement Program for 50k to the community the previous Saturday.
- Q. NRCS/AFT SJV Collaborative, CDFA CUSP and NRCS CIC for producers **(I)** Ag-Rangeland Staff  
RCPP progress next steps to move the three RCPP applications and move them forward. Important to finish the conservation plans this month. Alyssa Flores has been working on outreach for the small growers and did some technical assistance for one small grower. The CIC Grand Bluffs project, had a cultural and natural resource monitoring last month and that report is in the works. Then green light to move forward with

implementation will have to wait until after Fire season and then some brainstorming on the funding for the project.

- R. Web Site & District Enterprise Operations Development & support **(I)** District Admin/Consultant  
Website moving to ca.gov will be a longer process than originally intended and the website updates Alyssa Flores is providing, updates will be sent out soon to everyone when they are complete.
- S. Programs & Projects Status Report **(I)** Staff / Exec. Director  
Was sent to board members for distribution. \$1million in projects in progress.
- T. Grant Opportunities Tracking List **(I)** District Program Admin  
Was sent to the board members. 17 current opportunities and \$23 million in projects. \$4 million have been in review. \$8 and a half million in development.

**V. Financial Reports**

- A. Monthly Reports **(I)** Treasurer / Exec. Director  
The monthly reports were submitted.
- B. Draft Budget & Income 2022/2023 **(I) (A)** Treasurer / Exec. Director  
The draft budget is being put together, looking at options for creating discretionary income and income to become available between grant invoices and projects.
- C. QuickBooks Online Migration **(I)** DP&A / ED  
No update at this time.
- D. Review & Approval Expenses - Joint Institute for Wood Innovation & SCALE**(I)(A)** Directors  
John Heywood and Steve Haze are requesting permission for the wood innovations conference in Sacramento.  
**Gary Temple made a motion to approve trip expenses up to \$1,000 for the trip. Alan Fry seconded the motion. All voted and the motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. Reports:**

- A. NRCS Report – RCD Local Working Group Alex Hepler, DC
- B. RC&D Report – Meeting of 4/28 DP&A / Exec. Director
- E. CARCD – Forestry Committee Directors / ED
- D. Correspondence, Fresno County LAFCo Responses Directors / ED
- E. Other – Articles, stories, and blogs All

Gary Temple thanked everyone for the wonderful work everyone is doing.

**VII. Adjournment – Next Meeting: Monday, June 27, 2022 – at Clovis Veterans Memorial Room 2 & via MS Teams**

To make changes/additions/corrections please call or email: Kelly Kucharski – 856-2093 / [kkucharski@sierrarcid.com](mailto:kkucharski@sierrarcid.com)

Meeting adjourned 5:07pm