

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order** President
- A. Director roll call
Quorum: Pete Lassatovich, Alan Fry, Gary Temple, Matt Hurley
- B. Introduction of guests
Guest: Erin Capuchino(YSRCDC), Anna Gonzalez(USDA), John Heywood (SRCDC), Mikhael Kazzi(USDA), Bret Rush, Johnnie Silliznoff(USDA)
SRCD Staff: Kelly Kucharski(Co ED), Karin Roux(Co ED), Tanner Michaelson(CFRCC), Daisy Guzman(Admin Assistant)
- II. Approval of Minutes for April 24, 2022** Directors
Director Hurley moved for the passing of the April minutes, Director Fry seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.(4-0)
- III. Public Comment for any item not on the agenda (No Action can be taken)**
None
- IV. Partner Reports**
- A. NRCS Report – RCD Local Working Group Fresno County DC
- a. Mikhael Kazzi provided updates on Onfarm Recharge work efforts of NRCS. Sierra Foothill Conservancy hosting a workshop with UCANR and NRCS on Blue Oak Management.
- V. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics – (I): Info / (A) Action**
- A. Financial Management **(I)** Co-ED Roux
- 1) Update on Change Authorized Signatories on bank accounts
- a. Changes complete on Umpqua accounts. SRCD is still waiting for final letter approvals for Central Valley community bank changes to finalize transition.
- 2) CA CLASS Investment Program
- a. Transferred funds successfully.
- 3) QuickBooks Online Transition
Co-EDs set up meeting with consultant Susan Werner to meet staff member Daisy Guzman and start training for bookkeeping duties.
- 4) Approval Process for 2023-2024 Budget Co-ED Roux
Reviewing last year’s budget as reference for new yearly budget. Will make new adjustments. The plan is to have a draft completed and emailed to the Board members in early June then make final decision at the June Board Meeting.
- B. Forestry and Watershed Program Co-ED Kucharski
- 1) Notice of CEQA Exemption **(A)**
- i. Need CEQA form to start project.
Director Hurley moved to approve the filling of CEQA, Director Lassatovich seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously (4-0)
Whispering Springs Shaded Fuel Break Project
- 2) Notice of Award **(I)**
Department of Water Resources Prop 1 Round 2 Mountain Counties - SSRWMG
Sierra RCD, UC Merced, Lawrence Livermore Labs, CSU Eastbay - \$1,095,667
The proposal included a certain amount for each sub-project allocated within the budget; two will be run by Sierra RCD. Two of the projects are Decision Support tools (research): one with UC Merced and the other at CSU Eastbay.
- 3) College Corps Program and Forestry Field Assistant **(I)**

- i. Sierra RCD had four College Corps this past year – three with Forestry, one with the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative and is reapplying for a new cohort of interns because it was overall a positive experience. Henry Mendoza who started as a Collage Corp was offered a full-time position as a forestry field assistant, he is starting this month (May). This new cohort would start in August.

4) **Resiliency Center and SRCD Auberry Office (I)**

Tanner Michaelson

- i. There has been brainstorming on what the Creek Fire Recovery Collaborative will be moving towards in the future. They will be working on building wildfire resiliency by creating a Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD). VOADs exist in communities and counties to prepare them for disasters; yet, one is not established in the Fresno County. SRCD found new office space in Auberry and would like to have the new office space serve as an emergency preparedness resources center. Currently fundraising and seeking from PG & E, Bank of America and California's Strategic Growth Council.

5) **Biomass Utilization CERF/SJRC (I)**

District Advisor Heywood

John Heywood reporting update on business plan, ATIP, and CERF. CWDG -USDA integration discussed with business plan. Upcoming UCANR tour of Northfork biomass facility

VI. Financial Reports:

A. **Monthly Reports (I)**

Treasurer/Co-ED Roux

Melanie Broderson, doing a more detailed reconciliation of past transactions. Susan is continuing integrating transactions in QuickBooks. Daisy is identifying grant purchases and assigning account/account number to transactions for QuickBooks.

VII. Adjournment – Next Meeting: Monday, June 26, 2023 – at Clovis Veterans Memorial Room 2 & via MS Teams

To make changes/additions/corrections please email: Daisy Guzman dguzman@sierrarc.com