



**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, July 24, 2023, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm**  
**Clovis Memorial Building – Room 2, 453 Hughes, Clovis, CA & Via MS Teams**

**Minutes**

Directors present:

Pete Lassotovitch, Gary Temple, Matt Hurley, Alan Fry

Staff:

Kelly Kucharski, Karin Roux, Daisy Guzman, Tanner Michaelson,

Consultant:

John Heywood

Guest:

Mikhael Kazzi (NRCS)

**I. Approval of Minutes for June 2023**

Directors

*Director Lassotovitch motions to pass the June minutes, Director Fry seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously (4-0)*

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

No public comment was made.

**III. Partner Reports**

**A. NRCS Report**

- 1) NRCS staff are completing contract obligations, including one SJVLWCC RCPP project. Contracts are due August 30th. Still under the direction of acting DC Myra Dick. Continuing training with Mason Roth. At a regular bimonthly meeting with AFT and other RCDs last week there was discussion on the Onfarm Recharge practice and the need for further clarification of roles between different NRCS staff. At this time there is a request to only reach out to producers in the Fresno Irrigation District because they are the only district at the time that has an agreement to distribute/receive surface water resources. This is the second year of the pilot program in the NRCS and the 1st year in the Fresno area, therefore details of the program are still being worked out. Reported by Mikhael Kazzi.

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

**A. SRCD Programs Updates (I)**

- 1) Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) *Roux*  
Environmental and Climate Report and Presentations  
SRCD and Yosemite Sequoia RCDC were hired to create an environmental and climate report. The public will be able to view it and give their review. The public will also have a time period where they can call and ask questions about the report. Due to the size of the report, SRCD and YSRCDC will have presentations for each regional group to present on each topic thoroughly. SRCD will participate in the CERF program for 18 months, where they are the environmental partner contributing. For the SRCD August Agenda, there will be time to present what has been sent out thus far.
- 2) Agriculture and Rangeland *Roux*  
Prior to this Board meeting, Board members were provided a written quarterly update on the activities of the Agriculture and Rangeland Program. Karin Roux (SRCD) answered questions from the Board related to the update.
- 3) Forestry and Watershed *Kucharski*

Kelly Kucharski (SRCD) went over an overall overview of the program and highlights of the Forestry team for the first six months of 2023. In 2018, SRCD completed two wildfire protections plans which helped communities move forward with grant funding. SRCD was granted an amount that came just in time for the unexpected Creek fire of 2020. In 2022, 12 community workdays were held, 41 survivors got hazards trees removed, 102 fuels reduction projects, 165 Fire Risk Evaluations, 200 properties were treated, and 208 treatment acres were accounted for. The SRCD Forestry team has been able to achieve a lot through different volunteers like AmeriCorps teams. Some technological programs used by this team are ESRI ArcPro, GIS mapping, Survey 123, and Field Mapper. Future Forestry team goals include creating a Forester Apprentice Program with the help of Forester Guy Anderson who is a consultant for SRCD. SRCD is working out the technicalities of the program but would like to use this opportunity to compete on the job market and promote a career as a Forester.

I. **Long-Term Strategy and Organizational Leadership (I)**

*Kucharski*

a. Executive Leadership Structure

Per request from the Board of Directors, Karin Roux and Kelly Kucharski (SRCD) provided a recommendation on leadership structure going forward. The recommendation included having one qualified individual as the District Manager and the suggestion of a Deputy Manager under the District Manager.

**Closed Session**

*Board Members*

Re: Personnel Matters

Government Code § 54957: Public Employment (Executive Director)

Adjournment – Next Meeting: Monday, August 28, 2023 – at Clovis Veterans Memorial Room 2 & via MS Teams

To make changes/additions/corrections please email: Daisy Guzman [dguzman@sierrarc.com](mailto:dguzman@sierrarc.com)

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