# Text  Description automatically generated with low confidenceMONTHLY BOARD MEETING

**Monday, March 25, 2024, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Clovis Memorial Building – Room 2, 453 Hughes, Clovis, CA & Via MS Teams**

# Minutes

1. **Call to Order** *President*
	1. Pledge of Allegiance
	2. Director roll call

Pete Lassotovitch, Alan Fry, Joe Denham, Matt Hurley

* 1. Introduction of guests

Kelly Kucharski, Karin Roux, John Heywood, Daisy Guzman, Ross Viveros (California Special Districts), Johnnie Siliznoff (NRCS)

* 1. Core Values: Stewardship, Responsibility, Innovation *Manager*
1. **Approval of Minutes from February 2024 (A)**

***Director Hurley moved to approve the February minutes, Director Fry seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0)***

*President*

1. **Public Comment for any item not on the agenda (No action can be taken)**
2. **Partner Reports (I)**
	1. NRCS Report

Assistant State Conservationist Johnnie Siliznoff gives an update on their applications with 30% of their applications becoming contracts by April 15th. He also informed the Board of the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). CSP is a program that rewards landowners for continuing to do conservation work on their land.

1. **SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics: (I) Info / (A) Action**
	1. Financial Management and Reports *Manager*
		1. Financial Reports **(I)/(A)**

SRCD hired a new Controller, Sokmarly In, and had her update financial reports up to February 2024.

* + - 1. Fiscal Year-to-Date Balance and Profit and Loss
			2. 2024 Balance and Profit and Loss

***Director Matt Hurley moved to receive the financials in the currect state, Director Denham seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0)***

* + 1. Equipment Loan Policy **(A)**

District Manager Kelly Kucharski explains the opportunity of loaning the District’s equipment. The equipment includes 3 off road vehicles, star bots and a gasifier with an attached power panel. Fresno State is interested in utilizing the star bots and gasifier with the power panel. The San Joaquin River Conservancy and the Parkway Trust are also interested in having a staff member use an off-road vehicle for property maintenance. The off-road vechiles are currently being maintenance to make them operational. The Board is interested in renting out the equipment but requests more information to approve any agreement.

***Director Denham moved to approve Kelly Kucharski’s further investigation into the agreement with Fresno State for equipment usage, Director Fry seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0)***

* 1. Resolutions or Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) *Manager*
		1. Big Sandy Rancheria Biomass Utilization Solutions Partnership MOU **(I)**

The Board read the MOU and requested to change the document to a Letter of Intent to show a willingness on both sides.

* + 1. Resolution for Tribal Biomass Campus Development Project **(A)**

The resolution was reviewed and edited to authorize the Manager and District Development Advisor to seek and utilize resources to further develop the project.

***Director Denham moved to approve the resolution as amended, Director Lassatovitch seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0)***

* + 1. Resolution for Sierra Nevada Conservancy Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program Round 3 **(A)**

SRCD was selected for Round 3 of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program.

***Director Hurley moved to pass resolution as amended, Director Fry seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0)***

* + 1. CA State University Fresno Biomass Utilization Education and Demonstration Innovations MOU **(I)**

Kelly Kucharski SRCD is working with Fresno State to establish a Biomass Utilization Education Initiative

* + 1. Reedley College Wildland Fire and SRCD Forestry and Watershed Program MOU **(I)**

SRCD is working on an MOU to have Reedley College Wildland Fire collaborate with the Forestry and Watershed team to work on projects within the program.

* + 1. Northern California United Way MOU **(I)**

SRCD is working on a MOU for the $9,000 Northern California United Way awarded to The District. Collective Impact Program for establishing a Fresno County Volunteers Active in Disasters Organization

* 1. District Awards *Manager*
		1. San Joaquin Valley Carbon Cycle Institute Regional Hub Governance $4,166 **(I)**

SRCD Agriculture and Rangeland program was awarded a grant to continue working with carbon farming and be part of the Regional Carbon Hub governance committee.

* + 1. Strategic Planning California Association of Resource Conservation Districts **(I)**

CARCD will fund strategic planning for District Manager Kelly Kucharski and the Board of Directors to participate in.

* 1. Sierra RCD Programs *Manager*
		1. District Newsletter **(I)**

The District launched its first newsletter that is available to the public electronically. To subscribe sign up on the RCD website.

* + 1. Agriculture and Rangeland Presentation **(I)** *K. Roux*

Ag and Rangeland Program Manager Roux gave a presentation on the work and status of the Program. The Program is divided into 2 groups, Regenerative Agriculture and Community Outreach and Support. Regenerative Agriculture focuses on Carbon Farming and other Conservation Ag planning. Community Outreach and Support focuses on Small-Mid-Scale Producers and Ranches with an emphasis on historically underserved communities.

1. **Adjournment – Next Meeting: April 22nd, 2024 – at Clovis Veterans Memorial Room 2 & via MS Teams**

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

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