

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 23rd, 2026, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Clovis Memorial Building – Room 2, 453 Hughes, Clovis, CA & Via MS Teams

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order** *President*
- A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Director Roll Call
Pete Lassatovitch, Joe Denham, Alan Fry, Matt Hurley.
 - C. Introduction of Guests
Don Dukleth (Guest), Chelsea Hutchens (SRCD), Erwin Duenas (NRCS), Michael (Guest), Katheryn Pitkin (US Fish & Wildlife), Don Griffith (Guest), John Heywood, Sokmarly In (SRCD), Kelly Kucharski (SRCD), John Heywood (SRCD Consultant), Daisy Guzman (SRCD), Vanessa Ryan (Tri Counties Bank)
 - D. Core Values: Stewardship, Responsibility, Innovation
- II. Approval of Minutes from February 2026 (A)**
Director Denham motioned to approve Februarys Board minutes, Director Hurley seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0-0) *President*
- III. Public Comment for any item not on the agenda (No action can be taken)**
- IV. Partner Reports (I)**
- A. NRCS Report
NRCS is continuing to receive and process applications. They have got a surplus of money which will be distributed to RCDs so they can continue to help NRCS with ground work. Erwin Duenas also explained that their unfunded agreements got approved so they will be able to have SRCD technicians use NRCS vehicles to continue their work.
- V. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics: (I) Info / (A) Action**
- A. Financial Management
 - 1) Financial Reports: AR Aging, AP Aging, Balance Sheet FY 25-26, Cash Flow Projection **(I)** *Controller*
Financial Controller made a financial report summary that was shared with the board of directors. She went over the cash flow projection and explained different reimbursements SRCD is waiting for.
 - 2) (R2-2026) Resolution Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of Grant Anticipation Notes **(A)** *Manager*
California Special District Association’s Working Capital Financing Program with Tri Counties Bank for Sierra RCD’s San Joaquin River Conservancy Nature Based Solutions and Fire Fuel Reduction Project C23100016 Not to exceed \$750k or 50% of grant fund.

Vanessa Ryan joined the SRCD board meeting to further discuss the financing program tri cities offers in collaboration with CSDA. There were questions regarding the length of the loan agreement and options if the agreement needed to be extended. The board is asking to hold a workshop before the meeting to get a better understanding of the details of the agreement before a final decision is made. Furthermore, the board is asking to see a detailed budget for the grants.

Director Hurley motioned to accept the terms set on the term sheet and authorize the District to move forward with documentation for further consideration by the board, Director Denham seconded the motion. All present voted in favor and motion passed unanimously. (4-0-0)
 - B. Projects and Programs *Manager*
(F/W – Forestry, C/I – Collective Impact, A/R – Agriculture, ASG – Alignment Strategies Group)
 - 1) New Hire Katie Dupras Firewise Coordinator – C/I **(I)**
 - 2) New award Sierra Nevada Conservancy Fresno County Wildfire Defense Accelerator: Operational Fuel Break Project in Fresno County \$993,541 – ASG **(I)**
SRCD was awarded this grant to manage fuel break projects in Fresno County. This new award will fund projects that the Alignment Strategies group of SRCD will take on.
 - C. Board of Directors

1) Brown Act Update SB 707 (I)

Guest

The District Manager went over the new Brown Act updates. Kelly Kucharski also mentioned that the board members were given a copy of the Brown Act as required by law.

Director Denham left for the remainder of the meeting.

2) Long Range Plan 2025-2030 Adoption (A)

Manager

The district manager gave an overview of the 5-year plan for the district to adopt. She mentioned some of the updates she made which were mostly in the long-range plan outlook. There was updated language and objectives added for the forest. Some of the land outcomes were based on California's Nature Based Solution target goals. Director Hurley mentioned making an annual plan to go with the 5-year plan so that the District could map out how they are reaching the 5 year plan goals.

Director Fry motioned to approve the Long-Range Plan, Director Lassatovitch seconded the motion. There were 2 votes in favor, 1 vote opposed, and 1 vote abstained, motion passed by majority vote. (2-1-1)

3) Closed Session: District Manager Compensation Review (A)

President

The board held a closed session with the District Manager for an annual review.

Director Fry motioned to approve the District Managers 11% raise, Director Lassatovitch seconded the motion.

There were 2 votes in favor, 1 vote opposed and 1 vote abstained, motion passed by majority vote. (2-1-1)

VI. **Adjournment – Next Meeting: April 27, 2026 3pm-5pm Location TBD**

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