



SIERRA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

Monday, October 23, 2017 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Clovis Memorial Building, 453 Hughes, Room 2, Clovis, Ca. 93612

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER: 4:15pm

Meeting called to order by President Pete Lassotovitch at 4:05 pm.
Roll Call: Directors present were Pete Lassotovitch, Alan Fry, Ted Kimbler
Associate Directors: John Heywood
Staff present: Steve Haze, Jeannie Habben, Vue Her
Guest: Rebecca Ozeran – University Cooperative Extension
Partners present: Hugo Calvillo (NRCS), Rob Roy (NRCS)
Absent: Gary Temple, Sherman Pennebaker

II. Approval of Minutes for August Meeting (no meeting in September)

Alan F made the motion to accept the minutes from August; Ted K second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

No public comments

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

- A. Introduction of Craig Jones, Project Coordinator (I)
Not present
- B. Carbon Management & 2015-2020 Long Range Plan (I) (A)
Most of the changes to the Long-Range Plan are based on a Carbon Management grant received. The most significant changes were made on pages 8, 10, and 12 of the existing Long-Range Plan; this is discussing partnerships and establishing commitment to carbon management. Ted K made the motion to accept the amendments/changes to the Long-Range Plan, Alan F second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. DOC – REV Grant – (I)
The first report/invoice has been submitted to DOC for the first quarter of the REV grant and has been paid. The second quarter invoice will go in next month.
- D. Tree Mortality Task Force – Utilization – Market Development Working Group (I) (A)
This working group is for utilization and development. At the October meeting they discussed the group roster and made minor changes to the working group. They also gave information on projects outside of the HHZ Counties. This may be a monthly meeting.
- E. Dinkey Collaborative – Public Awareness and Education Program (I)
The prior month was cancelled and the agreement with USFS is moving forward. This agreement and the agreement with the facilitator will be finalized soon.
- F. Tree Mortality Crisis and Biomass Resource Management Development
 - 1. Auberry Mill Site as Opportunity & SNC funding (I)

SRCD hit a roadblock to receive the funding that is available due to the CEQA requirement. John H is now working on the appraisal of the property; the appraisal needs to be scaled back until the funding is received and we will require a full appraisal. SNC stated that we could apply for a planning grant for the maximum of \$75,000 that also can be used for this process. Alan F made the motion to move forward with the Planning grant application; Ted K second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Fresno County RAC Proposal (I)
SRCD's application received approval for \$6,200.00. This will be used towards the appraisal of the Auberry Mill Site. Funding will not be received until after the Federal fiscal year.
3. RCPP with GOPR & CARCD (I)
Resource Conservation Partnership Proposal – SRCD also sent a letter of support for CARCD. The full amount requested by CARCD was \$10M; SRCD will be part of that. Unknown how much SRCD will receive.
4. Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force (I)
CalFire cancelled the last meeting due to fires all over California.
5. SJV Air Pollution Control District – Emissions Reduction Proposal (I)
SJVAPCD has the same type of program for tractor exchange as the NRCS has, though they are run a little different. Derek R, one of the SRCD interns, is working on this program with NRCS on behalf of SRCD.
6. All Power Labs (APL) – CA Energy Commission (CEC) – Epic Project – Unfunded Finalist – Contact w/CEC (I)
CRCD was an unfunded finalist. An additional \$5M was freed up as one of the recipients dropped out. SRCD requested \$3M and is waiting to see if the CEC will have decided to fund the project. This could be 5 units/containers each about 150kw production for bioenergy. (under EPIC Project)
7. CALFIRE Forest Health 2017 Grant Program – USFS (I)
SRCD needs to get ready to begin the project as soon as they get the green light.
8. CFSC – Community Wildlife Protection Plans – OTTL & 168 (I)
Craig J has taken over this project on behalf of the SRCD. He has meetings lined-up to meet with OTTL and 168 to assist with their plans.
9. Fresno EOC/LCC MOU (I) (A)
Steve H provided a copy of the MOU between the Fresno County Economics Opportunities Commission and SRCD. He requested a signature for approval. The purpose of this agreement is to establish a framework of collaboration and partnership, in support of SRCD and the Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps. Alan F made the motion to accept the MOU as presented; Ted K second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously. Pete L signed the MOU.

G. Programs & Projects Status Report (I)

Steve H distributed the list of funded programs; he explained nine programs. There are two NRCS agreements as well as the DOC REV grant, the DLRP, and the CFSC Wildfire Protection Plan programs are a few of them.

- H. NRCS – Diesel Tractor Replacement AQ Program (I)
Derek R is working with Ted Strauss for this program on the SRCD's behalf. (National Air Quality Incentive Program) The program will be started again at the fiscal year. To sign-up for the program, contact the NRCS field office.
- I. NRCS – Conservation Planning & Support for SE Asian Specialty Growers (I)
Vue H worked on a Hmong farm last week planting hedge rows. He will next work on row crops with a farmer who is doing a mixture of peas, beans, oats, and vegs. SRCD is becoming more involved with "on the ground" projects through the internship
- J. Kings Basin Water Authority/ So. Sierra IRWM / SGMA WG / GSAs (I)
Nothing to report at this time.
- K. Grant Opportunities Tracking List (I)
Steve H distributed the list of funding opportunities that are currently available, and proposals submitted. This list shows grants applied for, grants awarded, and grants or projects being reviewed and/or in process in some respect.
- L. Web Site support – REV Funding and Hand-Off Required (I)
This is being funded through the REV funding. Ted K has taken the lead on this project/task. Steve H has been posting the agenda and minutes on the current website. Ted will be meeting with a person regarding building the website.
- M. Other – Ted K suggested marketing for the RCD. Items he suggested were: Business cards; Names tags; Brochures; Storyboards and other Promo items. Jeannie H will look into creating or acquiring some of these.

IV. Financial Report

- A. Monthly Reports (I)
Steve H distributed and discussed the:
 - Check Register printed as of October 23, 2017 for last statement date of September 30, 2017
- B. Annual Audit (I)
Lan Kimoto with the Jolley Accounting office is currently completing the annual audit for the RCD. It should be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- C. Line of Credit based upon A/R and grants (I) (A)
Steve H is researching this to assist with managing the SRCD cashflow.
Alan F made the motion to allow Steve to move forward with researching this; Ted K second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. Review & Approval of expenses – CARCD expenses above REV (I) (A)
Nothing to approve at this time.

V. Reports:

- A. NRCS Report:

Hugo C. is covering for in the Fresno Field office, the DC position still has not been released for applicants. Curtis T. is currently acting as State Conservationist while Carlos S is in Puerto Rico assisting/working. Rob R also joined the meeting from the NRCS and reported on the Catastrophic Fire Recovering Program; the state of CA NRCS just received \$4 million for forestland and rangeland where fires have damaged or destroyed structures, fences, and other items on properties from the recent fires; especially those that were previously provided by NRCS. This program is being expedited.

B. RC&D Report:

The next meeting is Thursday, October 26 at the Clovis Memorial Building. Jeannie H will attend these meetings on behalf of SRCD. Steve H will also attend. SRCD would like to nominate Supervisor Magsig for the executive staff of the RC & D to receive better representation in Fresno County.

C. CARCD – Area 9

The CARCD's 72nd Annual Conference is on November 15 to 18, at the Hilton Arden west in Sacramento. The REV funding will allow at least two members, one staff and one Director, to attend the conference. Steve H and Alan F will be attending. Ted K will also be attending; and will also represent the San Joaquin Region at the Saturday Business meeting. Alan F made the motion to send Ted K to the annual meeting as a third person paid for by the RCD; Pete L second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

The San Joaquin Valley Region/Area IX Regional Fall Meeting was on Friday, October 13, 2017 in Los Banos. This meeting was hosted by Grasslands RCD. Jeannie H is looking at consolidating the RCDs in the region. There are several RCDs that have been inactive for a while and these are possibly in jeopardy of becoming dissolved. SRCD can get involved with the inactive RCDs in Fresno County.

D. Correspondence, Fresno County EA Responses

No correspondence

E. Other: Cancellation of Board for November & December – Holidays (A)

Alan F made the motion to skip the next two months due to holiday scheduling; Ted K second the motion; all voted, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment: 6:00 pm – Next meeting: Monday, January 22, 2018 – Room 2

Respectfully Submitted, Jeannie Habben