



**Chowchilla Red Top  
Resource Conservation District  
Post Office Box 531  
Chowchilla, CA 93610**



*Tuesday, February 20, 2017 - 2:00 pm  
Chowchilla Red Top Resource Conservation District  
Chowchilla Library, Chowchilla*

**I. Roll Call and Introductions**

- Flag Salute  
Jack Fry, Sandra Faust, Norm Kuhr, Tim Coelho, Jeannie Habben, Mark Hutson,  
Johnnie Siliznoff, Tim Coelho

**II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda**

- February 2018 Agenda
- January 2018 Minutes  
Norm K made the motion to accept the minutes and the agenda as presented with one addition; Sandra F second the motion; all voted and passed unanimously  
The addition of Spring Area IX meeting.

**III. Updates, Handout, and Public Comments**

- It was reported that the next Chowchilla Sub-basin meeting will be at the Chowchilla Water District office on March 7 at 2:00.
- CARCD is being recommended for the full \$10 million dollars requested to assist landowners in removing dead and dying trees in the High Mortality Areas of the Sierra Nevadas. CARCD will be coordinating with over 35 partners including local RCDs to assist the hard-hit landowners. The planning meeting was on Wednesday, February 14 at 12:00 noon – this is a conference call.
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy is holding a free 2-day Grant Writing Workshop on March 22 and 23. It will be at the North Fork CDC Office at the old Mill Site.
- The next Madera County Ag Roundtable is on Friday, March 16 at 11:00 to 1:00. It will be at the Madera Community College. This meetings discussion will include safety preparedness.
- 2018 San Joaquin Livestock Symposium: Back to Basics by the University of California Cooperative Extension. At the Kearney Research and Extension Center on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 1:45 to 6:30.
- Urban Black Farmer Conference, Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, from 8am – 4pm, Maxi Parks Community Center, for more information and registration: [www.wfresnofrc.org](http://www.wfresnofrc.org).  
“Growing Together”

- 27<sup>th</sup> Annual State Environmental Competition, California Envirothon is on Saturday, April 4 at the Wind Wolves Preserve, in Tejon, CA. the 2018 Theme is “Western Rangeland: Balancing Diverse Viewed.” [www.envirothon.org](http://www.envirothon.org)
- 2018 California Tribal Water Summit is an event designed to address a wide array of issues, regarding concerns from the upper watershed to the downstream beneficiaries, between the State of California agencies and California Native American Tribes. The purpose of this Summit is to continue the collaboration between Tribes and the State by including Tribal perspectives and contributions into the California Water Plan Update. It will be from Wednesday, April 4 2018, 8:30 AM to Thursday, April 5, 2018, 4:00 PM at the McClellan Conference Center, 5411 Luce Avenue, McClellan Park, CA.
- Jeannie H announced that Glenn Franklin from the Mariposa County RCD passed away the first part of February after over a decade battle with cancer.

#### **IV. Correspondence & Mail**

- Correspondence  
The only correspondence received was the bank statement.

#### **V. Financial Report**

- Monthly Treasurer’s Report  
Jeannie H distributed the monthly financial report.  
Norm K made the motion to accept the financial report as presented; Sandra F second the motion; all voted and passed unanimously
- Invoices to be Paid  
There were no new invoices to be paid. The RCD still owes the RCD Coordinator but will pay when the account is built back up.

#### **VI. New Business**

- Review DOC REV Grant
  - SGMA Brochure  
Jeannie H distributed the brochure she created for educational distribution at upcoming meetings and workshops. The group reviewed them and approved for distribution.
  - Healthy Soils Brochure  
Jeannie H distributed the brochure she created for educational distribution at upcoming meetings and workshops. The group reviewed them and approved for distribution.
  - Cover Crop Booklet  
Jeannie H will use the Healthy Soils Brochure to cover this topic, and will expand at the upcoming workshop or group meeting that will be happening sometime this year.
- Review Tier 1 Annual Requirements
  - Ethics Training
  - Sexual Harassment Training

Jeannie H is working with a representative from Golden State Resource Management Agency, the RCD's insurance company, to create a one-day class for the RCDs to come together and attend to get both training requirements met at the same time. She will keep this on the agenda for further notice.

- Durable Collaboration – Solid Ground Consulting – March 1 meeting
  - Consolidation with Madera RCD  
Matt Angel conferenced into the meeting and requested that the meeting with Solid Ground Consulting be held at the Farm Service Agency office one hour before the Madera RCD meeting. By using the same conference room, both RCD boards can meet together and learn from SGC about the benefits of consolidation and the first steps required.
  
- Spring Area IX meeting  
The Spring San Joaquin Valley Regional RCD meeting will be Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The meeting will be hosted by Chowchilla Red Top RCD. We will be working on ordering the food and providing the service. The meeting will be held at the Fossil Discovery Center of Madera County. (19450 Ave 21 ½, Chowchilla. The agenda will be coming soon but RCD members are asked to:
  - Think about who you will nominate for the open board positions – there will be an election at the meeting
  - Don't forget to line-up some great raffle prizes to represent your RCD
  - Invite Board Directors, Associate Directors, and Prospective Directors to a fun meeting to learn about RCDsIt was suggested that the RCD could have the Minarets FFA Ag Issues team come to the Area meeting to give their presentation on Impacts of Precision Agriculture. This would be a good lunchtime presentation and would assist the students with their requirement of group presentations.
  
- Triple T/White Area – Appropriative Water Rights  
Mark H came to the meeting to explain the new Triple T Water District and their involvement with SGMA and the formation of the groundwater white areas. He reported that Chris White from CCID came to Triple T to talk about subsidence and ended up funding a study. They found to maintain the aquifer they need to bring in about 10k acre/ft a year. They now have 1,600 acres set aside for recharge in the area as well as 500 acres on Triangle T for recharge. They did an experimental area and found that the recharge area worked. OES now has funds for flood projects that Triangle T may be interested in applying for.  
Through research, they have found that SWRCB has stated that they will be required to have an appropriative right permit. They have been talking to Red Top growers and others to assess who would be acceptable to hold appropriative rights of the water in the area. One of the suggestions is the Chowchilla Red Top RCD. They could act as a neutral party. The goals would be to recreate the flood plains, improve ground water levels, improve aquifers, and creating habitat – habitat continuity. With this, the goal that only 5% of the land would be fallow not 60%. We have to tell the story not have it told to us.

## **VII. Old Business**

- NRCS Report

It was reported the first batching period brought over \$2M to this county. Over twenty tractors were funded but they did not have many irrigation systems submitted or funded. The next batching period starts in April. The Madera NRCS office would like to make Madera County strong in agriculture and possibly work with landowners to start building a habitat continuity. If we don't have a vision, we won't have a direction.

- **Board Recruitment**  
Jeannie H shared a flyer she created to distribute on line to show that members are needed to recruit new members. The flyer states that we are looking for new members to join us! The RCDs participate and assist others in the wise use of natural resources in your area. The flyer shows the priorities are: Water issues, groundwater management, bio-energy, rangeland improvement, coordinated watershed management, invasive species control, and tree mortal. Who is on a Resource Conservation District (RCD) Board? RCDs are made up of community members or landowners who have knowledge and interest in natural resources, educating the community, and doing projects on the land. Membership is typically made up of local farmers, ranchers, educators, and business owners. This will be used for Coarsegold, Chowchilla Red Top, Madera, and Sierra Resource Conservation District.
  
- **Madera Region IRWMP/RWMP – Report**
  - February 12 – Madera, Madera Govt. Center
  - March 12 – Madera, Madera Govt. CenterIt is time for the “Call for Projects” for the Madera Region Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update. The RWMP is currently working with QK, the Engineering firm, to update our Plan to the Proposition 1 Standards. This is the time to add all the projects that groups have been planning or wanting to plan. It is important to have your project in the Plan to be ready to pull when the funding is available. The form went out to the list serve to solicit projects.

**VIII. Items for Next Meeting: March 20, 2018; 2:00pm  
300 King Avenue, Chowchilla, CA 93610**

**IX. Adjourn: 4:25**