



**Madera/Chowchilla  
Resource Conservation District  
Post Office Box 531  
Chowchilla, CA 93610**



*Wednesday, January 9, 2019 - 5:00 pm  
Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District  
Farm Service Agency Conference Room, Madera*

**I. Roll Call and Introductions – 5:00**

- Flag Salute  
Board Members: Jack Fry, Sandra Faust, Norm V Kuhr, Tim Coelho, Tom Petrucci, Jay Bellach  
Staff: Jeannie Habben  
Partners: Priscilla Baker – Madera NRCS, Taylor Fridrich – Madera NRCS  
Absent Board Members: Catherine Machado, Matt Angell  
Guests: Samantha Lopes – Farm Management Services & Triangle T

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

- January 2019 Agenda
- November 2018 Minutes
- December 2018 Minutes  
Jay B made a motion to approve the agenda and both minutes as presented; Jack F second the motion; all voted; motion is carried unanimously.

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

- Triangle T is hosting a workshop for the bee sustainability hosted by the almond board on 8:45 to noon on Thursday, January 16. Samantha L reported and will be sending a flyer.
- Taylor F shared information regarding the 2019 California Rangeland Summit Photo Contest, which has passed but happens every year. The Rangeland Summit will be on Tuesday, January 15 in Stockton from 9:00am to 3:30pm and they will be focusing on “Preventing Catastrophic Wildfire in CA – The Role of Livestock Grazing” in the Robert Cabral Ag Center.
- Fresno State is holding two free symposiums in January. On January 22, they will hold “Water and the Future of the San Joaquin Valley” from 9:00 to 1:30 and on January 24, they are holding “Water Market Exchange Symposium” from 8:00 to 4:30. These will both be held in the Satellite Student Union.
- Word of the night – Yazoo – A Yazoo stream is a geologic and hydrologic term for any tributary stream that runs parallel to and within the floodplain of a larger river for considerable distance, before eventually joining it.

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

- Correspondence  
The RCD received the monthly bank statement. Each group also received the Madera LAFCO notice for the public protest hearing.

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

- Monthly Treasurer's Report  
The Board discussed the January Treasurer's Report presented by Jeannie H. Jeannie H was able to have consolidation costs reimbursed by CARCD/Solid Ground Consulting for hours in August through November. All consolidation work will be funded straight through CARCD/Solid Ground consulting to Jeannie H through the end of February. This is the goal of completion for the Consolidation.
- Invoices to be Paid  
No invoices were paid, there are three invoices outstanding for the RCD Coordinator and those will be paid as reimbursement checks are received from the DOC. The reimbursement checks have been held at the state level because they are requesting copies of cancelled checks to prove payment of some items.

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

- Review DOC REV Grant
  - Discussion and Signatures
    - Chowchilla Quarterly Invoice and Report
    - Madera Quarterly Invoice and Report  
Jeannie H presented both grants Quarterly invoice/report for signature. This is the Tier 1 grant for Madera RCD board members and the REV Grant for the Chowchilla Red Top members. Both were signed and will be sent to the DOC office in Sacramento before the end of January. Jack F signed for Chowchilla's invoices, Madera RCD will have to wait until the Fed Govt shut down ends and Debbie C can be reached for further information.
  - Grant Progress
    - Chowchilla – Tasks and Budget
    - Madera - Tasks and Budget  
Jeannie H presented the updated approved budgets for the Madera RCD grant and the Chowchilla Red Top RCD grant. Both of these boards submitted letters for the approval of moving funds in categories to maximize the use of the funds. Chowchilla Red Top RCD was able to has completed all the tasks in the grant accept for the presentation to the County BOS of the completed Consolidation. That will have to wait a couple of months still, so may be completed after the grant conclusion date.

Madera RCD was able to complete all tasks listed in the grant. These Tier 1 requirements will now be converted to the new consolidated board. Since both boards have met Tier 1, this will not be an issue. They are just waiting for Debbie C's final information to finalize the grant.

- Website Update
  - Bio-Forms and Pictures
 

Jeannie H distributed RCD Biography forms to be completed by the RCD board members. She also snapped a picture of those in attendance. This information along with these pictures will be submitted to the Web Master to add to the RCD Board Directors page on the new website. Jeannie H will mail this out to those not in attendance.
  - Maintenance Agreement
 

Jeannie H requested a Maintenance Agreement to cover at least the first 6 months of 2019 to continue to work on and update the new website. This will assist in getting things going as well as completing the website for the newly consolidated RCD.
- 700 Forms
  - 2019 Signatures
 

Jeannie H has the 2017/2018 700 forms on file. The board will sign the new 2019/2020 700 forms when they consolidate and have their new information in the file.
- Madera/Chowchilla RCD Consolidation
  - LAFCo Meeting - Wednesday, December 12, 2018
 

After the presentation of the board packet and discussion by and with the LAFCO Board, the motion for consolidation of Chowchilla Red Top RCD and Madera RCD passed 4 – 0. They stated that the next step is a 30- day protest period followed by the Protest Hearing on January 30, 2019. They will run the information in the Madera and the Chowchilla newspapers and then tally any comments that are submitted. Jeannie H will be working on the Legal Description to move toward having the new District when all has been approved.  
This will need to be recorded with the County and the State Board of Equalization.

Jeannie H will also be working on consolidating all the Tier One paperwork and files. After all of this has been completed, the board can work on the details such as the mailing address, post office box, banking signatures, and county account consolidation. The goal is to be completed and have the new district up and running by the end of the first quarter of 2019.
  - Map and Legal Description - Update
 

This has been a challenge. Jeannie H has the Legal Description for Chowchilla Red Top RCD, but it seems there was never a Legal Description filed for the Madera RCD when it was consolidated in 1995. The only available descriptions are those of the previous RCDs in that area with all of their annexations throughout the years; there are about 14 different descriptions. Jeannie H is working with a surveyor from Madera Pumps who is mapping all of the pieces. In the meantime, she is still in search of an easier way. She has spoken with various county offices to check the archives. After further research, the legal description is only needed if the RCD is filing with the State Board of Equalization. It was researched, and this is not required. The RCD is only required to record the consolidation with the County. This needs to be completed within a year of LAFCO accepting the change. The County only requires a map, not a legal description – so, a legal description is not needed at this time.

## **VII. Old Business**

- **Area IX – San Joaquin Valley Region – Executive Board Positions**  
The next Area IX- San Joaquin Valley Regional meeting will be held in April – Spring Meeting. This meeting usually has a tour associated with it, but no one has stepped up yet to host this meeting. Also, there will be nominations and a vote on a new executive board; all positions are available. The Treasurer must be filled as Jeannie H will no longer be available to cover for that position. It is currently held by someone who has never accepted the responsibilities and is no longer on any RCD board.
  
- **NRCS Report**  
There is currently a Federal Government shut-down, and this makes it difficult to move forward. NRCS is still working for a month with remaining funds from last year. If the shutdown lasts more than a month, they too will have to close. The new Farm Bill has been signed and there is not a lot of changes. They are still receiving calls for Tree Mortality; the office staff is also explaining the importance of brushing that is also needed for fire safety. Taylor Fridrich is a new partner biologist from Point Blue, a value-added employee to NRCS.
  
- **Madera Region IRWMP/RWMP – Report**
  - December 10 – Madera, Government Center
  - January 14 – Oakhurst, Raley's Super MarketQK completed the IRWM Plan Update to Prop 1 Standards. They handed the electronic version and hard copy over to Jeannie H for submission. Jeannie H submitted the Update to DWR on December 21 and received confirmation on January 4 from DWR that they have received the email and downloaded it. It is now in the IRWM review process per the 2016 Guideline requirements. DWR stated that they will notify the group when the draft review is complete and posted on the "DWR Proposition 1 IRWM Plan Review Process website for the 30-day public review period.

This group will also be recruiting for a new Administrative Assistant, and possibly someone to represent the group in the Mountain County DAC group and other tasks.

## **VIII. Items for Next Meeting: February 13, 2019; 5:00pm**

**Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera**

## **IX. Adjourn: 6:07**

Norm K made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jay B second the motion; all voted; motion is carried unanimously.