



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



Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 11 - 5:00 pm to 7:00pm

Farm Service Agency Conference Room, 425 N Gateway Drive, Madera

I. Roll Call and Introductions

- Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 5:15pm by Norman V Kuhr
- Flag Salute
- Introduction of Guests
- Directors: Erik Herman, Jay Bellach, Mike DeLaGuerra, Norman V. Kuhr, Matt Angell
- Directors Absent: Tom Petrucci, Tim Coelho
- Associate Directors: Jack Fry
- Staff: Laurel Angell, Stefani Dias
- Partners: Johnnie Siliznoff, Taylor Fridrich – NRCS
- Mark Hutson, Stephanie Anagnoson – Madera County, Pelayo Alvarez, Kristen Murphy (Phone)- CARCD

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda

- September 2019 Agenda
 - Additions?
 - Motion made to accept the August 2019 Agenda as presented, there was a second, all present directors voted and the motion was accepted unanimously.
- August 2019 Minutes
 - Motion made to accept the July 2019 Minutes as presented, there was a second, all present directors voted and the motion was accepted unanimously.

III. Updates, Handout, and Public Comments

- There were two versions of MID pamphlets explaining SGMA and MID's GSA role within the Madera Subbasin. One version was in English and the second in Spanish to reach all stakeholders in the Madera Subbasin.

IV. Correspondence & Mail

- Correspondence (Stefani)
 - None

V. Financial Report

- Monthly Treasurer's Report
 - The report was presented by Norman Kuhr and prepared by Stefani Dias.
 - County M/CRCD Balance - \$21,934.84
 - Chowchilla Red Top County Balance - \$7,603.07
 - Motion made to accept the treasurer's report as presented, there was a

second, all present directors voted and the motion was accepted unanimously.

- Letter to Consolidate County Accounts (pending board nominations)
 - This action that was previously voted on and passed will be finalized in the next 30 days.
- Review & Approval of Expenses
 - Laurel Angell (FINAL invoice for 3-month contract – May 15 to August 15)
 - Motion made to accept Laurel Angell’s invoice for her work as presented, there was a second, all present directors voted and the motion was accepted unanimously.
 - Others
 - No other expenses

VI. New Discussion Topics and Action Items

- Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water & Natural Resources, Madera County: Update on GSAs/GSPs
 - GSPs for the Madera Subbasin are out and currently accepting public comment until November 10th. There are two different forms you can fill out that Stephanie provided. There will also be a Prop 26 to establish an administrative fee for the County GSA budget. This will be decided by the BOS to establish the County GSA budget by December 2020. Discussion at the BOS meetings will occur on Oct 1st and Nov.12th, currently the funds the county received from Prop 1 had be paying for the work happening in the County GSA.
 - The importance of groundwater recharge in the Madera Subbasin is high priority. Mark Hutson presented a new project within NRCS to reclassify soils that might be helpful to identify land that is ideal for recharge. Mark is also working on a grant project that would help reclaim the flood plains through land diverted for recharge. This grant project would be directing with landowners who want to divert land for recharge.
 - Motion was made by Matt Angell to start a sub-committee with the RCD to coordinate on recharge. The idea is to determine a strategy for the RCD to take the lead in supporting growers in our district, through technical and resources support, and work with the County GSA to identify and develop recharge projects. Jay Bellach seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- Pelayo Alvarez, Director of Outreach and Partnerships, Carbon Cycle Institute and Kristen Murphy, Project Coordinator, CARCD, Presentation on CCI, partnership with CARCD, and carbon farm planning grant for regional RCDs
 - Pelayo presented on CCI and how they help farmers by partnering with them to implement management practices such as applying soil organic matter to land that increases the soil’s ability to sequester carbon. These practices are outlined in Carbon Farm Plans and help reduce the surplus of CO₂ in the atmosphere. This project started in Marin County in 2008 and has been successful. Currently the CCI has many partners throughout the state in a Carbon Farming Network.
- “Next Gen Project”—Matt Angell
 - They had a successful experience at the recent Madera District Fair and will be having there first meeting at Harvest Community Church on Oct. 5th.
- RCD Board Membership
 - Mike DeLaGuerra and Erik Herman – remaining paperwork?
 - Mike signed his oath and sent it back. Erik is still waiting for a return on signed oaths.
- Associate Director nomination Silas Rossow (Matt Angell nominated); next steps



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- Laurel and Stefani to research next steps with CARCD and Madera County
- Mark Hutson also to be nominated as Associate Director
- CARCD Annual Business Meeting and Conference
 - Annual Business Meeting, November 13 – 15
 - Delegates and Credentials
 - Laurel reserved 4 spots for M/CRCD
 - Laurel and Matt attending; Jay and Norman possibly
 - Attendance to the conference (\$345/Lodging \$129)
 - Motion was made to pay for fees to attend annual meeting including hotel, resignation, and mileage. There was a second and motion passed by unanimous vote of all present directors.

VII. Grants (focused on priorities laid out in Annual Plan)

- Community Foundation Capacity Grant (secured, amount TBD but likely \$8K in fall)
- Campbell Foundation, Capacity Grant (\$10K/applied on 8/30, decision pending)
- CDFA Technical Assistance Grant (Application Submitted on 8/30/up to \$60K/Decision in Nov)
- National CIG (RCD sent letter of support/for education assistance/decision pending)
- DOC/Prop 68 Working Lands and Riparian Corridors (applied with Regional partners/\$10K for planning/decision pending)
- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant (application accepted – will pay for travel to field day on carbon farming and planning – up to \$1K)
- Block Grant from CARCD on Monarchs (still pending with CARCD, fall)
- Water Foundation (potential funding for SGMA work, initial proposal being drafted)
- Central Valley Community Foundation/Impact Media Fund (RFP in August, Proposal accepted)
 - This is focused-on Solution Journalism and the grant will match any money raised.
- CARCD – Bechtel funding for SGMA needs assessment
- Pacific Flyway Conservation Grant through the Wildlife Conservation Board (due 9/11, @ \$100K)
- Grant opportunities and tracking/program list (Laurel)

VIII. Fee for Service

- Seeking ideas for long-term and consistent funding

IX. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Consolidation

- Remaining Steps
- Legal description
 - Laurel is working on getting Fred Angell to help complete.
- Federal ID being filed
- Annual Plan filed
- RCD credit card (once accounts are consolidated)
 - Discussion on what bank to have checking account outside of the county accounts

- Motion made to look into Central Valley Community Bank, there was a second, and the motion passed by unanimous vote by all present directors.

X. Old Business

- Website Update
 - Still need Photos for content
 - Laurel working on updates and newsfeed

XI. Reports

- NRCS Report
 - Taylor is no longer with Point Blue and is working full-time at the NRCS.
 - They are working to complete more cooperative agreements with other RCDs.
 - There is currently another recent push of funding for dairy digesters.
- Madera Region IRWMP/RWMP
- SGMA
 - Taylor is the water lead in the NRCS office.
- Others—

XII. Adjournment... Meeting was adjourned by Chair Norm v. Kuhr at 7:28pm
**Next Meeting: October 9, 2019; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office,
425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera**