Due to safety and health guidance and continued changes due to the COVID-19 crisis, the June 10 Board Meeting was conducted via the online platform ZOOM, which was sent to all Board Members directly.

Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2020 – 5:00PM-7:00PM
VIA Zoom Conference

Minutes

I. Roll Call and Introductions
   • Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 5:03pm by Norm V. Kuhr.
   • Flag Salute
   • Introduction of Guests
   • Directors: Jay Bellach, Mike DeLaGuerra, Matt Angell, Norman V. Kuhr, Erik Herman, Tim Coelho, Tom Petrucci
   • Associate Directors: Mark Hutson
   • Staff: Laurel Angell, Stefani Dias
   • Partners: Johnnie Siliznoff – NRCS, Priscilla Baker – NRCS, Taylor Fridrich – NRCS, Dana Marie Acevedo – NRCS, Sharon Nance – NRCS, Jack Rice – MAWA, Christina Beckstead, Madera County Farm Bureau, Stephanie Anagnoson – Madera County

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda
   • July 2020 Agenda
     o Additions?
       • There was an addition to Discussion Topics from Johnnie Siliznoff for Local Working Group - NRCS
       • Motion was made by Tom P. to approve the July 2020 agenda as presented with the additions, there was a second from Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
     o June 2020 Minutes
       • Motion was made by Jay B. to approve the June 2020 minutes as presented, there was a second from Tom P., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors with one abstention from Tom. P.

III. Correspondence & Mail
   • Correspondence
     o CVCB June Statement
     o Cal Pers Update letter
IV. Financial Report
- Monthly Treasurer’s Report
  - There was a motion made by Jay B., to approve the treasurer’s report as presented, there was second by Matt A., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- Incoming Income and Review & Approval of Expenses
  - **Incoming Payment:** Reimbursement of Mike’s Training (pending)
    - Reimbursement to be deposited in outside account, still has not been received.
  - **Expense:** Laurel Angell (invoice – May 15 to June 15) $500
    - There was a motion to accept Laurel’s invoice for advisory work as presented by Tim C., there was a second by Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

V. Meeting Updates, Handout, and Public Comments
- Public Comments?
- Handouts for this meeting - None
- Pending meetings to be aware of? (info)
- Diversity, Inclusion and Equity work – DEI Training with CARCD
  - Laurel engaged in meeting with CARCD on diversifying boards and supporting disadvantaged communities.

VI. Discussion Topics and Action Items
- **Farm Bureau, update on SGMA Strategy meeting: MAWA, RCD, FB, & County, held June 24**
  - Meeting was held on June 24th and it was attended by all parties. RCD was assigned work to lead external communications. The first needs are gathering a list of communications from each party involved and working on a unified message for the group. Stefani will work on list and work with subcommittee on message. Mike will lead the subcommittee and Mark Hutson will also be on subcommittee.
  - There was a motion from Mike D. to form a subcommittee to work with water group, there was a second from Matt A., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

- **Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water & Natural Resources, Madera County: Update on GSAs/GSPs/Advisory Board**
  - Madera County GSA Advisory Committee will meet on July 16th via Zoom 2pm. They are working on developing an incentive structure and as well as studies for recharge, measurement, and rates.
  - There is a Residential Indoor and Outdoor Conservation Class coming up on July 10th from 12-1pm.

- **Grants applied to/Upcoming Grant Opportunities (discussion – see handout)**
  - Opportunity with NRCS:
  - DOC – Riparian Corridors Restoration and Conservation Grants (July 1—applied as part of collaborative)
  - DOC 2020 RCD Financial Assistance Program (June 25) (applied - $25K)
  - Upcoming:
    - Rose Foundation (August 14) - $25K
    - Campbell Foundation (August 31) $10K
    - Patagonia Grant (August 31)
    - DOC SGMA Watershed Coordinator (9/15) with other RCDs
• DISCUSSION : Funding, the grants are on a long timeline so...
  o Short term funding ideas –
  o Sharon Nance announced that M/C RCD was granted an agreement with NRCS of $20,000 a year for three years. The funding will support M/C RCD’s SGMA work and help with RCPP function.

• M/CRCDS HUB role on SGMA – ACTION ITEMS
  o Partnership building/tapping and leveraging expertise (Laurel)

• RCD Board Membership
  o Harassment Training – updates

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

Secured
• RCPP with American Farmland Trust – funds likely at the end of the year
• Community Foundation Capacity Grant (grant for $7.9k- needs depositing into new account)
• Carbon Cycle Institute Grant ($2k/Travel paid for staff work on preparing a larger grant to be submitted in February to do a regional hub on healthy soils/carbon farming planning and implementation), $1.2 million
• National CIG (RCD sent letter of support/for education assistance/award for $1.2 million for five years, we will be convening soon to talk logistics of that. (awaiting information from ESRCD)
• Central Valley Community Foundation/Impact Media Fund (Proposal accepted), $100k matching, specifically earmarked for the media project. Initial amount of $15K to start to be disbursed in late January into the Fund.
• CARCD – Bechtel funding for SGMA needs assessment (admin for Laurel)

Submitted and Pending
• Carbon Cycle Institute Grant, Phase Two, Worked with ESRCD to finalize proposal that will be part of a joint proposal to private foundations to be a Healthy Soils Hub housed at M/CRCD and ESRCD; (final proposal will submitted fall)
• DOC/Prop 68 Working Lands and Riparian Corridors (applied with Regional partners/$10K for planning) (pending decision)
• Water Foundation (proposing SGMA Strategy laid out in Dec Meeting as a pilot project; potential funding for SGMA work, proposal being reviewed – timeline of early summer)
• Water Funders Group (proposal submitted in December; potential funding for media project)
• Campbell Foundation, Capacity Grant ($10K/applied/pushed to Spring)
• DOC 2020 RCD Financial Assistance ($25K)

Currently working on:
• Part of fundraising team the CCI/Healthy Soils hub regional proposal
• Foundation Discussion

VIII. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Staffing & Compliance
• Renew short term contract for Laurel Angell/Advisor (July 15 to September 15
  ▪ There was a motion to approve Laurel’s contract by Jay B., the motion was
    seconded by Mike D., and the motion passed unanimously by all present
    directors.
• Legal description (on hold for now)
• Updating Compliance for Year – checklist for Tier One Requirements
  o Audit – (every 5 years)

IX. Old Business

X. Reports
• NRCS Report
  o NRCS has a new soil conservationist, Dana Marie Acevedo, they are also working on
    finishing contracts for funded projects in tree mortality, water conservations, and air
    quality projects. There is also a request for M/C RCD to participate in a local working
    group that can communicate with state conservationists on the needs of Madera
    County. Matt, Laurel, and Mark will engage in that working group.
• Madera Region IRWM/RWMG
  o No update
• Other—

XI. Adjournment...
  a. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm by Norman K. Kuhr.
  b. Next Meeting: August 12, 2020; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera (unless still under emergency guidance with COVID 19)