



# Tulare County Resource Conservation District

3530 W. Orchard Court ~ Visalia, CA 93277  
Phone: (559) 734- 8732 ext. 3 ~ fax (559) 732-2805

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November 14, 2012

## Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Tom Daly, Scott Warren  
Staff: Teri Van Huss, David Witt  
NRCS: Mark Davis, Genett Carstensen, Hugo Cavillo  
UC Extension: Julie Finzel  
CAL-FIRE: David Shy  
WMA: Jim Sullins

Meeting called to order at 12:51 by Tom.

No quorum – information meeting only

## Review minutes from 10/10/12

**Financial Report:** Teri presented a check run report through October 30<sup>th</sup> that includes an Accounts Payable list for approval, and a list of Accounts Receivable, thus giving a total cash update. There was approval from the Directors present that the Accounts Payable are normal expenses, or project expenses (reimbursable) and so are approved for payment.

**New Business:** There is no new business at this time.

## Project Updates

- Mountain Home Fuel Break project – David reports the project is breaking down for the winter. Completed the 200-acre block and a 123-acre block. Now about halfway through, should finish the middle of next summer. Project is on schedule. David Shy says there is a second piece of equipment going behind the masticator that acts like a rototiller and it does a great job eliminating spikes and stumps. CAL-FIRE really likes how this has been done.
- Ponderosa Fuel Break project – David presented maps showing where the project is and how it fits in with the other projects up there. David's been visiting the project each week. Bill Shannon's crew is working it. There's not as much brush as other places. Our chipper is up there also. This project links up with others so the fire protection is good. We are about 25% done. There are two property owners involved. We're doing a lot of piling, will burn some piles this winter and then start up again next summer.

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- Sequoia Crest Fuel Break project – David. We're doing CEQA work to prepare the project for a Prop 40 grant. Brian Rueger is doing the work for this.
- Johnsondale Fuel Break project – David. Brian Rueger is doing the CEQA work. Brian found a couple of archaeological sites behind the houses. There will probably be mitigation measures so that burn piles won't be placed near the sites. Bill Shannon and our chipper will start that work after CEQA is completed, probably next spring/summer.
- SNC Mtn. Home Project – Award and status. David received email notice that the contract was signed. We are doing administrative tasks now and on-the-ground will start with the masticator people again. We hope to be done with all the Mtn Home projects by this time next year.
- Y/S RC&D CHIP program – Bob, David. Bob & David have started working with them. Bob is at Sequoia Crest today with a hand crew from CAL-FIRE.
- CA DF&G grazing, update – David met with Erin Tennant at Allensworth to see where they are putting in fencing. They are ready to move forward next spring.
- IRWMP – information update. Bob completed the letters to resign from the current effort.
- People's Gardens – update Goathead Garden – Teri and Genett reported that we are still looking for grant monies. The Farm2School grant application was not funded.
- Weed Management Area – Jim Sullins. Got 2-year funding from the state for a WMA, will continue the program as it has been. Has another grant from NFWF through SRT. Will have a half-time coordinator in place by January. Jim is looking forward to the RCD picking up the WMA program when he retires from UC Extension.
- Fire Safe Council – Bob not here.
- Board Director search. We are in the process of renewing Scott's Board term.

**Correspondence:** Thank you letter from the Forestry Challenge event.

**NRCS Report:** Hugo Calvillo has a project that needs a letter of support for a two-county initiative for EQIP for a voluntary program to help the level of nitrates contained in groundwater. Tom signed a letter for him.

**Public Comment Period:** None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Next meeting is December 12th, 2012

Respectfully submitted,  
Teri Van Huss