



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

3530 W. Orchard Court ~ Visalia, CA 93277
Phone: (559) 622-0378 ~ fax (559) 636-3277

December 11, 2013

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Tom Daly, Stan Noble, Scott Powell, Warren Hutchings, Walt Bentley

Staff: David Witt, Teri Van Huss

Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls

NRCS: Dianna Carsen, David Shy (CALFIRE)

Meeting called to order at 12:29 p.m.

Review minutes: The minutes were reviewed from 11/13, Stan moved to approve, Scott seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Teri presented a check run report through Dec 10th that includes an Accounts Payable list for approval and a list of Accounts Receivable, thus giving a total cash update. The final invoice to SNC Mtn Home was signed. Walt moved, Scott seconded, for the financial report be approved. Aye vote ensued.

Audit presentation: Doug Souza presented the audit for YE 6/2012 & 6/2013. He reported we have an unqualified audit, which means they found nothing materially wrong. He reported also that we are in good shape, with more grant activity in 2013. Expenditures have nothing out of the ordinary with highs and lows reflecting the grant activity.

New Business:

SNC Grant submittal for Mtn Home 2014 – David report that we have applied for an additional \$350,000 grant from SNC for further acres utilizing the masticator and the Mtn Home hand crews. Bobby says it should be awarded sometime in February.

NRCS – Bay Area Delta Initiative. Diana Carsen from NRCS Hanford presented a BDI project proposed by the Kings River Conservation District for funding to assist producers be better stewards of water. Walt moves, Warren seconds that the RCD supports this project and will sign a letter of support.

Promotion for David Shy. Bob reports David's promotion for Forester II and the RCD Board recognizes his good efforts. David reports this unit is working on fuel reduction projects, especially chipper projects, that are visible so the public can see what work is being done.

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Project Updates

Project updates – David gave updates on all the projects:

- SNC Mtn Home Project & Prop 40 Mtn Home – The SNC project, 310 acres, is complete, and as well the 350 acres for Prop 40. The difference in how the forest looks is amazing. David passed around pictures. This fuel break process works to clear areas and also leave shrub areas for wildlife.
- Ponderosa Fuel Break project – David reports Ponderosa (100 acres) will be done by March 31st.
- Johnsondale RAC – Additional money is coming to extend the project through December 2014.
- Balch Park project – This project was conceived a few years ago but needs cooperation between the Forest Service and the County. Jim Kral went ahead and completed the Forest Management Plan for their property and now Neil Pilegard and the Board of Supervisors are ready to roll with improving the ponds. Bobby Kamansky believes funding can come from Wildlife Control Board funds.
- CHIPP project – This is completed. David Shy says there is potential for us to also work with them on chipper days in the foothills communities.
- Water tender – we are still working on getting the water tender to be used more often for wildfires.

People's Gardens: Publicity about community gardens in the Times-Delta.

NRCS: Tom brought the poster presented by the CARCD.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment Period:

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m. Next meeting is January 8, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Van Huss