



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

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

12 March 2014

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Tom Daly, Warren Hutchings, Stan Noble

Staff: Teri Van Huss

NRCS: Joe Williams, Hugo Calvillo, Marcus Burks

Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls

Alta Vista Irrigation Co.: David Cannella, Alan Lombardi

Meeting called to order at 12:25 p.m.

Review minutes: The minutes were reviewed from 1/8, Stan moved to approve, Warren seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financial report for 3/12 was reviewed. Warren moved and Walt seconded to approve the financials. It was decided, given the rather tight cash flow, to pay only the smallest and current payables.

New Business:

David Cannella introduced the Alta Vista Water Company in Porterville, who is here today at the invitation of NRCS. They operate a well farm near the high school that was installed in 1918. The system needs to be redesigned to keep water losses to a minimum. They want to create a 3-acre-foot reservoir. Joe Williams wants to run this project through the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Plan, and to do that they need a sponsor. Walt moves, and Warren seconds, to be the sponsor for their application to NRCS on behalf of Alta Vista Water Co.

Tri-colored Blackbird – we received a call from California Fish & Wildlife Service to see if the RCD would consider sponsoring participating in another TCBB silage buyout / delay of harvest contract as they would like to do another one. After discussion, the RCD agrees to participate in the same cooperative way as before.

Updates

SNC Mtn Home - the retention of \$35,000 still has not been received.

Ponderosa – The grant has been invoiced again. It will be completed this spring.

Johnsondale –An invoice was submitted for just over \$27,000 in January, which includes chipper time. Payment has not yet been received.

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Sequoia Crest – Bob reports that CALFIRE may be ready to fund.

People's Gardens: "Cover the ground" education to the gardeners at Goathead – using all the different types of mulch available to avoid loss of water due to evaporation. Grapes received from Stan will go along the back fence. Stan says to plant them on trellis' 5' from the fence; we will send a thank-you notice.

Fire Safe Council: No meeting this month.

NRCS: Hugo updated us on his Bay Delta Watershed project in the Kings River Irrigation District – it was accepted and it has an expanded area this year. Hugo is working with a high school for an Owl Box program through the Kings Cty RCD. They will be sold for an estimated \$45 to \$50. A local high school in Visalia with a wood shop is willing to build them also. We could be a fiscal sponsor for a similar effort in Tulare County also. RCD Board member Walt Bentley is willing to do community outreach to see if local scouts or schools.

Correspondence: Tom read the SDRMA notice about renewal.

Public Comment Period: None

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Next meeting is Wednesday, April 9th at the BLM/NRCS WRP project in Alpaugh, starting at 10:00 a.m. Joe will send maps to the BLM office for those who want to drive themselves, otherwise we'll carpool from the NRCS office at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Teri Van Huss