



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

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

11 June 2014

Board Meeting Minutes

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

Staff: Teri Van Huss

NRCS: Genett Carstensen

Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls

CALFIRE: David Shy, Tim Rogers

Guest: Buc Carruthers

After lunch the meeting was called to order by Warren Hutchings at 12:22 p.m.

Review minutes: The minutes were reviewed from 5/21, Scott moved to approve, Stan seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financial report for 6/11 was reviewed. Stan moved and Scott seconded to approve the financials. The accounts payable list is approved for payment, although the invoices billed for the last Ponderosa invoice will be held until payment is received.

New Business:

Bob received an email from Shirley _____ regarding Ag's concern about large amounts of biomass because of the drought and trees shutting down. The biomass industry is not paying enough to make it worth while. Large chippers are also squeezed because the large engines have air quality issues. Solar is taking more of the market than ever. The RCD did a study on Biomass issues and we are looking for a copy of the report. The power companies no longer buy biomass electricity, nor is it buying electricity from anaerobic digesters from dairies. We need to look at ways to help. Composting chips does, in the long run, provide nitrogen to the soil. Walt would like to make contact with people he knows who know about this.

WEPP – Teri and Genett need to make contact with Carolyn Cook about participating in this program.

Updates

People's Garden – Teri reported that the 40 families in Goathead

Water Tender – Bob has been working with Jennie DiStefano on how RCDs can best serve fire agencies. She gave Bob good information on how to connect with the Forest Service, or somehow get on a Federal procurement list.

NRCS: Genett reported all their contracts and screenings are done for EQIP. She says Joe has contacted LAFCO in Fresno County regarding the acquisition of land in Tulare County from the Merced RCD. The LAFCO is working on fee reduction.

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There is a workshop on the new Farm Bill in Fresno – she will get the information to us.

Public Comment Period: Question from Elbow Creek Grange about wastewater discharge regs. Comments back from the Board say that this has been coming for five years and to join up or else.

Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m. Next meeting is July 9th.

Respectfully submitted, Teri Van Huss

CALL JIM SULLINS TO SEE IF HE CAN COME IN JULY.