



# 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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August 14, 2013

## Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Warren Hutchings, Scott Powell, Tom Daly

Staff: Teri Van Huss

Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls

NRCS: Genett Carstensen, Roger Tompkins, Mike Higgins

Guests: Walt Bentley

Meeting called to order at 12:37 p.m. by Warren

**Review minutes:** The minutes were reviewed from 7/10/13, Scott moved to approve, Tom seconded. Aye vote ensued.

**Financial Report:** Teri presented a check run report through August 14<sup>th</sup> that includes an Accounts Payable list for approval and a list of Accounts Receivable, thus giving a total cash update. Scott moved, Tom seconded, the financial report be approved.

## New Business:

Sequoia Fire Safe Council – Bob reports that the FSC is doing projects, but having difficulty having public meetings. Since many agency folks attending the RCD meetings are the same as those who work with the FSC, Bob would like us to have official FSC meetings noticed and held after the RCD meeting is over so that public input can be easily accessed. Everyone attending today thinks this is a great idea.

## Project Updates

**TCBB** – Four of five checks are written in today's list.

Project updates were given by Teri based on communication with David and Bob.

- SNC Mtn Home Project – Masticator was down for a couple weeks in June. The first invoice and advance documentation was received and reviewed by SNC. Barbara Harriman called and said she likes what we have done with the interesting bearing account issue and the way we plan to move forward.
- Ponderosa Fuel Break project – Shannon Bros. will probably start in September and October.
- Sequoia Crest – Brian is working on the CEQA docs (archaeological report and Environmental Checklist).

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- CHIPP at Johnsondale – People have been watching both the chipping and the masticator – there are many people who are enthusiastic about the process.
  - Board Director search. Walt Bentley is interested in being a Board member. Scott Powell moves, Tom Daly seconded, to offer a Board position to Walt. Aye vote ensued.
  - ❖ Dues for CARCD and NARCD are due – Board voted to pay normal dues for this.

Tom Daly moves to approve the budget for the County, Scott seconded. Aye vote.

Weed Management Area – Jim Sullins. Bill Holland is our spray tech, they have treated 75 properties for a total of 300 acres. Had a pilot project from a property owner on the Tulare/Kern county line – the road was infested with YST – arranged to spray a County Road with county staff following, encountering real rudeness from the people using the road. CDF 2-yr grant – requested extension. Still has NFWF grant with Sequoia Riverlands Trust. Concentrating on surveying roads and helping the County map YST. Has windshied surveyed everything east of Hwy 65 that's not public or inaccessible and how has a good database from a GIS intern at SRT.

Jim is considering using a new format to make announcements regarding noxious weed issues. The Emergency Operations Center of Tulare County has an Alert TC application – sends out announcements in any format. Doesn't have to be an emergency and is open to public groups that are not political. Jim is going to meet with them to see about being able to do YST surveys. Alexander Souza is coming on the area board. Jim has viticulture positions open and is looking to replace Manuel Jimenez as Small Farm advisor.

The Realtor/Community group in Three Rivers would like their spray rig back – it is at Tom's house and he will deliver it to them.

NRCS – Genett says there is more moo (cow) money – that is, a high likelihood for additional funding for cows. Flyer for irrigation workshop handed out. Mike Higgins introduced himself as the Rangeland Management Specialist. He is located at NRCS Hanford, has come from Idaho, and is helping to build a range management program.

**Correspondence:** Received Draft EA for Foothills Legacy Area.

**Public Comment Period:** No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.  
Next meeting is September 11, 2013

Respectfully submitted,  
Teri Van Huss