



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

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

8 July 2015

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Walt Bentley, Scott Powell, Stan Noble
Staff: David Witt, Teri Van Huss
Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls
Guests: Gary Adest

The meeting was called to order by Scott at 12:20 p.m.

Review minutes: The minutes were reviewed from 6/10. Walt moved to approve, Stan seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financial report for 7/8 was reviewed. Warren moved and Walt seconded to approve the financials. The accounts payable list is approved for payment. Teri requested consideration for a new laptop. Walt moved, Stan seconded to have Teri purchased a new one, but requested it be a McIntosh with an external hard-drive if needed.

New Business:

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – Bob reported on meetings with DWR regarding the Kaweah sub-basin water. Kaweah Delta district has to be sustainable with their groundwater in 20 years. The local cities and other governments have agreed to gather the most people possible to work together. However, a totally new agency is going to be created. Still needed are definitions about what is sustainable, laws on taxation, etc. There was discussion about a potential role for the RCD in this, and the Board believes we need to project a message of unity in our region or we won't have a say. This conversation will continue in discerning how the RCD could work pointing out the value of everyone working together. Bob is in a good position to attend meetings in each area, and Stan will attend meetings in the south of the County.

Updates

CARCD Annual Conference – still need to sign Walt and Larry up to receive emails from CARCD.

Cal-Fire Tulare County Chipper Days – Bob says we have had community chipper days at Pozo, Silver City, and SCICON and is very pleased at the results. He says the communities are expressing recognition that their fees are "getting" them something. The chipper needs new blades so Bob is headed to Fresno to purchase more.

CDFA Water Efficiency grants: Bob reports that SWEEP projects are done and turned in. We did 41 inspections in all for Rounds 1 and 2. Proposals for Round 3 just closed.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Neil Clipperton reported to Teri that the contract is still being reviewed.

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Johnsondale FB: Still piles to burn.

People's Garden: Teri reported water restrictions at the garden and a tough time getting through the language barriers with the gardeners to restrict their watering. Chu Vang arranged a community meeting with all the gardeners, bringing in a local Hmong leader to assist in working with them. It was a good meeting with very specific watering times agreed to and everyone is to help make sure we stick to it.

Meeting updates: Bob reported on the last Y/S RC&D meeting. Learned from their experience of being a fiscal agent for an IRWMP - getting paid is a rough issue.

NRCS: The entire staff is at a training.

Public Comment Period:

Correspondence:

Meeting Adjourned at 2:10 p.m. Next meeting is July 19th.

Respectfully submitted, Teri Van Huss