



# 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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June 13, 2012

## Board Meeting Minutes

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

Staff: Teri Van Huss

Fire Safe Council: Bob Puls

NRCS: Mark Davis, Genett Carstensen, Lurana Strong

Meeting called to order at 12:33 by Tom.

Financials: Balance Sheet and Check Run through 6/12/12. We are close to \$50,000 in unrestricted money, and David has requested that much in cash flow to run the upcoming Mtn. Home FB. Board discussion raised some questions. Can there be an advance on this project? What will be the effect of the state budget? Need to coordinate with David on the billing procedures.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Farm 2 School Grant** – Kara handed out information on what the F2S grant wants to accomplish. The concerns of the Board come what happens at the end of the two years. They would like to have an evaluation of this program at 18 months, and would especially like to keep contracting with the schools for services after that. The proposal will be submitted on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> electronically. Kara is approved for contract services as a grantwriter. Motion to approve submittal of this grant, Warren moved and Scott seconded, aye vote ensued.

**TCBB** - Three contracts for \$142.17 per acre (25% match to NRCS) – Randy Gorzeman of Riverview Dairy (\$10,918.66) in Pixley, Rick Lee Gorzeman of Cornerstone Dairy (12,340.36) in Tipton, and Perrin Kootstra (\$5,686.80) in Bakersfield. Warren moved, Scott seconded to approve the payments as 25% matches to NRCS contracts.

**Goathead Garden** – The goatheads are really bad! Using every technique there is – Genett says that pulling them and mulching will be the best way to extinguish them. We may put Roundup on the back sections; it's likely garden manager Michael Sartin will be back soon, and would like to try major solarization with plastic. Also, Walt Bentley, recently retired IPM expert from the Cooperative Extension, will be bringing us beetles that will probably help keep the goatheads down.

**Fire Safe Council** – Bob says they're having a meeting tomorrow at the Porterville Fire Station. The Chip II program is starting – the grant is \$50,000 this year. We have areas that are "shovel ready". They should start soon. We are first in line for the dollars from Y/S RC&D. Bob presented the information on the 2012 California Forestry Challenge.

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**NRCS Report** Mark Davis, DC, reported that Chu moved to the Fresno office, there should be a replacement soon. The State Conservationist is retiring. Got additional money for the Tulare Irrigation District from Bureau of Reclamation, NRCS will assist the producers affected by the upgrades. Lurana is involved in outreach to the Hispanic farmers and there will be an event in Hanford. Farmers will be reimbursed for gas. Directive from State Office – what should the field office of the future look like? Discussion about putting the RCD back in with NRCS again and what that would look like.

Meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Next meeting is July 11th  
Respectfully submitted,  
Teri Van Huss

Agenda for next meeting – does Tule River Board want to be part of the Board, we should approach them for a replacement for Brian. We should get a certificate from the Board of Supervisors to establish a protocol for Board members who leave.