



Regional Water Management Group

Location: Oakhurst, Raley's Supermarket Community Room

40041 CA-49, Oakhurst, CA 93644 – 559-683-8300;
Directions: Highway 41 to Highway 49. The shopping center is located on the North/West corner of the intersection. The Community Room is in the back of the store next to the Pharmacy

MEETING NOTES, IN THE ABSENCE OF A QUORUM

Monday, April 8, 2019 1:30 pm

1. Call to Order – 1:35pm

Flag Salute

Introductions

Tom Wheeler – Madera County BOS

Carl Janzen – Madera Irrigation District

Al Solis – S.E.M.C.U.

Don Roberts – Gravelly Ford WD

Ilse Lopez-Navarez, SHE

Jeannie Habben, Madera County

Stephanie Anagnoson, Madera County

Johnnie Silizneff, NRCS

Celeste Wheeler, Indian Lakes

Clyde Wheeler, Indian Lakes

Christi Hansard, Note Taker

2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes

- March 11, 2019 – Minutes

- April 8, 2019 – Agenda

Tom W requested that a possible meeting date change be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Carl J made a motion to approve the agenda Don R second the motion; all voted; motion is carried unanimously.

Carl J made a motion to approve the minutes; Stephanie A second the motion; all voted; motion is carried unanimously

3. Public Comment

- Jeannie H made 7 announcements

1. April 23: Webinar to discuss the effects of recent wildfires on California water agencies. Register by April 22.

2. Tree Mortality Aerial Detection Survey by USDA and USFS showing 147 million dead trees in the Sierra Nevada; 15.5 million in Madera County.

3. Earth Day Celebrations, April 13: North Fork Mill Site, 9:00-2:00 and Madera Inspirational Roots Community Garden, 9:00-12:00.

4. Sierra RCD received a grant in the amount of \$235,000 to fund the Watershed Coordinator Program.

5. The DWR snow survey shows the Sierra Nevada statewide snowpack is at 162% of average. The statewide show water equivalent had nearly tripled since February 1.

6. Madera/Chowchilla RCD completed an RCD Consolidation Guidebook. DOC funded the printing of 100 copies. Contact Jeannie H to request a copy.

7. Sierra RCD will be hosting the Area 9 Spring Meeting May 10, 9:00-2:00, at the Clovis Memorial Building.

- Carl J announced that MID has started \$50/acre-foot water delivery.

- Stephanie A responded to a water budget question posed by Celeste W. She said the threshold in question applies to urban communities, not rural.

New Business:

4. Discussion and Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals
After discussion of the financials, with all debits and credits explained, Carl J made a motion to approve the Financial Report with no changes; Stephanie A second the motion; all voted; motion is passed unanimously.
5. Discussion – Groundwater Pumpers Group
Stephanie A proposed the formation of 2 educational groups, one mountain and one valley, to provide Q and A and troubleshooting services to residential well users. Johnnie S suggested the RCDs take a role in the outreach. Tom W asked if NRCS might be able to offer funding. It was suggested that realtors be included in the groups.
6. Discussion – Tasks and Duties Associated with IRWM
Jeannie H circulated a list of RWMG/IRWM Tasks and Duties for 2019, to initiate conversation around what is needed to keep this group going. As a Madera County employee, she can no longer fulfill these needs. Options to consider include looking for a grant to fund hiring a 20 hour per week employee, looking for another “Jeannie”, hiring a consultant, or each board member taking responsibility for a piece of the list. Further discussion will be needed, and a decision will need to be made.
7. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding
 - Mountain Counties
Jeannie H has been monitoring this. They are working on how to split the funds. \$11.7M is available for implementation. They anticipate dividing the funds 9 ways. The \$1.3M per area will then be divided 50% DAC and 50% Tribes. DWR will host a Summer Summit at Lake Tahoe. Someone from this group will need to attend. Funding Guidelines are expected in August, with submittals due in September. Funds will probably be available in January. The tribal section of the report is not yet complete.
 - San Joaquin Valley Counties
Ilse L reported that P&P and SHE have started their Needs Assessment, with an April 31 deadline for survey return. She distributed a flyer for the April 10, Community Water Needs Public Meeting in Modesto. She also reported that they are involved in doing a water quality sampling project in Parksdale, Fairmead, Liberty High School area, and Raymond. Additionally, they are working with P&P on water meters.
8. Discussion IRWM Plan Update and DWR Submittal
Jeannie H reported that our Plan Update was rejected by the State because the document submitted only included those sections that were changed. It was not a “stand alone” document. QK was to make the needed corrections and resubmit. No funding requests can be made until it has been approved.
9. Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding
The Project List was distributed. Several important questions remain:
How should the \$1.6M be divided?
What is required by DWR?
Who will write it?
Who will administer it?

It was suggested that we combine projects 2, 3, and 4. Stephanie A supports that idea and offered her grant writer.

In the absence of a quorum, no decisions could be made.

Old Business:

10. Report – Sustainable Groundwater Management – SGMA
Stephanie A reported that Chapter one is being circulated, with the entire report due by the end of August. At that point a 90-day comment period will begin. The final report is expected in January 2020.
11. Report – Implementation Grant Project Updates
Dario D via Jeannie H, reported that the pump is in at Ellis Basin. He thanks MID for pumping water into the active recharge system.
12. Discussion - New or Suggested Memberships to RWMG
Carl J reported that Triangle T will be joining this group. We will send a thank you after we receive their MOU and Resolution. Carl J also recommended the pro-rating of their 2019 bill.
13. Next Meeting Location and Time – Monday, May 13, 2019 - 1:30 pm
Location: Chowchilla City Hall (aka Civic Center)
130 Second Street, Chowchilla – in the Training Room. Directions: Highway 99 to Robertson Blvd. – Go West to 2nd Street and make a left - the City Hall is on the right. Access the Training Room through doors located on alley side of the building closest to Third Street (not Second Street). Parking is along Third Street or along Trinity Avenue or in Second Street parking lot. Please enter through doors in alleyway closest to Third Street.
14. Future Agenda Items
Tom W has a conflict with the scheduling of this meeting. He would like the group to consider moving this meeting to either the first or the fourth Monday of each month. An email message will go out to all RWMG members asking for their preference. The May meeting will remain as scheduled.
15. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.