



Regional Water Management Group

LOCATION: Online (ZOOM)

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 26, 2020 1:30 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:40pm, by Tom Wheeler, chairman.

The flag salute was followed by self-introductions. Jacob Roberson was introduced as the new coordinator for the Madera RWMG. Those present included:

Tom Wheeler – Madera County BOS
Carl Janzen – Madera Irrigation District
Al Solis – S.E.M.C.U.
Jeannie Habben – Madera County
Stephanie Anagnoson – Madera County
Clyde Wheeler – Indian Lakes
Manuel Leon – SHE
David Konno – YSRC&D
Julie Konno – CRC&D
Don Roberts, Gravely Ford WD

Jacob Roberson – RWMG Coordinator
Brandon Tomlinson - CWD
Jason Rogers – City of Chowchilla
Keith Helmuth – City of Madera
Mark Hutson – Local Farmer
Angela Islas – SHE
Celeste Wheeler – Indian Lakes
Dina Nolan – Madera Irrigation District
Sarah Woolf – Water Wise

2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes

- A motion to approve the May agenda was made by Carl J; Don R second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.
- A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Carl J; Don R second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

- Jacob R mentioned upcoming deadlines for webinars and funding opportunities.
 - The United States Forest Service Region 5 and American Forests are holding one more Shared Stewardship Training Workshops in May:
 - The workshop is on Wednesday, May 27th from 10 am to 12 pm and is titled, "USFS Cross-boundary Programs". It will focus on Forest Service cross-boundary programs including Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP), Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Program, and State/Private Forestry Programs.
 - The final Tribal Regional Water Management Webinars is scheduled for June 2nd.
 - The Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) is accepting applications for its Learning Landscapes Grant Program. The application deadline is June 30.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Discussion and Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals

- Carl J mentioned there is \$35,000+ cash available at the beginning of June.
- Move to accept the financial report by Carl J; Keith H second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding

- Mountain Counties

- Jeannie H. emailed everyone the Sierra Institute finalized report for the DAC mountain involvement. The North Fork location project has the tribal part included in the report now. After the report was completed, there was still funding leftover. With the leftover funds, it was decided to evenly split the funds with everyone. The water tank project was funded with these leftover funds. The project is currently scheduled to be done by the end of 2020. The contract and everything are ready to go.
- San Joaquin Valley Counties
 - Angela I. (Self-Help Enterprises) shared upcoming dates for their DACI program. Phase 2 for the water sampling project is a go. There is \$120,000 - \$130,000 for the extension of this phase for the water sampling project. There is a possibility of delays with the startup of the program or when phase 2 is officially started. Phase 2 will begin in June but there is not an exact date yet. Angela is waiting on an email from East Contra Costa regarding the start date. Hoping to be able to announce the start date at the Madera RWMG meeting in June. The community capacity building program has been delayed quite a bit due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Self-Help Enterprises is reaching out to people for the coordination group. A webinar was put together last Thursday to allow residents to listen in and participate to learn more about the programs. There was 1 participant who is interested. Self-Help Enterprises will try another webinar in mid – late June to better outreach in the Madera area to attend. Self-Help Enterprises is also discussing internally if they will be willing to drop off materials at homes while avoiding contact (social distancing).

6. Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding

- Mountain Counties
 - Jeannie H mentioned that Indian Lakes received the grant which is the in the comment phase right now. You can go to the DWR website to see that. Contracts will be available in August most likely. Grant is for smart meters totaling \$551,450.
 - Clyde W commented that the County of Madera Public Works Department will be doing a lot of the work for this project. Tom W mentioned this will allow more work to be done with the amount of funding received.
 - Celest W thanked everyone who worked with Jeannie H. on this project.
- San Joaquin Valley Counties
 - Jeannie H mentioned Madera City, Parkwood and Parksdale projects were awarded. All three projects total \$1,689,635. Contracts will be available in August most likely. These projects to be completed by the Madera County Public Works Department as well.

7. Vote to Support Letter for Roundtable of Regions

- It was decided that it is OK to include the Madera RWMG logo on the letter.
- Carl J mentioned that he does not think it is a good idea to get the bond out right now with what is going on

8. Call for Projects

- Jason R mentioned that the City of Chowchilla is working with a consultant on a Proposition 1 Planning Grant for storm water improvements and groundwater recharge. This will need to be added to the project list during the Madera RWMG meeting in June.
- Tom W asked Jacob R to send the current project list to everyone to review. Tom W asked everyone to contact Jacob R if they have a project to propose to the group for

funding. The group will then determine if the project proposal fits within requirements for the funding.

OLD BUSINESS

9. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – SGMA – Report

- Reach out to your GSA about possible meetings and funding opportunities.
- Jacob R mentioned that some GSAs have started to charge members.
- Stephanie A thinks everyone will have SGMA projects, but we need time to pull them out of the GSPs. Stephanie A also commented that Chowchilla GSP received 9 comment letters on the DWR portal. Doug Welch and Stephanie A will prepare a response to the comments with DE. Madera GSPs are headed to a mediation on 6/12/2020 with all 7 parties.

10. Implementation Grant Project Updates – Report

- Round 1 – Arundo/Sediment Removal Project
 - Jeannie H mentioned that this project is from the original grant back in 2012. We just applied for the 6th extension which was approved. We are on the 6th extension because there was still money left which we wanted to use up. They probably will not give us another extension, so we need to use the rest of the money by 12/31/2020.

11. New/ Suggested Members for the Madera RWMG

- Jacob R will begin outreach once he gets familiar with everything.

12. Future Agenda Items

- New projects to be added to project list. Send projects you want added to Jacob R (jacob_roberson@outlook.com)
- Tom W mentioned that we need a County employee from the Madera County Public Works Department to start attending the Madera RWMG meetings to report on the progress of the new projects, preferably an engineer. This would be for the Indian Lakes, Parkwood, and Parkdale projects since Madera County Public Works Department is completing most of the work.

13. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22 on ZOOM for now, unless we can meet in person. If we can meet in person, meeting will be held at the Chowchilla location.

14. Questions/Comments

- Angela I question: What is the project form for?
 - Tom W – The project form is used internally by the group to determine if projects fall within the requirements for funding. Form also is used to add projects to the project list for the Madera RWMG.
 - Stephanie A – The form is necessary to go within the Stormwater Resources Plan and the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for grant funding. If you are not in the plan, you cannot get the grant.

15. The meeting was adjourned at 2:21pm.