



**Madera/Chowchilla
Resource Conservation District
Post Office Box 531
Chowchilla, CA 93610**



**Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 – 5:00PM to 7:00PM**

- I. Call to Order: 5:03PM by Amy Siliznoff**
 - A. Director Roll Call
Attendance was virtual on Zoom. Directors: Norman Kuhr, Jay Bellach, Mike DeLaGuerra, Matt Angell, Tom Petrucci, Erik Herman, Tim Coehlo; Staff: Amy Siliznoff; Associate Director: Mark Hutson; Partners: Priscilla Baker (NRCS), Cristina Murillo-Barrick (UCCE), Stephanie Anagnoson (Madera County)

- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Mike DeLaGuerra added discussion of a grant writer to the agenda

- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **Approval of September and October Meeting Minutes** – Motion was made by Mike DeLaGuerra to approve the Meeting Minutes, there was a second by Matt Angell. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

- IV. Correspondence & Mail** – Central Valley Community Bank statement, CSDA mailers, CSDA renewal invoice, CALpers Annual Information Request

- V. Public Comments** – Cristina Murillo Barrick wanted to thank everyone who came to the webinar. Education & outreach and technical assistance related to preserving ag land and promoting smart growth. Recording is available to view. Another workshop will be Jan 11th, colleague in Southern California will be doing a listening session workshop to discuss barriers and opportunities surrounding Sustainable Ag Lands Grant.

- VI. Reports**
 - A. Madera County SGMA Update/GSAs – Stephanie Anagnoson
Prop 68 grants that are funding recharge work in partnership with Triangle T and Root Creek are having meetings on site to see how to move forward with design work. County has allocations for this year and next year. They will have a rate study and a workshop on Nov 30th via Zoom.

 - B. NRCS Report – Priscilla Baker
 - o Johnnie is now appointed to be Assistant State Conservationist. Johnnie appreciated working with the RCD and wants to ensure that we continue to work together to have a smooth transaction.

- Madera NRCS is working on Fresno El Pico characterization work. Their soils contacts are still working on it and are looking for locations. They sent another shape file, have a sampling plan, and a couple of different soils in this group. They will have a survey for the grower and will do a lab then results will be available in a month. They sent contacts about a year ago. If anyone knows of any people in the El Pico area, let them know NRCS is looking for soil pits to sample.
- Nutrient Management Workshop. Priscilla got a call from Ag Net West, they want to feature stories on farmers that are doing recharge on their farms. Priscilla said farmers will be sharing stories with the reporter. Priscilla said it will be a good opportunity to show the positive things people are doing.
- Rolling over applications. Reaching out to growers to see if they want to roll over. Deadline is December 10th.

C. Madera Region IRWM/RWVG – Amy Siliznoff

- The Madera/Chowchilla RCD coordinated a presentation that was presented by Jeff Mitchell and Alyssa DeVincentis. This presentation included research they're doing related to water conservation with cover crops. You can watch this presentation and the PowerPoint slides, please [click here](#). There is also another pre-recorded version of the same available presentation on YouTube. Please [click here](#) to view that recording
 - A couple farmer testimonials about the use of cover crops are also available by clicking the links below:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TSMaMU7sOj0>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKfoVKADOns>

D. Farm Bureau – No updates at this time

E. News/Other Meeting Reports – Matt Angell mentioned there was a CalCAN Meeting. There were several farm visits. Flyer from UC system was sent out on what to do in the face of water shortages. The group spoke with Hmong farmers and organic raisin producers. Resilience through biodiversity through cover crops was the main focus of the meeting.

VII. RCD Report: Board Action Items and Discussion Topics

A. Update: Presentation to GSA's about Soil Health/Water Nexus (I)

- Topic: Water-related impacts of cover cropping in CA, Jeff Mitchell with UC Davis and Alyssa DeVincentis with Vitidore made a presentation to the local GSA's on October 25th at 1:30PM at the Regional Water Management Group Meeting (RWVG). Amy is to schedule meetings to follow up with each GSA for a total of 12 meetings per Heller Foundation Grant deliverable with CARCD.

B. Update: RCPP with American Farmland Trust (I)

Irrigation and Nutrient Management Workshop with ESRC (I)

- Irrigation & Nutrient Management Workshop was October 28th at the Madera County Farm Bureau. There were over 50 attendees. Great feedback was given from the attendees.
- C. Monarch/Pollinator Opportunity (I)
- Amy made a site visit out to the Tesoro Viejo conservancy trail project site with Xerces and Partners for Fish & Wildlife. She met with the landowner and their Biologist. They're interested in planting habitat along the conservancy trail. She'll be scheduling a site visit out to San Joaquin River Conservancy property to look for additional locations around the conservancy trail project site to plant habitat.
- D. Cover Crop Workshop in December with ESRCD & EMRCD (I)
- Workshop has been set to December 16th from 9-11AM. Agenda and Flyer has been posted to the website. DPR and CCA credits will be provided at the workshop.
- E. Adoption of Resolution No. 2021-01 – Proclaiming a Local Emergency, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District for the period of November 10, 2021 – December 8, 2021 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions (I) (A)
- Tom Petrucci made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2021-01, there was a second by Jay Bellach. All Board members present agreed to continue providing hybrid meetings.
- F. Date change for December meeting to December 9, 2021 at 5:00PM (I)
- Amy noted that this agenda item is no longer relevant. The Board Meeting with remain at its original date, December 8, 2021.

VIII. Financial Report

- A. Monthly Treasurer's Report (I)
- County Account: \$1,596.98
 - Central Valley Community Bank Account: \$29,813.29
 - Incoming from DOC: \$10,500 (pending)
 - Incoming from ESRCD: \$6,000 (pending)
 - Incoming from CARCD for September: \$3,500 (pending)
 - Incoming from CARCD for October: \$3,500 (pending)
 - **Total in all accounts: \$31,410.27**
 - **Total after incoming: \$54,910.27**
- B. Review and Approval of Expenses (I) (A)
- Expenses: Monthly fee for CalTech Web - \$99
 - CSDA Renewal - \$200
 - Invoice for Lisbeth B. Bundli, CPA - \$700
 - Invoice for Amy Siliznoff September - \$3,500

- Invoice for Amy Siliznoff October - \$3,500
- Reimbursement for Amy Siliznoff (Workshop Food/Drink) - \$214.43
- **Total Expenses: \$8,213.43**
- C. Previous Approved Expenses Still Pending
 - Laurel Angell - \$4,098
 - **Total Expenses and Previous Expenses: \$12,311.43**
 - **Total in all accounts after incoming is deposited and expenses are paid: \$42,598.84**
- Motion to accept the treasuries report as presented: Motion was made by Jay Bellach, there was a second by Tom Petrucci. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- Jay Bellach made a motion to approve expenses, there was a second by Mike De La Guerra. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

IX. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Old Business

- A. All Board Members - Harassment and Ethics Training
- B. Legal description (on hold)
Amy to check if LAFCO will complete a legal description update for the RCD.

- X. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM.**
Next Meeting: December 8, 2021, 5:00PM