



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



**Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 10, 2022 – 5:00PM to 7:00PM**

- I. Call to Order: 5:04PM by Norman Kuhr**
 - A. Director Roll Call
Attendance was virtual on Zoom. Directors: Norman Kuhr, Jay Bellach, Mike DeLaGuerra, Tim Coehlo Staff: Amy Siliznoff, Kevin Reyes; Partners: Cristina Murillo-Barrick (UCANR), Mira Dick (NRCS), Chris Yohannan (ESRCD)

- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Addition to RCD Financial Section – Amazon purchases for Irrigation Supplies for CDFA WETA grant \$273.42, and Sprinkler Warehouse for CDFA WETA grant \$300.51.

- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. **Approval of July Meeting Minutes** – Motion was made by Mike DeLaGuerra to approve the Meeting Minutes, there was a second by Jay Bellach. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

- IV. Correspondence & Mail** – Central Valley Community Foundation Statement

- V. Public Comments** – Cristina Murillo-Barrick with UCANR – No RCDs submitted for the DOC SALC application for this round of funding. There is interest for the next round of funding. The grant will include creating partnerships between land trusts and RCDs to engage landowners on voluntary easements. UCANR is looking to host a series of meetings and workshops for RCD members. Cristina will be inviting land trusts and RCD members to provide comments on guidelines to discuss needs or improvements on the grant application.

- VI. Reports**
 - A. Madera County SGMA Update/GSAs – Amy Siliznoff
 - Most of July was spent in revising Delta-Mendota (San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors) GSPs and Chowchilla GSPs; both were revised and turned in by the end of July. They are expecting feedback by the end of the year
 - No comments from DWR yet on Madera Subbasin GSP
 - Multi-benefit land repurposing grant is going back to Department of Conservation for them to finalize.

 - B. NRCS Report – Dannamarie AcevedoVelazquez

- The Madera NRCS office is fully devoted to CIC, CSP and RCPP applications. Two more are expected to go through tomorrow. There is a total of 8 RCPP applications and there were 3 that were cancelled at the last minute. A producer didn't want to make the commitment with economic conditions. September 2nd deadline, another 49 applications that they're working on getting through for that deadline. They are looking to plan the Local Workgroup meeting with the RCD which will be in the beginning of October.
- C. Madera Region IRWM/RWVG – Amy Siliznoff
- There were 18 total projects funded in Madera County for the USDA NRCS' Recharge Pilot Program. 15 on-farm recharge projects and 3 basin/trenching projects. USDA NRCS and Sustainable Conservation are working on notifying successful applicants and getting agreements executed. They are planning to apply to DWR for Prop 1 Round 2 funding, but the first deadline is August 19th which Public Works nor North Fork Rancheria will be able to meet so they are looking to turn in an application for the second and final deadline which is February 1, 2023.
 - The Indian Lakes community will be getting new meters installed soon which is part of some Prop 1 funding. Parkwood meters will be installed once some miscellaneous parts get in. Public works is having issues with the small miscellaneous parts due to vendors giving them an 18-week lead time on most things. This puts Parkwood at a start time in November at the earliest. Chowchilla finally got their funding agreement back from DWR so they will start moving forward with their meter project soon.
 - Madera County GSA is currently working with their consultant, Luhdorff & Scalmanini, on selecting locations for monitoring wells for their domestic well inventory (Prop 68 funding). There will be 3 monitoring wells in the Chowchilla Subbasin and 2 monitoring wells in the Madera Subbasin.
 - DWR is expecting to release the draft guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for their urban drought program soon. This program will have \$300 million total available, and applications are expected to open in the Fall.
 - Jacob Roberson is working on revising the project proposal form for the Madera RWVG to match the new statewide priorities. The new form will also allow organizations to indicate which funding area the project is in (Mountain Counties Funding Area vs San Joaquin River Funding Area), if the project benefits a disadvantaged community (DAC) or an economically distressed area (EDA), more breakdown on estimated costs rather than large amounts (\$1 million - \$10 million for example is currently on the proposal form as an option to select for cost), and some others. He will also be reaching out to organizations that have projects on the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) project list for Madera County right now which has missing information.

- D. Farm Bureau – Amy Siliznoff
 - No updates
- E. News/Other Meeting Reports – Amy Siliznoff
 - Sustainable Conservation, along with NRCS and CDFA are hosting two convenings, the first on October 18th from 9-5, and the second on November 30th from 9-5.
 - Sustainable reached out to the RCD to select a site visit location for a cover crop/healthy soils site demonstration for their November 18th Board Meeting.
 - CARCD has set their 77th annual conference to November 30th through December 2nd at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom.
 - Silas Rossow with CA Ag Solutions will be hosting a workshop on September 21st on Cover Crops with landowners.

VII. RCD Report: Board Action Items and Discussion Topics

- A. RCPP with American Farmland Trust (I) – Chris Yohannan
 - Cheri has given the NRCS more funding and they were able to get more farmers qualified for the RCPP. They're back to having 8 applications selected. Taylor with NRCS and Chris have been working on the documents for the deadline.
- B. CDFA Mobile Irrigation Lab (I) – Kevin Reyes
 - Kevin has completed 6 irrigation evaluations in Madera, and 2 in Merced County. 4 more evaluations are scheduled in the next week and a half. The evaluations will be scheduled through November as part of the grant.
- C. DOC MLRP (I)
 - Amy is waiting to hear back from the County on a contract and proposal to move forward. We have a workplan in place, but they are waiting to receive the contract from DOC.
- D. MCRCDD Audit (I)(A) – Amy Siliznoff
 - Amy is working with Bryant L Jolley, CPA on MCRCDDs audit. She is working on sending them all documentation being requested.
- E. MCRCDD Strategic Plan 2022-2027 (I)(A) – Amy Siliznoff
 - Amy reviewed the draft strategic plan with Board Members. Jay Bellach made a motion to approve the strategic plan. Mike De La Guerra seconded the motion. The same two Directors from the previous meeting weren't present so we will need to revisit the Strategic Plan and gain approval from them before passing the motion.
- F. MCRCDD Policies (I) – Amy Siliznoff
 - Amy reviewed the draft policies with the Board Members. She sent them a copy and is working on updating them for approval.
- G. Upcoming Workshops (I) – Amy Siliznoff
 - The RCD will be planning a Cover Crop workshop in the fall, along with an Irrigation Workshop in the fall or the spring. Amy will be working with Mark

Hutson for planning the Cover Crop Workshop and will be working with East Stanislaus RCD and East Merced RCD on the Irrigation Workshop.

- H. Upcoming Contracts/Agreements (I) (A)
 - The RCD has an MOU with Irrigation for the Future to complete telemetry hookups. It will be \$250 per telemetry hookup and IFF will be providing training and supplies to complete the hookups. There was a motion by Jay Bellach, Mike De La Guerra seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
 - The RCD has an MOU with East Stanislaus RCD to reimburse them back for Kevin Reyes payroll for completing the telemetry hookups with IFF. There was a motion to accept the MOU with East Stanislaus RCD by Mike De La Guerra. The motion was seconded by Jay Bellach. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- I. Upcoming Grant Applications (I) – Amy Siliznoff
 - Amy is waiting to hear back on the WCB block grant as well as the NRCS Equity Grant. She is expecting the NRCS Equity Grant to come through shortly.
- J. 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 August 10, 2022 – September 14, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions (I) (A)
 - Mike DeLaGuerra made a motion to approve the resolution, a second was made by Jay Bellach. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

VIII. Financial Report

- A. Monthly Treasurer’s Report (I)
 - County Account: \$1,599.09
 - Central Valley Community Bank Account: \$48,486.49
 - **Total in all accounts: \$50,085.58**
- B. Review and Approval of Expenses (I) (A)
 - Expenses: Monthly fee for CalTech Web - \$99
 - Amazon Purchase for Irrigation Supplies - \$273.42
 - Sprinkler Warehouse Purchase for Irrigation Supplies - \$300.51
 - QuickBooks TSheets (Grant Tracking) - \$28
 - Mileage Reimbursement for Kevin Reyes - \$287.50
 - Invoice for ATS Consulting - \$3,500
 - **Total Expenses: \$4,488.43**
- C. Total in all accounts after incoming is deposited and expenses are paid: \$45,597.15**
- 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. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:57PM.

Next Meeting: September 14, 2022, 5:00PM