



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



OFFICERS

Norman Kuhr, President

Matt Angell, Vice President

Erik Herman, Treasurer

Tim Coelho, Director

Jay Bellach, Director

Mike DeLaGuerra, Director

Tom Petrucci, Director

Laurel Angell, Manager

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – 5:00 to 7:00

Zoom Conference Line to be sent out on Tuesday

Due to safety and health guidance for Covid 19, the Board Meeting was conducted via online platform ZOOM

Anyone who wished to attend or made public comments was able to do so virtually by contacting Laurel Angell, Manager for access and link.

Minutes

I. Roll Call and Introductions

- Call to Order- Meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM by Norman Kuhr.
- Flag Salute
- Roll Call
 - Directors: Norman V. Kuhr, Mike DeLaGuerra, Matt Angell, Tim Coelho,
 - Tom Petrucci, Erik Herman, Jay Bellach
 - Associate Directors: Mark Hutson
 - Staff: Laurel Angell, Stefani Dias
 - Partners: Johnnie Siliznoff -NRCS, Priscilla Baker – NRCS, Taylor Fridrich-NRCS, Christina Beckstead-Madera County Farm Bureau, Joy Hollingsworth – UCCE, Jack Rice – MAWA, Stephanie Anagnoson – Madera County

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda

- December 2020 Agenda
 - Additions
 - Motion was made to approve the December 2020 agenda with the addition of reviewing Laurel's contract renewal under section VIII by Tim C., there was a second from Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- November 2020 Minutes
 - Motion was made by Jay B. to approve the November 2020 minutes as presented, there was a second by Mike D., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

III. Correspondence & Mail

- Mailers from NACD/local business, and letter from CalPERS

IV. Financial Report

- Monthly Treasurer's Report
 - Motion was made by Erik H. to accept the treasurer's report as presented, there was a second by Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- Incoming Income and Review & Approval of Expenses
 - Incoming Grant: \$25,000 from Water Foundation, expected at in next few weeks
 - Incoming Grant: \$60,000 from NRCS, secured and ready for invoicing
 - Incoming Grant: \$25,000 from DOC, grant agreement pending this week
 - Expense: Laurel Angell (Invoice – November) -- \$1,500.00 (can be done through county).
 - Motion was made by Tom P. to approve Laurel's invoice (November) as presented, there was a second by Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
 - Expense: Yearly Go-Daddy for Domain name: \$117.23 (reimburse Laurel Angell)
 - Motion was made by Tom P. to approve Laurel's reimbursement request for Go-Daddy as presented, there was a second by Jay B., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

V. Meeting Updates, Handout, and Public Comments

- Public Comments
 - Madera County Farm Bureau is hosting a Pesticide Continuing Education Workshop on December 15, 2020 with 5 hours of DPR Approved CE (Register at maderafb.com)
- Handouts - None
- Pending meetings – None



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- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month was celebrated in the month of November and has been since 1990

VI. Discussion Topics and Action Items

- **Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water & Natural Resources, Madera County:** Update on GSAs/GSPs/Advisory Board
 - Madera County is working with Prop 68 funding that will help with county recharge projects. They also just finished a set of workshops focused on water markets and will have a stimulation that is open for participation. IrriWatch enrollment is also available to county GSA members for free and can be done online.
 - County GSA will be considering Allocation concepts on Dec. 15, 2020 during BOS meeting.
- **Report from Special Board Session Business Meeting:** Norman Kuhr
 - Board reviewed “Recommendations to Establish and Institute Structure and Independent Operations for Madera/Chowchilla RCD – Memo”
 - A motion was made to create a sub-committee that will be led by Erik H. to review and create job descriptions and solicit bids for the job positions outlined in memo.
- **Report on RCD Technical/Education Cover Crop Workshop 12/7 and 12/8:** Matt Angell
 - Workshop was held on December 7 & 8 via Zoom (2 English Sessions & 1 Spanish Session) and Field Day with live demonstration. NRCS supported and aided with staff and outreach.
- **Arundo updates:** Mark Hutson (on behalf of subcommittee on Arundo)
 - County is working on permit and grant search will begin after permit is processed.
- **Madera County RWMG:** Mark Hutson (as representative for the RCD)
 - Tim and Mark are representing the RCD at the meetings. The RWMG met on November 23 via Zoom and discussed upcoming projects as well as added projects to their project list. The meeting also reviewed SGMA updates, IrriWatch Enrollment, and CV SALTS. The meeting calendar for 2021 was also shared.
- **RCPD launch update: Recharge with AFT, NRCS and RCDs:** Laurel
 - AFT is still waiting to finalize grant agreement with NRCS.

- **Grants in process/applied to/pending & Upcoming Grant Opportunities:**
 - DOC SGMA Watershed Coordinator (10/15) – co-lead with East Stanislaus to fund two watershed coordinators for the region. Madera County also putting in proposal.
 - CA Specialty Crop Grant – SGMA related
 - Any others – None

VII. Grants (This section is informational and for tracking purposes)

Secured

- DOC 2020 RCD Financial Assistance Program: \$25K
- Water Foundation, \$25K
- RCPP with American Farmland Trust – funds likely at the end of the year (\$25K)
- NRCS: Capacity Grant, \$60K
- Community Foundation Capacity Grant (grant for \$7.9k)
- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant (\$2k/ and \$1K grant for staff work on preparing a larger grant
- National CIG (RCD sent letter of support/for education assistance/award for \$1.2 million for five years) (awaiting information from ESRCD)
- Central Valley Community Foundation/Impact Media Fund (Proposal accepted), \$100k matching, specifically earmarked for the media project.
- CARCD – Bechtel funding for SGMA needs assessment (admin for Laurel – ends in Dec)

Pending

- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant, Phase Two, Fundraising Work Group.
- CA Specialty Crop Grant – SGMA related
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with CARCD – submitted (Did not make final round)
- Water Funders Group (proposal submitted)
- National CIG (with CARCD, OK RCDs and UC Berkeley around cover crops) (proposal declined)
- Rose Foundation (applied for \$25K) (Proposal declined: will try again next year)

VIII. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Staffing & Compliance

- Legal description (on hold)
- Compliance – checklist for Tier One Requirements
 - RCD Board Membership & Compliance
 - Form 700 – Members who have not submitted will need to do so immediately to Stefani.



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- Harassment/Ethics Training – Will be done in January 21/all who need to do refresh will get signed up for webinars.
- Laurel's renewal contract
 - Motion was made by Jay B. to approve a renewal of Laurel's contract at \$3500/ month (10-15 hrs./week) for 3 months, there was a second by Tom P., and the motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

IX. Old Business

X. Reports

- NRCS report
 - Currently, NRCS is working with 3 projects in creating irrigation surface water connection. CFAP 2 deadline is coming up on December 11. Also, NRCS has been contacted by 2-3 growers in regard to cover crops post RCD workshop. Finally, NRCS chief is hosting a virtual listening session to engage public for Input on water quantity in the West. Session will be help on Thursday, December 17 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern. If additional time is deemed necessary to hear all input, a second session will be held Friday, December 18 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern. Registration is required to attend or speak during the listening session and can be done on USDA website.
- Madera Region IRWM/RWVG (Mark -RCD Rep)
 - Please see under section VI
- Other – None

XI. Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:12pm.

Next Meeting: January 13, 2020; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera OR ZOOM