



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



## **Monthly Board Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020 - 5:00 pm to 7:00pm**

*Farm Service Agency Conference Room, 425 N Gateway Drive, Madera*

### **I. Roll Call and Introductions**

- Call to Order
- Flag Salute
- Introduction of Guests

### **II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda**

- January 2020 Agenda
  - Additions?
- December 2019 Minutes

### **III. Correspondence & Mail**

- Correspondence

### **IV. Financial Report**

- Monthly Treasurer's Report
  - Suggest putting the CVCF Capacity funding into this account now(\$7.9k), CCI money paid most of LA's salary this month, so minimal expenses while we continue to work on funding)
- Incoming Income and Review & Approval of Expenses
  - **Incoming Payment:** Carbon Cycle Institute for \$1375 (use to open outside account)
  - **Incoming Payment:** CARCD Soil Health Terrace Stipend for Jay Bellach (\$150 pending)
  - **Incoming Payment:** CARCD Annual Meeting Refund for 4<sup>th</sup> registration (\$385 check mail/Stefani)
  - **Expense:** Laurel Angell (invoice – Nov 15 to Dec 15)
  - **Expense:** LA needs approval to spend \$85 x 3 for ethics training for new members; this will be reimbursed in full by SLDF, as Laurel put in for scholarships.
- New Outside Bank Account Letter (needs signature) – open with CCI funding check and now CARCD \$358/\$150 refunds. Stefani was to provide paperwork, make appt for Norm and Matt to open account.

### **V. Meeting Updates, Handout, and Public Comments**

- Public Comments?
- Handouts for this meeting: SGMA Strategy Priorities;
- Laurel update on meetings attended (not many mtgs to speak of post-Board meeting in December because of holidays);
- Pending meetings to be aware of? (info)

- Diversity, Inclusion and Equity work – NRCS; Laurel

## VI. Discussion Topics and Action Items

- Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water & Natural Resources, Madera County: Update on GSAs/GSPs/Advisory Board
- **M/CRCDs role on SGMA – ACTION ITEMS – GETTING TO WORK.** We will spend most of the meeting using the underlying strategy/business plan handed out at December meeting and memo with potential priorities to define action items, funding asks, and roles and responsibilities for launching our SGMA work. Specific attention will be paid to these “buckets”:
  - Capacity & Funding:
    - Long-term and consistent funding streams/grants
    - grant writer with County(?)/Watershed Coordinator; other?
  - Assessment and Data
  - Educational and Technical:
    - Lining up and deploying technical team (MCRCD team, NRCS, NCAT, Point Blue)
    - producer outreach and workshops; GSAs,
    - first round of technical support for our farmers,
  - Media project fundraising for matching fund
  - Recharge projects, (specifically talk about White Area proposal with Jack Rice)
  - Partnership building/tapping and leveraging expertise

...as we work to build both our capacity and resources internally, while getting to work on the ground to get rolling with our technical team and show we can do this effectively to leverage further buy in and support for long-term sustainability.

- RCD Board Membership
  - Ethics Training for new members (need to do ASAP) – Mike, Laurel, Erik to take Ethics Training; Laurel applied for SLDF scholarships to cover costs for each. Can take online.

## VII. Grants (focused on priorities laid out in Annual Plan)

### Secured

- Community Foundation Capacity Grant (grant for \$7.9k- needs depositing into new account)
- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant (application accepted – \$2k is pending for staff work on preparing for work around a larger grant to be submitted in February to do a regional hub on healthy soils/carbon farming planning and implementation)
- National CIG (RCD sent letter of support/for education assistance/award for \$1.2 million for five years, we will be convening soon to talk logistics of that. (read letter from ESRCD)
- Central Valley Community Foundation/Impact Media Fund (Proposal accepted), \$100k matching, specifically earmarked for the media project. Initial amount of \$15K to start to be disbursed in early January into the Fund for our use.
- CARCD – Bechtel funding for SGMA needs assessment (admin for Laurel)

### Submitted and Pending

- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant, Phase Two, Worked with ESRCD to finalize proposal that will be part of a joint proposal to private foundations to be a Healthy Soils Hub housed at M/CRCD and ESRCD; (final proposal will be submitted in February with goal of funding by summer)



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- RCPP with American Farmland Trust on recharge innovation and demo projects (pending decision in Spring)
- DOC/Prop 68 Working Lands and Riparian Corridors (applied with Regional partners/\$10K for planning) (decision pending)
- Pacific Flyway Conservation Grant through the Wildlife Conservation Board (Submitted on 9/11 @ \$100K as part of regional effort; decision pending)
- Water Foundation (proposing SGMA Strategy laid out in Dec Meeting as a pilot project; potential funding for SGMA work, proposal being reviewed – timeline of late winter)
- Water Funders Group (proposal submitted in December; potential funding for media project)
- CDFA Specialty Block Grants – for Next Gen Project, \$25k – decisions early winter
- *Campbell Foundation, Capacity Grant (\$10K/applied/pushed to Spring)*

**Currently working on:**

- USDA Conservation Collaboration Grants for 2020 – Due FEB 7, between \$250k and \$1Million
- California Resilience Challenge Grant, Due February 7, exploring this one. Potential of up to \$200K (will need letters of support)
- Friends of NACD (sue January 15) \$2k Capacity ???

**Waiting for RFP**

- Block Grant from CARCD on Monarchs (still pending with CARCD, early winter – they keep moving on this one)

**VIII. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Staffing & Compliance**

- LA Contract ends on 2/15. Because of new state law, will need to look at other options for Manager Role – Part Time for now, can do paperwork through another RCD as Jean Okuye and Julie Konno do.
- Website ADA Compliance under new rules – all but one piece and am working on it or will transition to CARCD template.
  - Need to also look into a website person.
- Board Member compliance – Sexual Harassment & Ethics Training
- Legal description

**IX. Old Business**

**X. Reports**

- NRCS Report
- Madera Region IRWM/RWVG
- Other--

**XI. Adjournment... Next Meeting: February 12, 2020; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera**

