



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



Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

NOTE TIME AND LOCATION CHANGE DUE TO COVID 19 EMERGENCY
Due to safety concerns, guidance and restrictions around the Covid 19 crisis, the April 8 Board Meeting will be conducted via online platform ZOOM, which will be sent to all Board Members directly.

**Anyone from the public who wishes to attend or make public comments:
Please contact LANGELL@landstewardsproject.org for link and access**

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 – 12:00 to 2:00 (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

Zoom Conference Line to be sent out on Wednesday

I. Roll Call and Introductions

- Call to Order
- Flag Salute
- Introduction of Guests

II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes & Agenda

- April 2020 Agenda
 - Additions?
- March 2020 Minutes

III. Correspondence & Mail

- Correspondence

IV. Financial Report

- Monthly Treasurer's Report
- Incoming Income and Review & Approval of Expenses
 - **Incoming Payment:** ESRCD/Carbon Cycle Institute for \$825.00 (into county account)/\$20 reimbursement for Ethics training – remaining \$150 pending final certificates.
 - **Expense:** Laurel Angell (invoice – February 15 to March 15) \$1,000.00
- New Outside Bank Account – updates

V. Meeting Updates, Handout, and Public Comments

- Public Comments?

- Handouts for this meeting
- Laurel update on meetings attended
- Pending meetings to be aware of? (info)
- Diversity, Inclusion and Equity work – DEI Training with CARCD (interview with Sharon Nance/CARCD)

VI. Discussion Topics and Action Items

- **Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water & Natural Resources, Madera County: Update on GSAs/GSPs/Advisory Board**
- **UPDATE:** Strategy meeting to be scheduled between MAWA, RCD, FB, & County. Scheduled for May 18 (time and location TBD)
- **COVID 19 – updates and priorities (focus given the dramatic changes)**
- **DISCUSSION and BRAINSTORM:** Funding, the grants are on a long timeline so...
 - Approaching Almond Board with SGMA pitch (Laurel, Jay, and Matt)
 - Long-term and consistent funding streams/grants (Matt idea on Drones)
 - Short term fundraisers (since grants are taking some time)
 - IRWM – how do we engage? (Jeannie’s note sent to Board)
 - Short-term capacity grants
 - Other ideas
- **CIG and other grant opportunities from NRCS (discussion).**
- **AB 5 Update on new contractor law. Impacts on RCD. (discussion)**
- **M/CRCDS role on SGMA – ACTION ITEMS**
 - **CHECKING ON STATUS:** IWM and Nutrient Management workshop -- May –MOU (East Stan – Invite from Trina Whalley)
 - Lunch donation/Farm Bureau offices
 - From Trina: The class is to maintain their self-certification. The water coalition has to do the certification classes with a trained staff person from your local office. Once self-certification course is done once the producer has to do one credit a year or three within three years to maintain that certification.
 - Educational and Technical:
 - Lining up and deploying technical team (MCRCD team, NRCS, NCAT, Point Blue)
 - producer outreach and workshops; GSAs,
 - Media project fundraising for matching fund
 - Partnership building/tapping and leveraging expertise
- **RCD Board Membership**
 - Ethics Training – should be set.

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 (\$2k/Travel paid for staff work on preparing a larger grant to be submitted in February to do a regional hub on healthy soils/carbon farming planning and



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



implementation), \$1.2 million

- 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. (awaiting information from ESRCDC)
- 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 late January into the Fund.
- CARCD – Bechtel funding for SGMA needs assessment (admin for Laurel)

Submitted and Pending

- **The Nature Conservancy – Acceleration Grants – pre-grant due March 13**
- Carbon Cycle Institute Grant, Phase Two, Worked with ESRCDC 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 ESRCDC; (final proposal will submitted with goal of funding by summer)
- 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) (pending decision)
- Water Foundation (proposing SGMA Strategy laid out in Dec Meeting as a pilot project; potential funding for SGMA work, proposal being reviewed – timeline of early spring)
- Water Funders Group (proposal submitted in December; potential funding for media project)
- CDFA Specialty Block Grants – for Next Gen Project, \$25k – requested more information
- *Campbell Foundation, Capacity Grant (\$10K/applied/pushed to Spring)*

Currently working on:

- **The Nature Conservancy Acceleration Grant – March 13**
- **California Strategic Growth Council/Sustainable Ag Lands Conservation Program (SALC) – Due April but decision is not until August**
- Fundraising for CVCF grant
- Part of fundraising team the CCI/Healthy Soils hub regional proposal
- NEW: DOC/Prop 68 Grant with other RCDs and CARCD – East Stan lead

Updates on grant proposals that we did not get:

VIII. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Staffing & Compliance

- LA Contract - Advisory Contract. Approve 4/15 to 5/15.
- Legal description (on hold for now)

IX. Old Business

X. Reports

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

XI. Adjournment... Next Meeting: May 13, 2020; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera (unless still under emergency guidance with COVID 19)