



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



**Monthly Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, March 10, 2021 – 5:00 to 7:00**

Zoom Conference Line to be sent out on Tuesday

**Due to safety and health guidance for Covid 19, and consistent with the California Department of Public Health's recommendations, the Board Meeting will be conducted via video conference ZOOM.
No Physical Location for Public Attendance.**

Public Audience will be allowed to provide public comment through the telephone or Zoom connection during the appropriate commenting periods.

Anyone who wishes to attend the meeting or make public comments, please contact LANGELL@landstewardsproject.org for link and access.

Note Meeting will be recorded and posted on website

I. Roll Call and Introductions

President

- Call to Order
 - Flag Salute
 - Introduction of Guests
- A. Attendance was virtual on Zoom. Directors: Norm Kuhr, Matt Angell, Mike Delaguerra, Tim Coehlo, Tom Petrucci, Erik Herman (joined late in the call), Jay Bellach; Associate Director: Mark Hutson, Staff: Laurel Angell. Partners: Johnnie Siliznoff (NRCS), DannaMarie Acevedo (NRCS); Joy Hollingworth (UCCE), Caddie Bergen (UC Extension); Christine Beckstead (MCFB), Jack Rice (MAWA) Stephanie Anagnoson (Mad. County).

II. Approval of Minutes for Feb. 2021

Directors

- A. Motion was made by Matt A. to approve Dec 2020 Board Meeting minutes, there was a second from Tom P. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

III. Correspondence & Mail –

- A. renewal of PO Box (remove Stefani Dias information)

IV. Public Comments

This time is made available for comments from the public on matters that are not on the Agenda. It is requested that no comments be made on items during this period on items on the Agenda. No action can be taken.

Discussion about re-activating next gen. Discussion from Tim C on the fact that the CARB/state is set to ban all ag burning in the San Joaquin region by 2025 and let the group know there would be grant availability to reactivate cogen plants that are shuttered, and carbon fixation, developing alternative wood products, etc.; Johnnie (as part of citizens board on air quality) noted that it would be good for the Board to send a letter to Tom Wheeler expressing their concerns and ask for funding to be part of the chipping program; discussion of monarch butterfly grant opportunities; Joy brought up covercrop workshop pending in April 20/May 18; FB classes: Pesticide handling (4/13) Heat Illness (4/29), pheromone disrupter (4/29); Ag Plastic recycling event, (4/26) - Chowchilla area – partner with the RCD.

V. Board Action Items and Discussion Topics (I): Info/Discussion or (A) Action

A. SGMA Update - GSAs/GSPs (I)

Stephanie Anagnoson, Dir. of
Water & Natural Resources,
Madera County

Madera Sub basin Work Group 2/11; it went very well and given the problems of the past it went well. Chowchilla Sub basin advisory comm is meeting on 3/17 and County GSA has a workshop on March 23rd on land repurposing and recharge. Talk through potential costs.

B. Recycling Event Sponsorship with Farm Bureau (I) (A)

Christina Becksted, MCFB

Motion to approve sponsorship for 4/26 event: Tom and Matt seconded. Post and send to website (once website is up and running)

C. Cover crop workshop for diverse small farmers April/May (NRCS grant) (I) (A)

Acting Dist. Mgr./Directors

1) approval of budget to proceed (tech. provider/support): (I) (A)

Budget for cover crop workshop and hiring tech provider and support submitted and discussed. Matt made a motion to approve; Jay seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

D. RCPP launch update: Recharge with AFT, NRCS and RCDs: (I) (A) Dist Mgr.

Finally ready to launch this after 6-month delay; awaiting further direction from AFT and launch meeting. Need a GIS person, and NRCS offered to look at regional 9 and Mark suggested working with county. No further decision was made. Need to find out details of GIS mapping from AFT.

E. RCD – Capacity, Budget, Hiring and next steps: (I) (A)

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- 1) Budget Overview (I) (A)
Draft Budget presented. Proposal to accept this as a tentative budget by Tom P. for further time to review. Jay B Seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- 2) Web manager: Nathan Newberry, CalTech Web
Approval to start work on March 15 (details provided to Board) (A)
Matt made a Motion to approve hiring of Nathan/CalTech to administer and update website. Approval to be paid initial fees of \$499 for and \$99 for initial first month fee. Jay seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- 3) Bookkeeper: Recommendations from Hiring Committee and Approval (I) (A)
After interviewing several candidates that were drawn from the RCD network per hiring committee, Mike presented a possible candidate for bookkeeper that the hiring committee recommended to provide contract for services. However, although not required, it was decided to advertise the contract for services on several public boards to just see who else might be interested. Laurel will post the contract for services once reviewed internally.
- 4) Manager Position
 - i. Budget, Recommendations, Posting and Next Steps (I) (A)
Mike asked if there were any further additions to the draft of the manager position. There were none. Part time position will be posted once it is reviewed for compliance.
 - ii. Short -term contract extension for Laurel Angell (I) (A)
Laurel's contract was extended for 3 months to June to ensure oversight and implementation of the cover crop workshop, follow up on RCPP, and help with transition. Jay made a motion to approve the contract for 3 months to June. Tom seconded. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

F. Annual Plan: Update (I)

Acting Dist. Manager

This is in process for presentation at May or June Board meeting.

G. Grant Opportunities Tracking List (I)

Acting Dist. Manger

H. Training:

- 1) All Board Members - Harassment and Ethics Training – info provided/do by March 30 (I) (A)

VI. Financial Report

Directors/Acting Dist. Mgr.

A. Monthly Treasurer's Report

B. Review and Approval of Expenses (I) (A)

- 1) Expense: Invoice for Laurel Angell Feb-March
- 2) Expense: Invoice for Jon Anderson (NRCS grant) for Dec Workshop

C. Incoming Income

- 1) **Incoming Grant:** \$25,000 from Water Foundation (Deposit into Madera County Acct) (A)

Matt made a motion approve payment of expenses for invoices, PO Box and CalTech. Tom clarified the motion to approve expenses pending/contingent on water foundation money being deposited and that No expenses be paid until that funding comes in. Motion was seconded by Jay. All present board members approved.

VII. Reports

A. NRCS Report/Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

New Secretary of the Interior; NRCS Office and field regulations have been tightened for Covid 19 reasons.

B. Madera Region IRWM/RWVG (Mark – RCD Rep)

VIII. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Staffing & Compliance

A. Legal description (on hold)

B. RCD Board Membership & Compliance

- 1) Form 700 – link sent to all Board Members please send to Laurel Angell

IX. Adjournment: Next Meeting: April 14, 2021; 5:00pm Farm Service Agency Office, 425 N. Gateway, Ste. K, Madera OR ZOOM