



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



**Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 11, 2022 – 5:00PM to 7:00PM**

- I. Call to Order: 5:10PM by Norman Kuhr**
  - A. Director Roll Call  
Attendance was virtual on Zoom. Directors: Norman Kuhr, Tom Petrucci, Jay Bellach, Mike DeLaGuerra, Erik Herman, Matt Angell Staff: Amy Siliznoff; Partners: Noah Lopez (MAWA), Dannamarie Acevedo-Velazquez (NRCS), Jacob Roberson (Madera RWMG), Trina Walley (ESRCD), Chris Yohannan (ESRCD)
  
- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

No changes or additions were made
  
- III. Approval of Minutes**
  - A. **Approval of April Meeting Minutes** – Motion was made by Mike DeLaGuerra to approve the Meeting Minutes, there was a second by Matt Angell. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
  
- IV. Correspondence & Mail** – CSDA mailers
  
- V. Public Comments** – Tom Petrucci announced his retirement from the Board. His term expired May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  
- VI. Reports**
  - A. Madera County SGMA Update/GSAs – Stephanie Anagnoson
    - Madera County White Area - County rate study ends, and June 21<sup>st</sup> is public hearing
    - Have not heard back on the DOC grant yet, will most likely hear back the next few weeks
    - Mark called about recharge information in a workshop. Topic recommendation should be how to design a basin, have NRCS present on this topic.
  
  - B. NRCS Report – Priscilla Baker
    - Chris Yohannan is working on farmland trust applications. Surface water connection apps, soil health, building carbon in the soil. Priscilla is running the recharge pilot program and it is taking up a lot of her time. 16-20 pilot recharge applications are being processed. 3-4 for growers that are putting in

basins/trenches most is in Madera County. On farm recharge pilot to pay growers when there's excess surface water on their fields in the wintertime. NRCS is working on forestry applications as well. They still in need of more sites for the Fresno El Pico soil testing. NRCS has hired a new DC, Mira Dick for Madera.

C. Madera Region IRWM/RWVG – Jacob Roberson

- Next meeting is Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:30 pm on Zoom
- Added 2 new projects to their IRWMP project list during the meeting in April. South Line System Controls and System Metering for Gravelly Ford WD. The System Metering project was also added to their SWRP project list. Madera WD also had 2 projects added to the SWRP project list: Madera Lake Pipeline and Surface Water Storage Reservoirs.
- They are finishing up paperwork for set aside funding in the Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program for the MCFA. Sierra Institute will be the Fiscal Agent for this. Their proposed project is for a planning grant to extend the waterline in Oakhurst approximately 9,000 linear feet with the California American Water Company.
- Waiting for final materials to be released for the IRWM Round 2 funding. They have used all the funds allocated to them in the SJRFA in Round 1, but they have roughly \$595,000 to apply for in Round 2 for the MCFA which is only for their region, basically making it a non-competitive application.
- DWR is looking to release the final materials in the next week or so. There will be 2 deadlines for applications: the 1<sup>st</sup> deadline will be 3-months after the release of the final materials and the 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline will be early 2023.
- Currently have a grant to test domestic wells in Madera County for contaminants. If interested, please reach out to CMZ to have wells tested. If the test comes back high in Nitrates, CMZ has funding through another source to provide bottled water to that household (5-gallon jugs and a dispenser). If it tests high in other contaminants, CMZ can refer the household to other agencies that have funding to address those issue (SHE for example).
- Grant originally expired on June 30, 2022, but an extension request has recently been accepted by DWR to extend the deadline to June 30, 2023.
- Meter installation for Indian Lakes is looking to begin next month. This has been delayed due to the radio units for the water meters being affected by the electrical material shortages we have been experiencing. Parkwood is getting meters installed as well, but those will be done once the remainder of the radio units have been delivered. Public works is asking for an extension. Grant currently expires December 31, 2022, and the extension will make the deadline December 31, 2023.
- City of Madera meter installation project is awaiting a report from their consultant regarding meter installations before implementing the meter installations.
- Parksdale well rehabilitation project is almost wrapped up. It is pretty much done, just a few more components need to be addressed by Madera Pumps before finishing it up.

- D. Farm Bureau – Amy Siliznoff
  - No update
- E. News/Other Meeting Reports – No other news or reports

**VII. RCD Report: Board Action Items and Discussion Topics**

- A. RCPP with American Farmland Trust (I) – Chris Yohannan
  - RCPP is similar in scope to EQUIP programs. We received 11 applications total. Applications include cover crops, composting, pump plants, some pipelines, a few soil moisture sensors, to help more efficiently manage water resources. Just about coming up to deadline to submit applications (June 3<sup>rd</sup>).
- B. CDFA Mobile Irrigation Lab (I) (A) – Trina Walley
  - East Merced took the lead on the CDFA Water Efficiency Technical Assistance grant. Merced, Madera, and East Stanislaus will be running mobile irrigation labs with this funding. We will have funding available for a part-time irrigation specialist year-round to do irrigation related outreach/workshop events and during summer complete irrigation evaluations. Each RCD will have an intern for 12 weeks during the summer to assist with evaluations. A small portion of the funding to go towards admin and reporting needs. Wanted to present now to get the ball rolling so once contract comes through, we can start hiring and posting.
  - Mike DeLaGuerra made a motion to move forward with applying for the CDFA WETA Grant Proposal. There was a second by Erik Herman. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.
- C. CDFA Healthy Soils Program (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - AFT was awarded the CDFA Health Soils Program grant and the RCD was a collaborative on the grant proposal. It is for \$5,000 for hosting two outreach events in Madera.
- D. Area 9 Regional Meeting (I) (A) – Amy Siliznoff
  - A meeting has been set for June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9AM to 3PM at the Kings County Ag Commissioners Office in Hanford, CA. Please reach out to Amy if interested in attending because an RSVP is needed for this event.
- E. Monarch/Pollinator Opportunity with CA Wildlife Conservation Board (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - Amy is working on confirming site access as well as irrigation upgrade costs for this project before moving forward. She’s discussing next steps with Partners for Fish & Wildlife and will need to follow up with WCB for the Pre-App.
- F. Upcoming Workshops (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - The RCD is looking to host an in-person recharge workshop in June or July. Mark Hutson and Amy will work together on an agenda with presenters to cover the topics.
- G. Upcoming Grant Applications (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - No upcoming grant applications
- H. 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 May 11, 2022 – June 8, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions (I) (A)

- Matt Angell made a motion to approve the resolution, a second was made by Mike DeLaGuerra. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

### **VIII. Financial Report**

#### **A. Monthly Treasurer's Report (I)**

- County Account: \$1,596.98
- Central Valley Community Bank Account: \$53,912.50
- Incoming from DOC: \$10,500 (pending)
- **Total in all accounts: \$55,509.48**
  - **Total after incoming: \$66,009.48**

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

- Expenses: Monthly fee for CalTech Web - \$99
- QuickBooks TSheets (Grant Tracking) - \$10
- Invoice for Amy Siliznoff - \$3,500
- Reimbursement for Zoom Webinar Amy Siliznoff - \$79
- **Total Expenses: \$3,688**

#### **C. Total in all accounts after incoming is deposited and expenses are paid: \$62,321.48**

- Matt Angell made a motion to approve expenses, there was a second by Mike DeLaGuerra. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

### **IX. Madera/Chowchilla RCD Old Business**

- #### **A. Form 700 – Amy is missing Matt Angell and Norman Kuhr's Form 700, she will follow up with them to make sure they are turned in before the next Board meeting.**

### **X. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:01PM.**

Next Meeting: June 8, 2022, 5:00PM