



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



**Monthly Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 – 5:00PM to 7:00PM**

**I. Call to Order: 5:04PM by Norman Kuhr**

**A. Director Roll Call**

Attendance was virtual on Zoom. Directors: Norman Kuhr, Matt Angell, Tim Coehlo, Mike DeLaGuerra, Erik Herman Staff: Amy Siliznoff, Kevin Reyes; Partners: Mira Dick (NRCS), Chris Yohannan (East Stanislaus RCD)

**II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Update to financial section: Received \$130 reimbursement from CARCD for attending CAPS Working Group, \$375 reimbursement for Matt Angell CARCD conference registration, \$750 for CARCD conference registration for Amy Siliznoff and Kevin Reyes, \$106.89 hotel fee for Kevin Reyes, \$213.79 hotel fee for Amy Siliznoff, \$6,000 invoice for MCRCD Audit by Bryant P. Jolley.

Motion to approve updates: Matt Angell made a motion to approve the changes, there was a second by Erik Herman. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approval of October Meeting Minutes and October Special 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 – Invoice from Bryant P Jolley for MCRCD Audit, \$130 Reimbursement check from CARCD for attending CAPS Working Group**

**V. Public Comments – No comments**

**VI. Reports**

**A. Madera County SGMA Update/GSAs – Amy Siliznoff**

- County has two recharge projects at 60% design.
- They're developing rules for recharge and land repurposing within the County GSA to take to the board in December.
- They had a launch meeting with Madera/Chowchilla RCD and DOC for the multi-benefit land repurposing program

- B. NRCS Report – Mira Dick
  - Field office will be closed on Friday for Veterans Day. Equip and CSP they have timelines for. Deadline for applications is December 9<sup>th</sup>. Funding selections will not be until March. Equip has \$53,000,000. \$20,000,000 has been assigned to air quality (tractor replacement) \$5,000,000 for habitat, CSP is \$11,000,000. Deadline for RCPP is December 1<sup>st</sup>. Investment Recovery Fund, a lot of work but no details on the funding yet. Office is having admin changes, staffing is staying the same for planning, they're moving to a different system of program support (farm bill assistance). It's on a tier base, PSS (Program Support Specialist) and they anticipate that to start in December, and hopefully moving into a defined set of duties that those admin support people will take on. Looks as though the DC's who are available to go will be attending the CARCD conference this year.
- C. Madera Region IRWM/RWVG – Amy Siliznoff
  - No update
- D. Farm Bureau – Amy Siliznoff
  - No update
- E. News/Other Meeting Reports – Amy Siliznoff
  - Amy will review different restaurant options for the RCD to host their January meeting to celebrate Tom Petrucci and his service to the RCD.

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

- A. RCPP with American Farmland Trust (I) – Chris Yohannan
  - 8 applications are available for outreach. Chris is working them through the Data Basin pre-screener that AFT has requested the RCD to use. The deadline is December 6<sup>th</sup> for applications, but AFT is receiving requests from RCDs to extend the application deadline to mid-January. Chris will be coming in next week to start working in Madera.
- B. CDFA Mobile Irrigation Lab (I) – Kevin Reyes
  - We have completed 30 irrigation evaluations and have 2 scheduled in the next few weeks.
- C. NRCS Groundwater Grant (I)
  - The RCD, along with East Stanislaus RCD has drafted our Groundwater Conservation Plan Template. We are moving forward with previous irrigation evaluation landowners as well as RCPP applicants to start developing the Groundwater Conservation Plans. We are to reach 30 plans by September of 2023 but feel we will reach this number before that deadline.
- D. NRCS Equity Grant (I) (A)
  - Amy is holding on scheduling the workshop date until we figure out next steps for Kevin. We will need to draft an MOU agreement with East Stan for Kevin to complete work under this grant. We will need to plan 2 workshop events as well as 2 demonstration events aimed towards disadvantaged farmers.
- E. DOC MLRP (I)
  - The RCD has signed the contract and will go to the Board of Supervisors this

December 6<sup>th</sup>. We will then receive a Notice to Proceed with a start date. Amy has attended the DOC kick-off meeting, as well as the launch meeting. We will continue having monthly meetings with DOC during the duration of this grant

- F. San Joaquin River Conservancy O&M (I)
  - Amy is waiting to hear back from SJRC on next steps and if there is still interest in the RCD assisting with the Operations and Maintenance.
- G. CARCD 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (I) (A)
  - Amy will be attending an ET meeting hosted by Sustainable Conservation on November 30<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. She would like to request to stay in Sacramento that evening the day before the CARCD conference on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> so she doesn't have to make two trips to Sacramento. Amy was asked to make 2 presentations at the conference and her and Kevin are looking forward to attending.

Motion to approve Amy to stay additional night: There was a motion by Matt Angell, the motion was seconded by Mike DeLaGuerra. Motion passed unanimously by all present directors.

- H. MCRCRD Audit (I)(A) – Amy Siliznoff
  - The audit is finalized, and Amy reviewed the final report with the Board.
- I. MCRCRD Policies (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - Amy received an estimate from an Attorney for \$3,500 to update policies and bylaws. Amy to get more prices for policy update.
- J. Upcoming Workshops (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - The RCD is planning a Healthy Soils Workshop, the date is still tentative. The RCD will also be hosting an Irrigation Workshop the first week in January with East Stan and East Merced RCD, we will include outreach for RCPP as well as our Groundwater Conservation Plan grants.
- K. Upcoming Contracts/Agreements (I) (A)
  - Amy reviewed a budget with the Board for transitioning Kevin and herself on as employees.
- L. Upcoming Grant Applications (I) – Amy Siliznoff
  - There is a new grant from United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation for Habitat Restoration. The application deadline is December 30, 2022. The funding is between \$25,000-\$1,000,000. Amy will look into this grant to see if it's a good fit for the Tesoro Viejo Project.
- M. 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 November 9, 2022 – December 14, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions (I) (A)

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

### **VIII. Financial Report**

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

- County Account: \$1,600.78
- Central Valley Community Bank Account: \$36,246.52
- Incoming from RCPP Invoice #1: \$2,035
- Incoming from RCPP Invoice #2: \$407
- Incoming from IFF: \$250
- Incoming from CDFA Invoices #1-#3 (July-Sept Work): \$17,370.68
- Incoming from DOC: \$14,500
- Incoming from CARCD Reimbursement for CAPS Working Group: \$130
- **Total in all accounts: \$37,847.30**
  - **Total after incoming: \$72,539.98**

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

- Expenses: Monthly fee for CalTech Web - \$99
- QuickBooks TSheets (Grant Tracking) - \$28
- Mileage Reimbursement for Kevin Reyes - \$316.25
- Invoice for ATS Consulting - \$3,500
- CARCD Conference Fee Reimbursement for Matt Angell - \$375
- CARCD Conference Fee Registration for Amy & Kevin - \$750
- Hotel Fee for CARCD Conference Stay for Amy - \$213.79
- Hotel Fee for CARCD Conference Stay for Kevin - \$106.89
- Invoice from Bryant P Jolley for MCRCD Audit - \$6,000
- **Total Expenses: \$11,388.93**

#### **C. Total in all accounts after incoming is deposited and expenses are paid: \$61,151.05**

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

### **IX. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:02PM.**

Next Meeting: December 14, 2022, 5:00PM