



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

3530 W. Orchard Court ~ Visalia, CA 93277
Phone: (559) 622-0378

8 March 2023

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Warren Hutchings, Scott Powell, Robin Galloway, Marlon Daly, Johnny Gailey
Staff: Teri Van Huss, Antonia Perez, David Witt, Bob Puls, Jeff Gletne
NRCS: Lurana Strong
Guests: Cody Moody, Coleman Nieblas, Derek Daly, Jerrold Sharpe

Warren called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Review Minutes: The minutes for February 8th were reviewed. Marlon moved to approve the minutes. Johnny seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financials were presented for February / March. Johnny moved to approve them, Marlon seconded. Aye vote ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

Local Working Group: There was wide discussion about the subject of the public LWG meeting this spring, based on the results of the survey from last year. It was decided we will focus on groundwater / SGMA. Johnny suggested we try to coordinate this public meeting with the public meeting of the GSAs, also scheduled for this spring. Antonia was asked to contact Aaron Fukuda from TID to see if this is possible.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES:

Cal-Fire Fuel Break projects (Clearances, Ward Canyon, Direct Award, Whisset) – Given it's winter and there's lots of rain, only CEQA work is being done. Bob gave information on the Cal-Fire grants proposed for this grant cycle – Balch Park / Blue Ridge, Camp Nelson / Pierpoint, White River, Mtn. Home Demonstration State Forest, Wilsonia Fire Hazard, Tulare County fair Demonstration, Chipper, Brush Handler 2. Johnny moved, Scott seconded to accept these projects for submittal. Aye vote ensued.

Cal-Fire Fuel Break projects (Ponderosa) – Work is on winter hiatus. Jeff gave information on the projects he will be submitted proposals for – Highway 190 Chipper Days, Sequoia Communities Protection Project. Marlon moved, Johnny seconded to accept these projects for submittal. Aye vote ensued.

Case Mountain, BLM project: There is still too much snow. We are continuing to address BLM needs in a modification to our Good Neighbor Agreement.

Redwoods Project - Sequoia National Forest agreements: David and Jeff report we are still working on completing the agreement for multiple projects in the forest, especially concentrating on Ponderosa and Sequoia Crest communities.



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SGMA: Johnny reported that DWR has not approved any plans for Tulare County GSAs, but most GSAs got close enough to still be required to do everything they said they would do. The work on the Friant Canal is still going well.

CARCD RCPP: Antonia reports she has two applications for the current cycle and is working with the Area 3 Forester to complete them. She is looking for PCAs willing to work in the forest on these rather small projects.

NRCS Updates: Lurana encouraged our LWG plans, especially as it's important to have the GSAs be aware of the NRCS practices that can assist SGMA planning.

Administrative: Board appointment paperwork from the Board of Supervisors was received for Johnny and Marlon, and Warren was renewed.

Public Comments: none

Correspondence: none

Meeting Adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Minutes by Teri Van Huss. The next RCD meeting is scheduled for April 12th in the NRCS Conference room and by Zoom.