

Sierra Resource Conservation District
Minutes for Board Meeting
November 28, 2011

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:59pm by Terry Sandridge. Roll call: Directors present: Terry Sandridge, Sherman Pennebaker, Toby Horst, Gary Temple, and Chuck Peck. Other individuals present include: Steve Haze (SRCD staff), Bobbie Kamanski(IRWMP), David Durham(NRCS), and Jenna Durham (SRCD staff).

II. Approval of Minutes for October 24, 2011 SRCD Meeting.

Motion to approve corrected minutes made by Sherman Pennebaker, second by Gary Temple. 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

III. SRCD Board Action Items and Discussion Topics

A. South Sierra IRWMP

1. There are no incorporated cities in the Southern Sierra IRWMP.
2. In order to write a regional plan, they needed to write a grant. They did the pre-planning, but they needed a fiscal agent - Sequoia Riverland Trust.
3. They are going into round two for a grant request of \$500k.
4. Now they have a facilitator and funding for the facilitator to actually write the grant.
5. They would like someone from the SRCD to continue the support after Gary leaves the SRCD board. There have been many who have contributed, which totals about \$500k, in kind support to this cause.

B. Xerces Pollinator Project Status

1. No activity in November. Jessa may be sending Haze out in December to just update and visit the sites.
2. RCD got a lot of good publicity with the article that went out to the Fresno Bee.

C. Community Groundwater Program Status

1. Coming along fairly well. Lyles College of Engineering grad students are broken into two teams.
2. Gary and Haze went to a presentation at CSUF. On November 30th the students will give their presentations, and on December 7th the reports will be due.
3. Haze has to contact the regional water conservancy board to see what the conditions are and why there has not been any treatment done in the last 6 months or so.
4. Flow meter is up and running at Sierra High school. The second one is being

installed this week.

5. They have to come up with protocols, there is a board that will be there to tell them. Sarge Green will be helping come up with the well monitoring protocols. There is a draft monitoring protocol that has been in the works since last year.
6. Steve and Gary will be going to a WAC meeting that will be on the 8th of December.
7. Gary would be willing to stay on the board until the grant is finished so he can help Steve finish up.
8. One of the grad students did an analysis of the Canyon Forks shopping center did a study that revealed that 24 acre feet of water is going down the storm drains and discharged down the little dry creek. They're coming up with technologies to help minimize this.
9. Invoice 14 got approved, but there was a typo that has to be corrected.

D. CARCD State Meeting

1. Will be discussed at special meeting on December 6th.

E. Grand Bluffs Update

1. Horst has made their submission and their invoice, \$22,000, is in for the second one. As far as Horst is aware of they have passed and they are just awaiting payment.
2. The Grand Bluffs glitch was trying to get their secretary on the Grand Bluffs overhead. They ended up having to have her put her hours on the timesheet as normal and just charge for the normal hourly.
3. Still burning despite the weather.

F. Director Replacements

1. Will be discussed at special meeting on December 6th.

G. Planning Meetings in December/January - set the dates

1. December 6th is still tentative but everyone should know by November 29, 2012.
2. January 11th, 2012 meeting will be held from 8:30am-2:30pm

H. Other

1. Haze met with NRCS new biologist, Jessie Bame. He took him on a tour of the west side dealing with pollinators and an almond grower, the other was with the little dry creek watershed. Jessie has a toolbox of what these projects are and he's working with private land owners to come up with the best practices as well as improvements to their land. He's trying to do that while overlapping another program.
2. Applications are due January 31, 2012.
3. Horst makes a motion to pursue a grant with SWQCB or RWQCN, Chuck

Peck seconds, 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

IV. Financial Report

A. Report Approval

Only \$8516 in the bank. There are more accounts receivable, \$35k+ in invoices. Horst went ahead and got the three years of web costs. Gary makes motion, Sherman seconds, 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

B. Payment Approvals

Sherman motions to approve the three years of web costs, Chuck seconds, 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

V. Reports:

A. SSJ Weed Alliance/Weed Work

1. They have done the two workshops earlier this month. As soon as Toby receives more money the RC&D can buy some more herbicide.
2. Chuck Peck motions to allow Toby and Terry the authorization to purchase more herbicide if money comes through, Sherman seconds, 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

B. NRCS Report

1. Can still take applications for tractors up until the beginning of Feb. 2012.
2. There is one development since Dave sent the solicitor.
3. Got \$39 M additional funds for CA, which went right back onto the ground in the form of additional funds for AWEP, WRP, and other programs.
4. Ed wants to focus the Bay Delta Initiative on three areas: water conservation, water quality, and habitat preservation.

Now that the valley RC&D has gone into nonexistence, their bylaws have come into conjunction with one another. Does the RCD want to take on a role like this? It gives them regional capabilities. Will be put on the agenda.

D. RC&D Reports

1. CARE DVD has been produced. The English subtitles were added to Hmong, Lao, and Cambodian videos.
2. The "Welcome to the Foothills" guides have been picked up and handed out.
3. Had two county Ag nature workshops; they were for Tulare and Fresno Counties. These included two farm tours, one in each county. There were about 70 participants.

E. Correspondence, Fresno County EA Responses

No correspondence.

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Chuck, second by Gary, 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.
Meeting adjourned at 5:57pm. Next meeting will be held December 26, 2011.