



Tehachapi Resource Conservation District

Conserving and Enhancing Our Natural Resources and Environment

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Minutes for Meeting of SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by President Giuffre.
2. **Roll Call:** Present – Directors Ed Duggan, Jeannine Giuffre, Cheryl Casdorff. Associate Director Carol Rush was absent Public Present: Steve Shaw, Sam Merk, High Desert Regional Vice Chair and Eastern Kern RCD Board Member. Marilyn White, Board Member Golden Hills CSD.
3. **Minutes from prior meeting** Cheryl made motion to approve, Ed second. All ayes.
4. **Financial Report:** Ed had report from Balancing Act that they will be issuing monthly reports to share with Board. The Board needs to review the new laws regarding audits every 2 years instead of yearly as outlined in Grand Jury Report. Sam Merk shared that it was not a cost savings for her RCD. End of report.
5. **Public Comment:** Steve Shaw, Golden Hills said that he was approached in the past to be a RCD board member by Supervisor District 2. He declined.
6. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report: None**
7. **FIELD:** David was not in attendance. Jeannine gave a report in his stead and reported that she and David met at the RCD offices. David would like to do more with FIELD and TRCD. Jeannine and FIELD to discuss if FIELD crew can work in conjunction with the State Grant work for Bear Valley Springs for clearing property around homes. RCD will be co-applicant with FIELD for grant. Tie in with NRCS-EQIP grant. Kern County Fire Dept applying for same grants. Next week FIELD and Jeanine to meet to discuss this with Kern County Fire. Deadline for submittal for grant is sept 28
8. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Kern Weed Management area and other plant issues. No meeting.

- B. FIELD See No. 7.
- C. Fire Safe Council: Grant discussions for tree removal grant. See. 7.
- D. Directors: Cheryl and Jeanine signed up for bank account for RCD with Bank of the Sierra. Ethics Training: Dept of Attorney General AB 1234. 2 Hour class. Do it in 2 hours or it will not work per Sam at Eastern Kern RCD. Golden Hills does ethics training. Bill Fisher, GHCSO will notify us when they have the class so Jeanine and Cheryl can get training. November State RCD meeting. They have a free leadership class. Will discuss who can attend at next meeting. Agenda for classes should be available by then. High Desert Meeting. Will be at Bear Valley Springs Oaks Restaurant October 13. Cheryl doing deposit and working with them on menu. . CARCD conference call : Jeanine participated in this call on grants for tree mortality. EQIP money available, up to \$10 million for counties with highest mortality which includes Kern. CARCD wanted letter from Supervisor Scrivner. Scrivner asked Kern County Fire for matching funds. SRA grants are matched funds.
- E. Golden Hills: Jeanine went on tour of nature park with Glenn Harris/Marilyn White for ideas/options/pond/weeds. Golden Hills strategic plan. Marilyn and Jeanine to look at MOU with us. Marilyn asked that we look at MOU and do an extension to help Golden Hills with this project. Look at Golden Hills MOU with golden hills for next meeting. Ed made motion to have Glenn Harris give a proposal to act as liason for RCD. , Cheryl second. All ayes. Steve Shaw gave a letter and map of neighboring property to nature park in Golden Hills asking for assistance. Receive and file. Review of letter for next meeting.
- F. Booklets: Jeanine needs payment. Ed to order them.
- G. RCD Business Plan: RCD needs a part time person to organize office. We have a permanent home but it is not ADA compliant. Our website: domain is expiring. Chris Nielson needs \$200. \$100 to godaddy for domain. Chris needs to be paid. Need user name and password for godaddy. We will pay godaddy directly. Ed made motion to pay Chris the \$200, Cheryl second. All ayes. Sam Merk, Eastern Kern RCD has a seed strategy from BLM Marunga Valley. See will send to us. She partners with Navy and City of Ridgecrest to buy equipment to hook into

- computer data. Costs \$10,000. Sam also represents High Desert Region association of RCDs as Vice Chair. RCDs need to come up to at least Tier 1 level with our website. This includes, phone/address. Inyo/Mono Counties and Kern Valley RCDs also have to comply. She will work with us on this.
9. Audit Engagement Letter: Ed to sign the letter for \$3000 for audit and state controller report. Cheryl made motion, Ed seconded. All ayes.
 10. **New Business:** Cheryl asked if we have assigned County Counsel from the County. Jeanine will ask Scrivners office. CARCD also has counsel we may be able to use. November 16-18, 2016, State Conference in Inland Empire. Discuss at next meeting, agenda of classes not available yet. National association of conservation districts. We do not pay dues. Let us discuss this at next meeting. TRCD emails, table for later meeting. RCD computer- Carol Rush found password. Computer harddrive and software are old. We need to back up harddrive. Ed can get files off old computer. Ed will also look at laptop.
 11. **Director Comments: Adjourn.** Cheryl made motion to adjourn. Ed second. All ayes. Adjourned 8:45 pm.

Next meeting is October 5, 2016, at 6:00 pm at FIELD offices on Mill Street, Tehachapi.