



# SLOUGHHOUSE

## Resource Conservation District

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### Meeting of the Board - MINUTES Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

When: Wednesday, July 10, 2024  
Where: Rancho Murieta Community Services  
15160 Jackson Rd.  
Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

or

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85766858945>  
Meeting ID: 857 6685 8945

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Board Members: Barbara Washburn (absent), Herb Garms, Gary Silva Jr., Lindsay Carter, Jay Schneider  
Associate Directors: Teresa Flewellyn  
Staff: Brittany Friedman

*\*\*A recording of this meeting can be found on the Sloughhouse RCD website at:*  
<https://srcd.specialdistrict.org/meetings> \*\*

#### **OPENING**

*Chairman Garms called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.*

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter not on the Agenda within the Board/District's jurisdiction.

#### **TREASURY REPORT**

Staff provided an update on SRCD's financials including the current invoices for the month. This current report highlighted an error in Quickbooks that will soon be fixed by staff as well as the Sacramento County account that holds \$7,000 in addition to our Five Star accounts.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- a. Agenda – July 10, 2024
- b. Minutes – June 12, 2024
- c. Financial Report – July 2024

Drafted on:  
7/10/2024

*Director Carter moved to approve the consent calendar items a & b.  
Director Silva seconded the motion.  
The motion passed with four in favor and one absent.*

## **REPORTS**

- a. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)  
None.
- b. Sacramento County Ag. Commissioners Report  
None.
- c. SRCD Board Member Reports  
Director Silva reported on the 5-0 recent Clay Water District vote on the Groundwater Sustainability Fee which passed unanimously. Galt Irrigation District passed, as well. There was no public comment on the Clay WD meeting but at least 90 people did attend the Galt ID meeting and gave comments.

## **SPECIAL HEARING**

The special hearing opened at 12:48 pm.

### **1. Consideration of Groundwater Sustainability Fee (Hearing & Board Vote)**

The Board answered questions from the public on the reason for an increase/change in the Groundwater Sustainability Fee as well as how the fees will be used going forward. The Board also discussed the difference between fees for Ag use vs. Domestic use as and what the appeals process is for someone who feels they have been wrongly charged. The fee would go into effect this year once the Board votes to move forward at this July 2024 meeting.

*Director Schneider moved to approve the De Minimis Regulation Resolution.  
Director Silva seconded the motion.  
The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

*Director Carter moved to approve the updated Groundwater Sustainability Fee Resolution.  
Director Schneider seconded the motion.  
The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

The special hearing closed at 1:08 pm.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS**

### **2. Policies & Procedures**

#### **a. Draft Updated Teleconference Resolution**

Staff presented to the Board an update to the Teleconference Resolution which allows Board members to attend and vote online/Via Zoom if needed to. This resolution will need to be

renewed at the beginning of the calendar year on an annual basis. The resolution now states that special circumstances will need to go into effect if the Board member has missed 3 prior meetings that Fiscal Year, meaning that an emergency situation will need to have taken place in order for online voting to take place. Otherwise, if the agenda has not yet been sent out, the location of the board member can be posted (i.e. from home, library, office, etc.) and no special circumstances need to go into effect.

*Director Carter moved to approve the updated Teleconference Resolution.*

*Director Silva seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

### **b. Draft Investment Policy**

The Board looked at an updated draft of our Investment Policy which needs to be updated in order to open a California Class account. Jerry Legg from California Class attended the meeting and presented to the Board the benefits of Class in addition to our Five Star account as their interest rate is 5.4%. Legal counsel Scott Morris recommended passing the policy with the intention to revisit the investment policy on an annual basis. The Board also asked Jerry to return to the August Board Meeting to discuss more in depth the details of a Class account.

*Director Silva motioned to approve the updated Investment Policy.*

*Director Carter seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

### **3. Office Space Update**

Staff provided an update regarding office furniture for the new office space. Director Silva coordinated with KLOVE radio station, who is moving, to donate large amounts of equipment and furniture to SRCD. Staff and hired movers will take the furniture to the office on July 17. While SRCD will pay the movers for their time and efforts, KLOVE is not charging us. Therefore, staff proposed that a \$2,500 donation be made to the radio station general fund as the furniture items being donated would have cost us upwards of \$25,000 if purchased on our own.

*Director Carter motioned to approve the donation of \$2,500 to KLOVE general fund.*

*Director Schneider seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

The lease for the office space is currently being looked over by the landowners and the Board is hopeful it will soon be signed. The landowners have said they are willing to let us keep our office furniture in the space before the lease goes into effect, free of charge. Staff will update the Board on the eventual signing and start of office workability soon.

### **4. Grant Updates**

#### **a. Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program (CAPGP)**

Staff provided a report/update on the CAPGP grant. There are currently 10 landowners working with Technical Service Providers (TSP's) with 3 plans completed. The first

invoice has been submitted to CDFA for reimbursement. Staff is still continuing outreach efforts for this grant as there are 10 spots remaining.

**b. Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant (WETA)**

Program Coordinator Chris Timmer provided a report on the WETA program including a recent presentation of the Mobile Irrigation Lab to the Sacramento Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting on 6/12/14. He has continued program outreach with more flyer postings, walking farmers markets, reaching out to local organizations. The MIL webpage has been updated and now features a Spanish flyer and sign-up questionnaire, a Hmong flyer (sign up questionnaire in the works), a FAQ handout, photos of evaluations and a Powerpoint recording that highlights the MIL program. SRCD is offering a contract with Knutsen Pump Testing for pump efficiency tests as part of the WETA grant. Knutsen Pump Testing will provide pump testing at well sites requested by WETA Coordinator and will provide a completed certified pump efficiency report to the grower as part of the MIL evaluation report.

Staff is working on a possible Fall Water Workshop and is in the process of looking into an ATV or truck rental to make water evaluations as easy as possible. Staff will need to check with CDFA before an ATV can be obtained but also looked to the Board for approval on this matter.

*Director Schneider motioned to approve the ATV purchase with Director Silva's assistance.*

*Director Carter seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

**5. Staff Evaluation Documents**

Staff presented a draft of annual evaluation documents including one for the Board's use and one for self-evaluation. It was suggested that a general comments section be added to both and staff completed this request. The documents are meant to be used by Board Members to evaluate Staff on their annual performance as well as for Staff to self-evaluate and have an open-dialogue with supervisors/Board members.

*Director Carter moved to approve the Staff Evaluation Documents.*

*Director Silva seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor, one absent.*

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ACTION ITEMS**

**6. Cosumnes Groundwater Authority**

**a. Board Discussion**

The Board discussed the Carillon Well Project that the City of Galt had a meeting on last month. Director Carter explained the updates regarding this project which will be presented by the City of Galt to CGA at the August 7 Board meeting. It is thought that the City of Galt had this project on the books since at least March 5 but had not discussed it with CGA. The project has currently been put on pause until more information is obtained and further discussion is had by CGA and the

City of Galt constituents. This project would entail a new contract to re-drill a deep well (a replacement well but one that would be almost double the depth to about 1,600 ft.). as well as a 1.5 million gallon above ground reservoir of 2,000 gallons per minute. Questions about this project include: how does this fit into the current modeling or the cone of depression? Is there an environmental impact report? This well is to be located off of Walnut and Carillion Rd.

## **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7. SRCD Staff Report**

Staff is in the process of acquiring and ordering SRCD swag! Hats, t-shirts, tablecloths and polo shirts will be arriving soon. This will improve the RCD's professional look when out in the field and networking or tabling events.

Staff will be in attendance at the Herald Day Event on August 3 representing both the CGA and SRCD to promote CGA awareness and disseminate information about SRCD's grant projects. Asst Director Teresa Flewellyn will also be in attendance to help/as a volunteer.

## **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board approved the following future agenda items by consensus:

- Future SRCD office space
- California CLASS account
- CGA Recommended Corrective Actions
- Grant Opportunities

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Chair Garms adjourned the meeting at 3:28pm.*