



SLOUGHHOUSE

Resource Conservation District

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Meeting of the Board - MINUTES Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

When: Wednesday, June 12, 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, 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 12:38pm.

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. SRCD has been working with Rick Wood to assist with the final budget to be presented at this meeting. Staff now have two credit cards, one for each employee, to assist with easier access to purchasing supplies for the various programs.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Agenda – June 12, 2024
- b. Minutes – May 8, 2024
- c. Financial Report – June 2024

Drafted on:
6/12/2024

*Director Carter moved to approve the consent calendar.
Director Schneider 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
There is a current fruit fly quarantine in progress.
- c. SRCD Board Member Reports
None.

GENERAL BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Groundwater Sustainability Fee (Hearing & Comments only)

The Board presented to the public a history of SGMA, the reason for an increase/change in the Groundwater Sustainability Fee, how best the public can find related documents/information online, how they connect with staff and how best to ascertain what Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) they are a part of and how much they are being charged. The fee would go into effect this year once the Board votes to move forward at the July 2024 meeting.

The public had many questions about the fee including: why the state isn't paying for it, how does land subsidence factor in, does an increase of CPI need to be included, what projects will be completed in return for these fees, what legislative efforts are there in regards to permitting, would metering ever come into play, etc.

The Board as well as legal counsel answered these questions to the best of their ability while staff provided a follow-up email to everyone who attended the meeting with specific documentation to assist them. There was a suggestion that there be an Annual Report workshop/webinar with Galt ID and Clay WD to go over what these agencies are doing with the water in the basin and what the status is.

No action was taken at this time. The Hearing closed at 2:59pm.

2. Draft FY 24-25 Budget/Finances

a. Draft 24-25 Budget

Staff provided a draft budget to the Board for the fiscal year 24-25. The budget was adjusted based on incoming taxes, the groundwater fee, and a separate PMA retainment/income of about \$60,000 to focus on CGA Projects for the GSP 5-year update. The budget was looked over by Rick Wood at CSDA and by the RCD Treasurer, Gary Silva, before being shown to the Board. The Board discussed the expenses and

income amounts for the projected fiscal year as well as the reserves set aside in Five Star Bank, and possibly soon with California CLASS.

Director Carter motioned to approve the 24-25 Budget as presented.

Director Schnedier 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. Legal will take a look at this and make the necessary recommendations before this Policy is brought back to be voted on at the July 2024 meeting.

3. Office Space Update

Staff provided a draft lease for the potential office space to the Board that legal had already looked over and approved. The lease will need to be updated with the landowner's specifications. There will also need to be a renewal clause included as well as a termination clause. There was a suggestion to get rid of the Triple Net paragraph. An Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Director Schneider and Asst. Director Flewellyn will look over the agreement to ensure these changes are made correctly and look for any other improvements that may be made. Director Garms will share the lease with the landowners and it will be brought back before the Board at a later date.

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). For outreach efforts, the Board discussed different flyering opportunities, looking at farmers markets, working with NRCS, mailing to the irrigator list, etc. Several of the plans have already been completed and submitted to CDFA.

b. Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant (WETA)

Program Coordinator Chris Timmer provided an in-depth Powerpoint presentation and report on the WETA program including recent evaluations he has completed, how the WETA program works, what items are still needed to move forward (possibly an ATV), new flyers, etc.

The Board suggested that reaching out to Davis Ranch, Kautz Farms, Gallo Wines, etc. may be a good way to begin more evaluations and/or pump efficiency tests. Chris is also working on completing a contract for a pump efficiency coordinator. Staff will work with legal to ensure it is up to code before sending out/signing.

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. These evaluations will be updated and brought back in front of the Board in July 2024.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ACTION ITEMS

- 6. Cosumnes Groundwater Authority**
 - a. Recommended Corrective Actions**
Item Tabled.

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. SRCD Staff Report

Staff is putting together a list of possible upcoming grant opportunities for the RCD to apply to and will present this at the July Board meeting. As part of the SLEWS Academy, staff is particularly looking at a project to implement with local high school students over the course of one school year. The Center for Land-Based Learning is assisting in grant research and writing, as well.

Staff is working with Jerry Legg at California Class to open an account in which the RCD will place the future groundwater sustainability fee project funds. The interest rate at this time is 5.2%. The account can remain open and without funds without penalty for as long as needed. California Class also works closely with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) and Rick Wood has been assisting staff with the application process.

IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board approved the following future agenda items by consensus:

- Future SRCD office space
- Staff Eval documents
- CGA Recommended Corrective Actions
- Fee Study hearing and vote

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Garms adjourned the meeting at 4:20pm.