



SLOUGHHOUSE

Resource Conservation District

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Meeting of the Board - MINUTES Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

When: Wednesday, December 11, 2023
Where: Rancho Murieta Community Services
15160 Jackson Rd.
Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Board Members: Barbara Washburn (absent), Herb Garms, Gary Silva Jr., Lindsay Liebig, 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 12:35pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

None.

TREASURY REPORT

Director and Treasurer Silva provided an update on SRCD's financials including the current invoices for the month and the transition to Five Star Bank from Sacramento County. Brittany will get Gary set up with a Five Star Online Account.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Agenda –November 15, 2023
- b. Minutes – October 11, 2023
- c. Financial Report – November 2023

Director Schneider moved to approve the consent calendar.

Director Silva seconded the motion.

The motion passed with four in favor (Garms, Silva, Schenider, Liebig) and one absent (Washburn).

Approved on:
1/16/2024

REPORTS

- a. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
Representative Toney Tillman reported that the EQUIP application timeline has expired but there is a second EQUIP program deadline for Spring 2024. There are also some other opportunities/practices available such as the CSP IRA and ACT NOW which addresses climate and energy conservation that are listed on the NRCS website. <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>.
- b. Sacramento County Ag. Commissioners Report
None.
- c. SRCD Board Member Reports
Director Schenider spoke about the Cosana model being used in the Basin which may not take into account conductivity occurring in the basin. He proposed a printed map that shows the conductivity to see if the water goes one specific area to Herald and if it goes down through the clay layer.
Director Silva recommended having the Air Resources Board come and speak to the SRCD Board about their opportunities and resources available, similar to NRCS. He said he will speak to someone there to see if they are available to speak with the Board.
Associate Director Flewellyn spoke about the CGA Outreach and Engagement meeting that occurred last week. She mentioned that we are looking at hosting the BBQ luncheon mid-February, after the Ag Conference, and was interested in what the Board thought about the timing in terms of attendance. It was also suggested that the individual GSA's promote the Farmer's survey and collect at least 5 surveys each and assist with invitees at the BBQ, itself. Director Silva concurred that the GSA's could assist with the Farmer's Survey and invite the irrigators to the BBQ at the same time. It was suggested by the Board to hold the BBQ at the end of February/early March.

GENERAL BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS

1. Staffing Changes

a. Interim Position of Administrative Coordinator

The Board discussed the interim position of a Temporary District Manager and looked at an un updated contract between SRCD and CARCD. The contract update includes a Temporary District Manager role for up to 6 months and to be compensated up to \$45/hour.

Director Schneider moved to approve the contract for Interim District Manager with a current compensation of \$42.50/hour.

Director Silva seconded the motion.

The motion passed with four in favor (Garms, Silva, Schenider, Liebig) and one absent (Washburn).

b. District Manager Hiring Process

The Board discussed the written job role/description document as well as the timing of hiring a new District Manager. There was consensus that there is no time constraint to hire someone at this time, and we may want to fine tune the job role to be more RCD focused and less CGA focused. The job role will be tabled for at least 3 months.

c. Water Efficiency Technician Hiring Process

The Board discussed the update of the Hiring Committee for the WETA position. They will be interviewing one person next week. However, if the interview is not a success, the job will be reposted and a new round of interviews will be held. There is also an option of hiring a consultant in the meantime to fill in some of the gaps, specifically around nutrient management and the certification required for it.

2. Operational Policies and Board Roles

a. Document Retention Policy

The Board discussed the documents on record with Sloughhouse and the process of scanning any historical documents into our online record system. Aside from any specifically chosen documents to save, the rest would follow the guidelines set in the Document Retention Policy.

Director Silva moved to approve the Document Retention Policy.

Director Schneider seconded the motion.

The motion passed with four in favor (Garms, Silva, Schenider, Liebig) and one absent (Washburn).

b. Social Media Policy

The Board looked at the Draft Social Media Policy and discussed the possibility of what having a social media presence would look like for the District. The Board would like to look at the Policy more in depth and have a legal representative review it, as well, before any decision is made. Staff will send the Draft Policy to the legal representative for further review to bring back at the next meeting.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ACTION ITEMS

3. Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

a. Member Contribution Agreement

The Board discussed the member contribution agreement for CGA since the amended budget was recently passed at the last CGA Meeting. The Board reviewed the agreement, the updated budget and the overall member contributions by each GSA for the '23 - '24 Fiscal Year. There was further discussion on the penalties involved for a GSA/Board Member who does not pay the current Fiscal Year contribution fees or pays them late.

Director Silva moved to authorize and sign the Member Contribution Agreement for the '23 - '24 Fiscal Year.

Director Schneider seconded the motion.

The motion passed with four in favor (Garms, Silva, Schenider, Liebig) and one absent (Washburn)

4. South American Subbasin GSP Implementation

a. Member Contribution Agreement

The Board looked at the current year's budget for SASb GSP Implementation as well as the Sloughhouse Contribution amount of \$8,325. The amount requested is the same as the last fiscal year. Once invoiced, Sloughhouse RCD would send payment to the South American Subbasin (presumed to be sent in January or February 2024).

Director Schneider moved to authorize the SASb FY 23-24 Member Contribution and pay once invoiced.

Director Silva seconded the motion.

The motion passed with four in favor (Garms, Silva, Schenider, Liebig) and one absent (Washburn)

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. SRCD Staff Report

Staff provided a brief report highlighting the National Association of Conservation Districts' (NACD) 78th Annual Meeting which will take place in San Diego on February 10 - 14, 2024. <https://www.nacdnet.org/news-and-events/annual-meeting/>

Staff provided a brief report highlighting the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) 78th Annual Meeting which will take place in Sacramento on December 13 - 15, 2023.

<https://site.pheedloop.com/event/carcd78conference/schedule>

Rancho Murieta CSD is in the process of updating their Integrated Water Management Plan. A draft of the plan is anticipated in the coming months. View the story map here:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f1891e0bda0e48f3b7e8281645fd2af2>

IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board approved the following future agenda items by consensus:

ADJOURNMENT

Director Garms adjourned the meeting at 3:14pm.