



# SLOUGHHOUSE

## Resource Conservation District

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### Regular Meeting of the Board Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District Agenda

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

or

[Via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81719834606](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81719834606)

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter on the agenda before or during its consideration of the matter. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person and no more than fifteen (15) minutes per topic. For good cause, the Board Chairman may waive these limitations.

**AGENDA ITEM TIME FRAME** – All time allotments are suggested by staff and are an estimate only and subject to change.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - If you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation to fully participate in this event, please contact SRCD Staff before the day of the meeting via email [[info@SloughhouseRCD.org](mailto:info@SloughhouseRCD.org)] or telephone [916-526-5447] to discuss your accessibility needs.

#### **OPENING / CALL TO ORDER**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR (Non-Agenda Items)**

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR:** (5 minutes)

*Any Board member may request and remove any item from the consent agenda and place that item on the regular portion of the agenda as specified.*

- a. Agenda – October 11, 2023
- b. Minutes – September 13, 2023
- c. Financial Report – October 2023
- d. Extension of Financial Services Contract with CA Special District Association

#### **REPORTS:** (15 minutes)

- a. Sacramento County Ag. Commissioners Report
- b. SRCD Board Member Reports

**INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION:** (20 minutes)

- a. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

**GENERAL BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS:** (30 minutes)

1. Conservation Ag Planning Grant Implementation
2. Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ACTION ITEMS:** (60 minutes)

3. Cosumnes Groundwater Authority
4. South American Subbasin GSP Implementation
5. Center for Land-based Learning SLEWS Academy

**INFORMATIONAL / DISCUSSION ITEMS** (10 minutes)

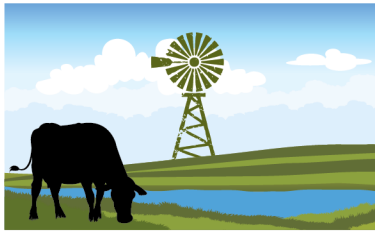
6. SRCD Staff Report

**IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

*Board Members may request items to be placed on future agendas.*

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**ADJOURNMENT**



# SLOUGHHOUSE

## Resource Conservation District

HERALD | SLOUGHHOUSE | WILTON

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

When: Wednesday, September 13, 2023  
Where: Rancho Murieta Community Services  
15160 Jackson Rd.  
Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

Time: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Board Members: Barbara Washburn, Herb Garms, Gary Silva Jr., Lindsay Liebig, Jay Schneider  
Associate Directors: Teresa Flewellyn  
Staff: Austin Miller, Brittany Friedman

#### OPENING

*Chairman Garms called the meeting to order at 12:39pm.*

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Public member Tish made a comment on conversation that was had at the last SRCD meeting in August, 2023 regarding the RCD being used as a potential revenue source for the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA).

#### CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Agenda – September 13, 2023
- b. Minutes – August 9, 2023
- c. Financial Report – September 2023

*Director Sliva Jr. moved to approve the consent calendar.*

*Director Liebig seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

#### REPORTS

- a. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Report  
District Conservationist Tony Tillman provided an update on the EQUIP Program as well as potential new NRCS programs. There are still some contracts pending to begin said projects and at the moment, there are no new deadlines for applications to be

Drafted on:  
09/13/2023

submitted. Tony will be giving a more in depth report on these programs at the next SRCD meeting in October 2023.

- b. Sacramento County Ag. Commissioners Report  
Chris Flores will present an in-person report at October's CGA meeting. Director Liebig provided an update on the fruit fly outbreak occurring in California and explained that there are pest control practices being put in place at a substantial rate. Many eradication protocols are in place although there is no quarantine protocol at this time.
- c. SRCD Board Member Reports  
Director Liebig says she will be providing an report at the following meeting in regards to Sacramento County Committee updates.

### **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION**

- a. Range Camp Scholarship Experience  
John Camacho received a sponsorship from SRCD to attend Range Camp. He presented via zoom to discuss his experience. He said that his favorite part was dealing with residual dry matter collection - how much grazing farmers/ranchers can do on their land, etc. He said there were many different topics they covered including fire science and management and he hopes to pursue range science in college and hopefully afterwards, as well. The Range Camp this year took place in Half Moon Bay as part of a branch of UC Davis. John currently attends Liberty High School in Galt as a Junior and is active in FFA and several other teams like Ag Mechanics. He will soon be participating in Nationals for debate, mock board meetings, etc.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. Sacramento County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) Election of Special District Representative**

The Special District Selection Committee is electing a regular representative to serve a new 4-year term beginning in January 1, 2024. Director Liebig has been nominated to be the Special District Rep to LAFCo, Seat #7 by the Herald Fire Protection District. The Election Ballot was presented to the Board and a discussion was held on what the role entails and how the Board can support Director Liebig to reprise her role as SD Rep, Seat #7 by casting our vote, as Sloughhouse RCD, for her. The Board also discussed the two follow-up questions listed on the Ballot in reference to electronic voting compliance.

*Director Schneider made a motion to vote for Director Liebig for the SD Rep, Seat #7.*

*Director Silva Jr. seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

*Director Silva Jr. made a motion to approve the distribution of electronic ballots to districts and the future preference of electronic voting.*

*Director Liebig seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

## **2. Resolution to Move Treasury Responsibilities from County to District (Five Star Bank)**

Staff is looking to move funds from the County of Sacramento to Five Star Bank. This would streamline the process of paying our invoices and keeping accurate records of our finances. Staff has been frustrated with the slow moving processes with the County and have had several discussions with CSDA Rep Rick Wood who advised us that Five Star Bank would be an efficient move for SRCD.

This transition depends on a Resolution to be passed (Resolution 2023-913) which notes that the Board is taking responsibility for our banking and will be the acting treasurer. Director Garms, Director Silva and District Manager Austin Miller will be responsible for signing off on future invoices. The County will still be responsible for any invoices submitted in the past that have yet to be paid and a 3 month transition period is anticipated before SRCD is fully closed out with the County.

Director Liebig shared that she has also had issues with the County Banking system and supports the transition. Director Garms suggests holding \$5,000 with the County and not fully closing out the account as a back-up system for the RCD. Director Schneider feels that privatized banks are more apt to close and/or fail and that the County has been reliable for us up to this point. It was suggested by Director Sliva Jr. and Director Washburn that we should delay the transition by one month to ensure that we are properly insured up to a certain amount (may be \$250,000) and have enough funds in balance to minimize any risks.

*Director Washburn moved to adopt and approve Resolution 2023-913 and directed staff to transition funds from the County to Five Star with assurances that the money is insured.*

*Director Liebig seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with four in favor (Liebig, Silva Jr., Garms, Washburn) and one opposed (Schneider).*

## **3. Operational Policies and Board Roles**

Staff has prepared several policies to review today to ensure efficient district operations are being upheld and improved including:

- Board Officer Policy and Assignments: Revisions include a Board Clerk/Secretary role - Brittany Friedman - and a Board Treasurer role - Gary Silva, Jr.

*Director Washburn moved to approve the revised Board Officer Policy and Assignments Policy.*

*Director Liebig seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

- Agenda and Minute Development Policy: Revisions include audio recordings to be posted within 7 days of a meeting and made available via the SRCD Website for 6 months

*Director Washburn moved to approve the revised Agenda and Minute Development Policy.*

*Director Liebig seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

- Document Retention Policy: New Policy devised to establish guidelines for SRCD staff to safeguard and dispose of documents in a legally compliant manner. Staff would follow the California Secretary of State's Local Government Records Management Guidelines. The District shall not dispose of any records laid out in Government Code Section 60201. The Types of Records to be held are as follow:
  - Correspondence (3 years)
  - Financial (4 years with the exception of records for grants, 7 years)
  - Equipment/Supplies (Active+2 years)
  - Personnel (Active+2 years)
  - Policy/Procedure (Active+2 years)
  - Grants (pending)

Director Washburn recommended that the District should retain documents relevant to the history of SRCD and that may provide background information as to where we have been, what we have accomplished and why we conduct business the way we do. The Board echoed these sentiments and Staff agreed to double check that important records have been scanned and copied before they are disposed of and to update the language in the Policy to reflect the documents being held indefinitely.

#### **4. Conservation Ag Planning Grant Implementation**

Sloughhouse RCD was awarded \$199,800 from CDFA and the grant contract agreement has been approved. To begin the work, SRCD will need to enter into agreements with the certified conservation planners slated to write the plans as well as Tuolumne RCD who will work with landowners for the plans that were awarded to Tuolumne County. An agreement with conservation planner Molly Taylor was presented at the meeting to be authorized by the Board. She is working with farms in Alpine County to develop 3 (possibly 4) carbon farm plans. Remaining agreements will be brought before the Board at the October 2023 meeting. Staff is looking to promote a Request for Proposals for Conservation Planners. Staff will also need to identify landowners for future conservation plans and request additional funding for Carbon Farm Plan development from CARCD.

Director Washburn inquired about certifications and education requirements for the planner role and suggested staff update the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) with these items for each type of plan listed. She also suggested that interested planners submit a writing sample to display their oral and written skills, as those qualifications are not necessarily captured by their certification. Director Schneider suggested that staff include language that highlights how local planners will be given preference if they apply and have the necessary qualifications. Director Garms recommended that Molly Taylor give a presentation on the carbon farm plans, what she will be doing via this grant and answer any questions the director may have.

*Director Schneider moved to approve the agreement with Molly Taylor  
Director Washburn seconded the motion.  
The motion passed with all in favor.*

**5. Water Efficiency Technical Grant Implementation**

Sloughhouse RCD was awarded \$432,253 to provide on-farm technical assistance, conduct outreach and education, cover any personnel and supplies costs and to hire a Water Efficiency Program Coordinator. The Coordinator position description has been written up and staff is looking for authorization on the job position as well as the go-ahead to spend up to \$400 to promote the job position and potentially hire them by the November 1, 2023 contract start date. Applications will be collected until September 20, 2023 with interviews conducted in October.

Director Washburn voiced concern about the language requiring someone to be able to lift 50 pounds if necessary. There were also concerns voiced over the qualifications listed and staff agreed to break down the qualification into the following categories: Minimum Qualifications and Preferred Qualifications. Staff will revise and reword some of the language discussed by the Board in the Description before it is advertised.

*Director Garms moved to approve spending to promote the position up to \$300.  
Director Liebig seconded the motion.  
The motion passed with all in favor.*

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ACTION ITEMS**

**6. Cosumnes Groundwater Authority**

Staff provided updates on the CGA recent meetings including the Regular Board Meeting, O & E committee meeting and PMA committee meeting. CGA is preparing for Fall monitoring, several Fall events, conducting a second round of the Farmer's Survey and discussing Fee Study next steps.

Director Schneider commented on the costs regarding the monitoring to take place this Fall and suggested CGA subcontract out Amador County to assist in the monitoring efforts in order to reduce costs. Director Garms voiced some concerns over the cost deficit with CGA and proposed training CGA Staff for this round of monitoring before we involve Amador in the process. Staff provided some explanation and insight into past efforts with monitoring wells, the costs associated, what is expected of Contractors and CGA Staff this Fall and what efforts have led us to this stage. Director Washburn suggests that we continue with the current plan developed by CGA Staff for the Fall Monitoring efforts.

**7. South American Subbasin GSP Implementation**

Item Tabled.

## **INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **8. 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 and a recent meeting staff had with Rancho Murieta CSD's new District Manager, Mimi Morris. At this meeting, staff shared with her an overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and implementation of SGMA in the Rancho Murieta area. Staff also shared a flier from the Pollinator Habitat Program with Great Valley Seed and the Almond Alliance. This program is intended to expand pollinator habitat on 7,600 working almond farms via a two million dollar grant from CDFA.

Brittany Friedman registered for the CSDA Clerk Conference in November and received a scholarship to cover the expenses.

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

The Board approved the following future agenda items by consensus:

- USDA NRCS Programs Presentation (Tony Tillman)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Director Garms adjourned the meeting at 4:15pm.*



**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: Consent Calendar: Financial Report  
Agenda Item Subject: SRCD Operational Policies

To: SRCD Board of Directors  
From: Austin Miller and Brittany Friedman

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**Background**

Following the Board's action from September to transition from the County of Sacramento to Five Star Bank, Chair Garms and District Manager Miller met with Five Star to discuss what protections there would be. To ensure all funds are protected, we have opened up 2 Reserve Accounts (a General Reserve and a Grant Projects Reserve) in addition to the general checking accounting. Additionally, we have forwarded the resolution adopted by the Board to the County of Sacramento and will be working with them to finalize this transition. Our current plan is to have the following amounts in these accounts initially:

- Sacramento County Account: \$50,000
- Checking/Operations Account: \$200,000
- General Reserve Account: \$150,000
- Grant Projects Reserve: \$150,000

**Staff Recommendations**

- Approve the Financial Report.

# Sloughouse Resource Conservation District

## Balance Sheet

As of October 6, 2023

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts (Sac County + Five Star Bank)	\$541,749.64
Accounts Receivable	\$39,525.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$581,274.64</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$581,274.64</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities (Accounts Payable)	\$23,227.57
Equity	\$558,047.07
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$581,274.64</b>

# Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

## Expenses Needing Board Approval

All Dates

	AMOUNT	MEMO/DESCRIPTION	
Austin Miller			
	315.26	Office Supplies - September 2023	
<b>Total for Austin Miller</b>			<b>\$315.26</b>
CARCD			
	9,639.57	Friedman Wages - September 2023	
	10,656.74	Miller Wages - September 2023	
<b>Total for CARCD</b>			<b>\$20,296.31</b>
CSDA			
	220.00	CSDA Financial Services - Time Worked - September 2023	
<b>Total for CSDA</b>			<b>\$220.00</b>
Glatfelter			
	2,396.00	Policy Premium '23 - '24	
<b>Total for Glatfelter</b>			<b>\$2,396.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$23,227.57</b>

# Sloughouse Resource Conservation District

## Budget vs. Actuals: SRCD FY 23-24 Budget - FY24 P&L

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
<b>Income</b>				
4600 Services (Staff Support)	45,925.00	161,000.00	-115,075.00	28.52 %
Contributed income				
4500 Grant Income		194,051.00	-194,051.00	
<b>Total Contributed income</b>		<b>194,051.00</b>	<b>-194,051.00</b>	
<b>Investment income</b>				
4900 Interest Income (94941000)		20,000.00	-20,000.00	
<b>Total Investment income</b>		<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>-20,000.00</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>				
4100 Tax Revenue (91-)	15,667.05	146,500.00	-130,832.95	10.69 %
4200 Groundwater Sustainability Fee		149,413.00	-149,413.00	
4700 Misc. Other Revenue (97979000)		15,000.00	-15,000.00	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>15,667.05</b>	<b>310,913.00</b>	<b>-295,245.95</b>	<b>5.04 %</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$61,592.05</b>	<b>\$685,964.00</b>	<b>\$ -624,371.95</b>	<b>8.98 %</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$61,592.05</b>	<b>\$685,964.00</b>	<b>\$ -624,371.95</b>	<b>8.98 %</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
5370 Office Supplies (Consumable) (20207600)	1,769.07	10,000.00	-8,230.93	17.69 %
Bank fees & service charges				
5200 Assessment/Collections Services (20250700)		1,750.00	-1,750.00	
<b>Total Bank fees &amp; service charges</b>		<b>1,750.00</b>	<b>-1,750.00</b>	
Memberships & subscriptions				
5260 Dues, Memberships, Subscriptions, Publications, etc. (20206100)		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
<b>Total Memberships &amp; subscriptions</b>		<b>4,000.00</b>	<b>-4,000.00</b>	
Office supplies		10,000.00	-10,000.00	
Printing & photocopying				
5240 Printing and Copying	141.67		141.67	
<b>Total Printing &amp; photocopying</b>	<b>141.67</b>		<b>141.67</b>	
Shipping & postage				
5340 Postage/Shipping (20292200)		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
<b>Total Shipping &amp; postage</b>		<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>-5,000.00</b>	
<b>Total 5370 Office Supplies (Consumable) (20207600)</b>	<b>1,910.74</b>	<b>30,750.00</b>	<b>-28,839.26</b>	<b>6.21 %</b>
5510 CDFA Conservation Ag Planning Grant (CAPGP)		40,000.00	-40,000.00	
5520 CDFA Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant (WETA)		109,338.00	-109,338.00	
Contract & professional fees				
5330 Other Professional Services (20259100)	220.00	15,000.00	-14,780.00	1.47 %
5380 Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Contribution (20281204)		149,413.00	-149,413.00	
5390 South American Subbasin SGMA Contributions (20289900)		9,000.00	-9,000.00	
Accounting fees	3,450.00	8,000.00	-4,550.00	43.13 %
Legal fees				
5350 Legal - General (20253100)	1,170.00	15,000.00	-13,830.00	7.80 %
5355 Legal - Groundwater (20253100)	1,665.07	15,000.00	-13,334.93	11.10 %

# Sloughouse Resource Conservation District

## Budget vs. Actuals: SRCD FY 23-24 Budget - FY24 P&L

July 2023 - June 2024

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
<b>Total Legal fees</b>	<b>2,835.07</b>	<b>30,000.00</b>	<b>-27,164.93</b>	<b>9.45 %</b>
<b>Total Contract &amp; professional fees</b>	<b>6,505.07</b>	<b>211,413.00</b>	<b>-204,907.93</b>	<b>3.08 %</b>
Insurance	2,396.00		2,396.00	
5300 Insurance (20205100)		2,500.00	-2,500.00	
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>2,396.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>-104.00</b>	<b>95.84 %</b>
Payroll expenses				
Salaries & wages				
5000 Staff Expenses (20254100)				
Staff Costs (Friedman)	34,403.53	96,056.00	-61,652.47	35.82 %
Staff Costs (Miller)	17,623.40	116,900.00	-99,276.60	15.08 %
Staff Costs (WETA)		26,102.00	-26,102.00	
<b>Total 5000 Staff Expenses (20254100)</b>	<b>52,026.93</b>	<b>239,058.00</b>	<b>-187,031.07</b>	<b>21.76 %</b>
<b>Total Salaries &amp; wages</b>	<b>52,026.93</b>	<b>239,058.00</b>	<b>-187,031.07</b>	<b>21.76 %</b>
<b>Total Payroll expenses</b>	<b>52,026.93</b>	<b>239,058.00</b>	<b>-187,031.07</b>	<b>21.76 %</b>
Uncategorized Expense				
5270 Education, Training, & Staff Development (20203600)		8,000.00	-8,000.00	
5320 Misc. Expenses (20227504)		4,000.00	-4,000.00	
<b>Total Uncategorized Expense</b>		<b>12,000.00</b>	<b>-12,000.00</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$62,838.74</b>	<b>\$645,059.00</b>	<b>\$ -582,220.26</b>	<b>9.74 %</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$ -1,246.69</b>	<b>\$40,905.00</b>	<b>\$ -42,151.69</b>	<b>-3.05 %</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$ -1,246.69</b>	<b>\$40,905.00</b>	<b>\$ -42,151.69</b>	<b>-3.05 %</b>

**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #1

Agenda Item Subject: CDFA Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program Grant Implementation

To: SRCD Board of Directors

From: SRCD Staff

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**Background – CAPGP**

Sloughhouse RCD was awarded \$199,800 from the [California Department of Food and Agriculture’s \(CDFA\) Conservation Agriculture Planning Program \(CAPGP\)](#) and the SRCD Board has already approved the grant contract agreement.

To begin the grant work, the following steps will need to be take:

- Enter into agreements with the certified conservation planners to write the plans.
  - [Matthew Wacker – Grazing Management Plans](#)
  - [Michael Kersten – Carbon Farming Plans](#)
  - [Harol Gallardo – Soil Health and Carbon Farming](#)
- Enter into an agreement with Tuolumne RCD who will work with landowners for the plans that were awarded to Tuolumne County.
- Identify landowners whose property will receive the conservation plans.
  - Interest form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SRCDconservationplanning>
- Request additional funding for Carbon Farm Plan development from CARCD.

**Staff Recommendation**

- Promote the interest form to landowners that want to work with the RCD to develop on farm conservation plans!
- Authorize the District Manager to enter into agreements with:
  - Matthew Wacker for 3 Grazing Management Plans (2 in Sacramento County, 1 in Tuolumne County).
  - Michael Kersten for 4 Carbon Farm Plans in Sacramento County.
  - Harol Gallardo for 6 Soil Health (CPA 116) Plans (5 in Sacramento County, 1 in Tuolumne County), 2 Soil Health (DIA 162) Plans in Sacramento County, 1 Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Plan in Sacramento County, and 4 Carbon Farm Plans in Tuolumne County.



# SLOUGHHOUSE

## Resource Conservation District

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### Professional Services Contract

Sloughouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD, Client) has prepared the following contract and entered it as of \_\_\_\_\_ (Effective Date) to receive conservation planning services from \_\_\_\_\_ (Planner) to provide technical services and planning documents to producers.

### Scope of Work

The scope of work identified in this proposal includes the conservation planning needed to meet the California Department of Food and Agricultural Conservation Planning Grant awarded to the client. The conservation plans outlined below are to meet or exceed CDFA standards in accordance with the awarded grant and technical standards identified.

### PLAN NAME – Conservation Planning Activity Code XXX

*Plan Description*

### Fees, Expenses, & Payment

The scope of work identified in this proposal includes the services needed to address the agronomic expertise necessary for your project(s).

Category	Name	Charge Rate
<i>Plan Type</i>	<i>Farm Name</i>	<i>ex: \$10,000</i>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

### Contracting of Individual Conservation Plans by Farm Number

Each individual Conservation Plan will start after the Client has provided Planner a Conservation Planning Agreement and an introduction to the agricultural producer. Conservation Plans are expected to take 4 to 6 months to complete.

### Invoicing and Payment

The listed cost in the fee schedule includes all costs to complete the conservation plan, including laboratory analysis, pump test, mapping, travel, and other 3<sup>rd</sup> party fees. In addition, Planner will invoice the client upon the completion and submittal of each executed conservation plan to the client.

The Client shall pay Planner within 30 days of receiving completed funds from CDFA, which pays out its contract quarterly. In addition, the client shall include all completed conservation plans during quarterly invoicing in their request for payment from CDFA.

**Termination of Services**

If the Client terminates an agreement of services after providing a Conservation Planning Agreement and grower introduction, then the client shall be liable for the consumed time and materials cost serviced at a rate of \$50.00 per hour.

**Time Frame**

The staging work to prepare for these conservation plans will begin immediately upon receipt of this agreement, anticipating meeting the submittal of conservation plans within the CDFA contract. This service agreement will conclude all conservation planning by April 15, 2025. The client will try to complete as many conservations plans as as possible to prevent a burdensome workload at the end of the CDFA contract period. In signing this contract, you accept all services and fees outlined in this contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Planner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Planner Print Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Planner Billing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Print Full Name



**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #2

Agenda Item Subject: CDFA Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program Grant Implementation

To: SRCD Board of Directors

From: SRCD Staff

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**Background – CDFA Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant**

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, the CA Dept. of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) announced that Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District has been selected to receive a Water Efficiency Technical Assistance (WEAT) award in the amount of \$ 432,153.00. Over the coming weeks, CDFA staff will work staff to finalize grant agreement documents including the Scope of Work and Budget. The grant contract start date is expected to be November 1, 2023.

On October 4, 2023, SRCD staff received the following message from the WETA program: “Due to the funding appropriation liquidation deadline, the WETA grant term will be shortened from its proposed 3 years to 2 years, 6 months. When you receive your grant agreements you will notice that the end date will be March 31, 2026. Your grant award will remain the same and we are hopeful that we may receive an extension that will allow us to amend agreements to make them 3 years. We apologize for this change. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out via email.”

We have received initial grant agreement language and expect a final agreement to be ready for signature in the coming weeks.

The grant application requested funds to cover personnel costs (roughly 4% FTE of the District Manager position, 8% FTE of the Admin Coordinator position, and a Water Efficiency Program Coordinator at 75% FTE), supplies, travel, employee training, outreach supplies, and pump efficiency test.

The Water Efficiency Program Coordinator position has been posted to the [SRCD website](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

**Staff Recommendation:**

- Authorize Staff to execute the CDFA WETA grant agreement.




SECTION 4B: AMENDMENT INFORMATION (Complete this section for Amendments Only)				
Amendment Action (check all that apply)		Budget Worksheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> Change Expire Date	New End/Expire Date:	Agreement	Amount	Term (MM/DD/YY) Begin      Expire
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Funding: (Include revised Budget)	\$	Original	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scope of Work (SOW) Revision (Include revised SOW)		Amendment 1	\$	
		Amendment 2	\$	
		Amendment 3	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other ( <a href="#">Contact GAU Analyst</a> )		<b>Total:</b>	\$	
<b>Explain why each change is necessary</b> (required)				

SECTION 5: BUDGET INFORMATION (Find FI\$CAL Codes on the <a href="#">CDFA SharePoint Portal</a> , Crossover spreadsheets.)			
Fiscal Year	Fund Source	Program Code	Amount
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
<b>Account Code:</b>		<b>Total Amount Encumbered by this document*:</b>	\$
<b>Alt Account Code:</b>			

\*"Total Amount Encumbered by this Document" is amendment amount, not the total amount funding to date.

SECTION 6: FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCE INFORMATION			
CDFA Agreement Number for Federal Agreement:			
Federal Agency:			
Federal Agreement Number / FAIN Number:			
Assistance Listings Number (formerly CFDA) XX.XXX:			
Total Amount Awarded to CDFA:			
Effective Dates (MM/DD/YYYY):		Through	

SECTION 7: AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
<i>As an authorized signatory, I approve assignment of Grant Manager and use of Program funds.</i>
<b>E-Signature &amp; Date</b> 

**ROUTING INSTRUCTIONS**  
 All Subaward Request packages must be routed directly to Grant Awards Unit for processing. Budget Office approval is not required for Subaward Agreements. Your package should include the items listed in the [SO-36SC Checklist](#). Email your completed package to [GrantsandContractsUnit@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:GrantsandContractsUnit@cdfa.ca.gov).

# Water Efficiency Technical Assistance (WETA) Program- Scope of Work

## Background and Purpose

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) was appropriated \$15 million for irrigation water efficiency and nutrient management technical assistance grants from the California Emergency Relief Fund. The WETA grant program is designed to facilitate technical assistance to agricultural operations for on-farm water and energy use efficiency and nutrient management.

WETA has three primary objectives:

1. Provide on-farm, on-on-one technical assistance to farmers to evaluate irrigation system efficiency (e.g., mobile irrigation lab) and provide diagnostics, reports and recommendations to growers.
2. Coordinate or provide pump efficiency testing for farmers.
3. Provide training regarding water use efficiency and nutrient management practices and technology.

## Project Information

**Awardee Name:** Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

**Award Amount:** \$432,153.00

**Project Title:** Sloughhouse RCD Water Efficiency Program

**Project Summary:** The Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) (A local RCD and Groundwater Sustainability Agency in the Cosumnes and South American Subbasins) will hire a Water Efficiency Program Coordinator (Coordinator) to serve farmers and ranchers in the RCD service area. SRCD serves the southeastern portion of Sacramento County. The coordinator will be tasked with meeting all three Water Efficiency Technical Assistance (WETA) program objectives. The coordinator will use a new Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) to assist farmers and ranchers in learning about opportunities to improve the efficiency of their irrigation practices. The coordinator will also provide irrigation system diagnostics with the goal of reducing water and energy use. Using distribution uniformity (DU) and other efficiency metrics produced by the MIL, recommendations to improve efficiency will be provided to landowners. In addition, the coordinator will provide one-on-one support to farmers and ranchers by assisting with coordination of pump efficiency tests, irrigation water

management technology calibration, data interpretation, and other irrigation training as needed. Lastly, the Coordinator will develop a training program to provide relevant water efficiency training opportunities and materials to reach a larger audience.

**Service Area:** Sacramento

**Languages in which TA will be provided in addition to English:** N/A

**Commitment to expending at least 25% of the awarded funds to assisting Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers:** Yes

### Project Objectives

The Recipient is responsible for ensuring completion of the objectives in the following section.

#### **Objective 1: On-farm Irrigation System, Water Management and Nutrient Management Evaluation:**

A Water Efficiency Program Coordinator will be hired to develop the Mobile Irrigation Lab and Water Efficiency program. This individual will have experience working with agricultural irrigation systems and will participate in professional trainings to ensure a scientifically sound program is developed. In carrying out this work, the coordinator will utilize the many resources available through key educational institutions, such as Cal Poly SLO and UC Davis, other RCDs, the NRCS, and others with knowledge of irrigation and water use efficiency. The Mobile Irrigation Lab will be ready to launch by Spring 2023 and will perform site visits during the 2023 and 2024 irrigation seasons. During this time, the coordinator, supported by other SRCD staff, will apply for grants to provide for longer term funding of the MIL program. Recommendations provided by the Water Efficiency Program Coordinator will also be aligned with priorities outlined in the Cosumnes Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, South American Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, and the Sacramento Climate Action Plan.

- Estimated Number of Farmers to be Assisted through Objective 1: 95

**Objective 2: Provision of Pump Efficiency Testing:** SRCD will work with a contractor to perform pump efficiency testing. Through the Mobile Irrigation Lab, Water Efficiency Trainings, and our Groundwater Sustainability Agency work, we will identify landowners that would benefit from a pump efficiency test. The coordinator will work with both the landowner and contractor to schedule the test and provide an analysis of results.

- Estimated Number of Farmers to be Assisted through Objective 2: 60

### **Objective 3: Irrigation and Nutrient Management Training:**

In-person workshops/trainings will be held to review methods for improving water use efficiency. Materials for the training will be drawn from similar efforts undertaken by other RCDs and other organizations providing irrigation education (examples provided below). Our focus will not be on developing new information, but to ensure that high quality existing information is presented in useful ways so they can be utilized by the broadest number of farmers. Additionally, one on-demand webinar-style training will be developed. Existing webinars such as the one developed by the Glenn County RCD will be publicized to local landowners and/or expanded to provide new information as well as translated. Our RCD will partner and coordinate with other RCDs or counties with MIL programs in the Sacramento Valley, to host irrigation-based workshops on a regional scale. Through preliminary conversations with other RCDs, we have discussed including presentations by irrigation specialists and professionals from partnering agencies, NRCS, UCCE, the Almond Board of California, consultants, and other in-field experts. These resources also will be promoted through SRCD and partner organizations' networks.

- Estimated Number of Farmers to Be Assisted through Objective 3: 100

#### **Work Plan Activities:**

##### **Objective 1:**

Activity 1: Activity Name: Initial Outreach, Training, and Evaluations. Lead: Project Manager. Time Frame: Year 1. Short Description: The Project Manager will conduct initial outreach, attend trainings, and complete at least 20 evaluations and reports using various supplies and meeting with local farmers on their properties.

Activity 2: Activity Name: Outreach, Training, and Evaluations. Lead: Project Manager. Time Frame: Years 2 – 3. Short Description: Conduct outreach, continue training, provide one-on-one technical support, and complete at least 75 evaluations and reports.

##### **Objective 2:**

Activity 1: Activity Name: Pump Test RFQ and Outreach. Lead: Project Manager. Timeframe: Year 1, Quarter 1 – 2. Short Description: Solicit contractors for RFQ to provide pump testing service and select contractor and develop and conduct outreach.

Activity 2: Activity Name: Pump Test Coordination. Lead: Project Manager. Timeframe: Years 1 – 3. Short Description: Work with pump owners and pump test consultant to coordinate update to 60 tests.

### Objective 3:

Activity 1: Activity Name: Water Efficiency and Nutrient Management Training. Lead: Project Manager. Timeframe: Years 1-3. Short Description: Research, cross train, and develop training strategies to be able to provide training regarding water use efficiency and nutrient management practices and technology. Host at least one regional annual event. Participate in other events as available to provide training for growers in the service area. This program will aim to provide training and resources for Spanish and Hmong speakers in addition to English.

### Reporting

The Recipient will submit detailed quarterly Progress Reports to CDFA identifying tasks and activities accomplished in the reporting period. CDFA will provide a reporting template and schedule. Progress Reports will include, at a minimum:

- Total number of individuals assisted.
- Information of farmers assisted.
- Number of individuals assisted who identify as SDFRs and/or farms 500 acres or less.
- Costs associated with assisting SDFRs.
- Number of irrigation assessments conducted.
- Total number of irrigation water management (IWM) assessments conducted.
- Total number of pump efficiency tests conducted.
- Total attendance at in-person and online water efficiency and/or nutrient management workshops and trainings.
- Links and or files for digital training materials that have been created.
- Links to translated files or digital training materials that have been created.

For auditing purposes, recipients are required to maintain detailed water efficiency technical assistance records on-site.

Budget: Attached table

Category	Name	Grant-Funded	Narrative
Personnel	1.1 - Initial Outreach, Trainings, and Evaluations	\$45,000.00	Conduct initial outreach, attend ITRC training, complete at least 20 evals. & reports. 900 hours over 1 year (6/23-6/24).
Personnel	1.2 - Outreach and Evaluations	\$75,000.00	Conduct outreach, continue training, provide on-on-one tech ,complete at least 40 evals. & reports.1,500 hours over 2 years (6/24-6/26).
Personnel	2.1 - Pump Test RFQ (District Manager)	\$4,800.00	Solicit contractors for RFQ to provide pump testing service and select contractor, and develop and conduct outreach. 60 hours at \$80
Personnel	2.1 - Pump Test RFQ (Project Manager)	\$3,000.00	Solicit contractors for RFQ to provide pump testing service and select contractor, and develop and conduct outreach. 60 hours at \$50/hour
Personnel	2.2 - Coordination of Tests	\$9,000.00	Coordinate 60 pump efficiency tests.
Personnel	3.1 - Trainings	\$75,000.00	Research, cross train, and develop training strategies to be able to provide training regarding water use efficiency and nutrient management practices and technology. Host at least one regional annual event. Participate in other events as available to provide training for growers in the service area. This program will aim to provide training and resources for Spanish and Hmong speakers in addition to English. 1500 hours at \$50/hour.
Personnel	4.1 - Administrative, reporting, and invoicing	\$27,000.00	Project Manager: 540 hours at \$50/hour
Personnel	4.2 - Oversight	\$16,000.00	District Manager: 200 hours at \$80/hour
Personnel	4.3 - Process payroll, expenses, invoices, etc.	\$37,500.00	Admin Coordinator: Process payroll, expenses, invoices related to project and Manage all aspects of RCD office management including insurance, liability, board report, etc. 500 hours at \$75/hour
Travel	1.1 - Initial Evaluations Travel	\$2,798.00	Pick-up truck rental 20 trips at \$100/trip plus actual mileage (est. avg. 60 mi/trip)
Travel	1.2 - Evaluations Travel	\$10,500.00	Pick-up truck rental 75 trips at \$100/trip plus actual mileage (est. avg. ~60 mi/trip)
Travel	3.1 - Trainings Travel	\$1,125.00	8 trips at \$100/day + mileage
Supplies	1.1 - Initial Outreach and Evaluations Supplies	\$2,500.00	Initial purchase of computer, tablet, software and field gear and supplies such as mud boots, waterproof field gear and sun hat, personal protection equipment, tool box, catch cans, graduated cylinders, goof plugs etc.
Supplies	1.2 - Outreach and Evaluations Supplies	\$2,000.00	Software subscriptions and re-stock misc. field supplies
Consultants/C	2.2 - Contract TBD: Pump Efficiency Tests	\$30,000.00	60 pump efficiency tests at \$500/test.
Indirect	Indirect Expenses	\$86,430.00	Indirect expenses (25%).
Other	3.1 - Trainings	\$4,500.00	Training fees and per diem
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$432,153.00</b>	



**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #4

Agenda Item Subject: Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Update

To: SRCD Board of Directors

From: Austin Miller, District Manager

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**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) Overview**

Links: [Board Meeting Materials](#) | [Committee Meeting Materials](#)

Upcoming CGA Board Meetings

Next Regular Meeting

- Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 9:00-11:30am
- Location: Galt Police Department, 455 Industrial Dr., Galt, CA 95632

**Monitoring Network**

Staff will provide an update on the CGA Monitoring Network Fall Monitoring Event and the access agreements the Sloughhouse RCD has with the local landowners.

**Member Contribution Agreement (Current Fiscal Year, 2023-2024)**

In June 2023 the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Board of Directors adopted a Member Agency Contribution Agreement for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Now GSAs need to adopt the agreement and invoices will be developed. The agreement is attached.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the CGA Contribution Agreement.

**Fee Study Development and Future Member Contribution Agreements**

On October 4, 2023 the CGA Board of Directors reviewed and discussed memorandums discussing future member contributions and the CGA cost of services funding study. Under current estimates, Sloughhouse RCD would be responsible for \$256,263 annually for CGA operations. Additionally, the current fee study is looking at a parcel base fee, a public supply fee, and an irrigated acreage fee. Sloughhouse RCD should discuss how this would impact our GSA and what implementation would look like.

Those CGA memos can be found here: <https://www.cosumnesgroundwater.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/CGA-Funding-Memos.pdf>

### **Outreach and Engagement**

CGA Staff and the O & E Team will be holding two public workshops similar to the workshops held in Spring 2023. Various partners including DWR and the Sacramento Valley Conservancy will have tables at the events, as well. Outreach efforts include fliers, social media posts and the first edition of the CGA Newsletter which highlights the workshops.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Workshop**

Wednesday, November 1 from 5:30 – 7:30pm  
Hendrickson Hall at 12746 Ivie Rd. Herald, CA 95638

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop**

Saturday, November 4 from 10am – 12pm  
Wilton Community Center at 9717 Colony Rd. Wilton, CA 95693

COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY MEMBER AGENCY CONTRIBUTION  
AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made this \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023 between COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (“CGA”), a California Joint Powers Authority, by and through its Board of Directors, and the seven Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (“GSAs”) of the Cosumnes Subbasin, which are: Amador County Groundwater Management Authority (“Amador”), City of Galt (“City”), Clay Water District (“Clay”), Sacramento County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“County”)<sup>1</sup>, Galt Irrigation District (“Galt ID”), Omochumne-Hartnell Water District (“OHWD”), and Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (“Sloughhouse RCD”), each of which is a “Party” to or a “Member” of this Agreement.. Each of the parties to this Agreement shall individually be referred to as the “Party,” or collectively, as the “Parties.” This Agreement is effective as of the date the last Party signs the Agreement.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the CGA was formed to implement certain aspects of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) and the Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”), and;

WHEREAS, the GSAs entered into the Initial Funding and Revenue Agreement for Implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan Agreement which set member contributions to CGA for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, and those GSAs entered into a similar agreement for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and;

WHEREAS, the CGA Board of Directors annually adopts a budget outlining CGA’s projected expenses and revenue, which delineates the proposed member contributions, and;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties, on the terms and conditions herein set forth, hereby agree as follows:

TERMS:

1. The Parties shall each pay their member contributions, as delineated in Exhibit 1 hereto (“CGA Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget”), to the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority.
2. Each Party must meet its Member Contribution obligation to the CGA, as outlined in Exhibit 1, by June 30. However, it is recommended to make early payment, whether in part or in full.
3. In-kind contributions are appropriate and recognized as satisfactory to meet a member’s contribution. Any in-kind contributions proposed to be substituted, in whole or in part, for monetary payment of a Party’s Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Member Contribution must be part of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 approved budget and approved in advance by the CGA Board of Directors.

4. In the event that CGA's actual Fiscal Year 2023-2024 costs are less than the total estimated costs set forth in Exhibit 1, the remaining funds held by CGA shall be refunded to each members or placed in reserve, as determined by the CGA Board of Directors.

# EXHIBIT 1

## FY 2023-2024 Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Budget

Adopted June 2023

### Expenses - Regulatory and Operational Costs

Activity	FY 23-24 Expenses
Personnel	\$161,000
Legal	\$30,000
Public Outreach Supplies	\$5,000
Annual Report	\$33,000
Data Management System	\$10,000
Other Technical Services	\$75,000
Monitoring	\$15,000
Miscellaneous	\$3,000
Financial Audit	\$12,500
Grant Funding Exploration	\$20,000
Post-GSP Fee Establishment	\$65,000
Other PMAs + Data Gaps	\$45,000
Responding to State Comments on GSP	\$50,000
Grants	\$ -
Contingency	\$10,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$534,500</b>

**Income - Member Contributions**

GSA	FY 23-23 Contributions
City of Galt	\$15,000
Amador CGMA	\$5,000
Galt Irrigation District	\$156,749
Clay Water District	\$21,737
OH Water District	\$23,241
Sloughhouse RCD	\$148,402
County of Sacramento	\$55,601
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$425,730</b>

**Expenses and Income Overview**

Category	FY 23-24 Projected
Starting Balance	\$297,488
Expenses	\$534,500
Income	\$425,730
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$(108,770)</b>
<b>Year End Balance</b>	<b>\$188,718</b>

**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #4

Agenda Item Subject: South American Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

To: SRCD Board of Directors

From: Austin Miller, District Manager

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**South American Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Implementation**

Links: [South American Subbasin Website](#)

**GSA Contributions**

Sloughhouse RCD has not yet made a contribution to the South American Subbasin for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 as we are waiting for a final breakdown of expenses.

The anticipated budget for the joint GSA efforts in the South American Subbasin for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is the same as the previous year and the Sloughhouse RCD contribution would be the same (\$8,325). Starting in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 work on the 5-year Update to the South American Subbasin will begin and a separate funding agreement will need to be developed.

Currently Sloughhouse RCD makes their GSA contribution payments from our general fund. To generate funding to sustain this work, we will need to either explore voluntary contributions from landowners or develop and implement a groundwater sustainability fee.

**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #5  
Agenda Item Subject: SLEWS Academy

To: SRCD Board of Directors  
From: Austin Miller and Brittany Friedman

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**Background**

With support from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Center for Land-Based Learning is reinstating the SLEWS Academy. This returning program trains educators and natural resource professionals to create meaningful, hands-on, habitat restoration-focused programs for high school youth in schools and communities throughout California. This comprehensive training in the best practices of the award-winning Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Program will enable more organizations to engage youth in meaningful science and service-learning.

This training opportunity would provide support to Sloughhouse RCD as we aim to expand our educational programming, engage more local high school students, and implement conservation projects. See the attached materials for more information!

**Staff Recommendation**

- Authorize Staff to execute the SLEWS Academy Agreement.





## SLEWS Academy Affiliation Agreement

This Agreement is made by and between the Center for Land-Based Learning, a California nonprofit corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) known as the “Center” in this Agreement, and:

**Name of organization:** Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (RCD)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SLEWS Academy Trained Staff:** \_\_\_\_\_

Known in this Agreement as the “SLEWS Affiliate” and “Affiliate”.

**WHEREAS**, The Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Academy is a program of the Center that trains educators and natural resource professionals to create meaningful, hands-on, habitat restoration focused programs for high school youth in schools and communities; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Center is the owner of all program materials and methods, as now existing or developed in the future, associated with its SLEWS habitat restoration program, including without limitation the program name(s), slogans, training materials, manuals, processes and procedures and all legal rights to the foregoing, including copyrights and trademarks, whether or not such marks are currently or later registered with the appropriate government agencies (hereinafter referred to collectively as the Center’s “MARKS”); and,

**WHEREAS**, the organization identified above warrants that it has the desire, staff and necessary resources to become a SLEWS Affiliate.

**THEREFORE**, the SLEWS Affiliate agrees to the following terms and conditions in consideration for the Center naming it a SLEWS Affiliate and allowing it to use the Center’s MARKS, program materials and methods:

1. **SLEWS Academy.** SLEWS Affiliate, including the required affiliate staff, agrees to complete all components of the SLEWS Academy as detailed in the SLEWS Academy Complete Information Packet as currently existing or later amended

and included in Attachment A to this Agreement and made part of this Agreement by this reference.

2. **SLEWS Materials.** SLEWS Affiliate agrees to operate the SLEWS program only in accordance with the SLEWS program methods and procedures as learned by Affiliate in the SLEWS Academy or later developed and provided to the Affiliate by the Center. It is understood and agreed by Affiliate that it may not change or modify the SLEWS program materials or methods, or the SLEWS program name, logo or model, in any way other than as provided in the SLEWS training and program manuals, without the prior written consent of the Center.
3. **Reporting.** SLEWS Affiliate agrees to complete and provide in a timely manner to the Center all required SLEWS Affiliate program reports. It is anticipated that at a minimum online field day reports after each SLEWS field day and an annual report will be required that includes information on funding secured by Affiliate for the SLEWS program, the number of participants in Affiliate's SLEWS program (students, teachers, schools, volunteers, partners, etc.), and SLEWS project locations and accomplishments.
4. **SLEWS license.** The Center grants the Affiliate the nonexclusive, non-transferable license to use the SLEWS name, logo, slogans, MARKS, methods and materials (known collectively as the "SLEWS Materials" in this Agreement) during the period this SLEWS Academy Affiliation Agreement is in effect. Affiliate understands and agrees that the right to use the SLEWS Materials shall automatically terminate upon the termination of this Affiliation Agreement for any reason. If at any time within or outside the term of this agreement, the Affiliate wishes to search for or find funding sources to continue the SLEWS program or programs using the SLEWS model at their site, Affiliate must notify and correspond with the Center.
5. **Center ownership of all SLEWS materials and methods.** Affiliate acknowledges the Center's exclusive ownership of and right to use the SLEWS Materials and agrees that it will not claim any right to the SLEWS Materials other than the permission to use the SLEWS Materials as intended and detailed in this Affiliation Agreement and during such period of time Affiliate is party to a current and valid SLEWS Academy Affiliation Agreement with the Center. Affiliate further agrees that it shall not dispute or assist others to dispute the Center's ownership, validity or right of exclusive use of, or any registration or application, including without limitation any registrations now

existing or later filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and/or the U.S. Copyright Office, filed by or issued to the Center with respect to the SLEWS Materials.

6. **Notice of unauthorized use.** Affiliate agrees to immediately notify the Center in the event that Affiliate becomes aware of any unauthorized use or imitation of the Center's SLEWS name, logo, slogans, MARKS, methods and materials associated with its SLEWS programs. Affiliate understands that the Center shall have sole discretion to take such action as it deems appropriate in the event of any unauthorized use or imitation of the Center's Marks, methods or procedures associated with its SLEWS programs.
7. **No assignment.** Affiliate understands and agrees that the rights granted to Affiliate in this Agreement are personal to Affiliate and may not be assigned, transferred, or otherwise encumbered by Affiliate in whole or in part.
8. **Confidentiality.** Any information that Affiliate is exposed to by virtue of its relationship with the Center, which information is not available to the general public, shall be considered to be "Confidential Company Information." Affiliate may not disclose any Confidential Company Information to any person or entity, except where compelled by law, unless Affiliate obtains prior written consent for such disclosure from Company.
9. **Term.** This Agreement shall begin on **October 6, 2023** and continue for one complete SLEWS Academy cycle of approximately *two and a half years* ending on the termination date of **April 6, 2026**. Affiliate understands that its affiliation with the Center as a SLEWS program provider may be renewed after successful completion of the first program cycle upon the mutual written consent of the Affiliate and the Center.
10. **Termination by Center.** This Affiliation Agreement may be terminated by the Center at any time upon written notice to Affiliate if the Center determines in its sole discretion that:
  - (a) Affiliate lacks the capacity to effectively operate a SLEWS program, provided however that the Center shall give Affiliate notice of its finding that Affiliate lacks sufficient capacity to maintain a SLEWS program and a minimum of thirty (30) days for the Affiliate to respond to the Center's findings. Center may request from time to time that Affiliate provide evidence to the Center that Affiliate continues to have the capacity, including funding, financial stability, SLEWS-trained staff, and other criteria as determined by the Center, to

effectively operate a SLEWS program;

(b) Affiliate has breached any condition(s) of this SLEWS Affiliation Agreement, or breach of any of the SLEWS Affiliate policies, procedures and guidelines now existing or later developed by the Center; or,

(c) Continuation of the SLEWS Affiliate Agreement is not in the best interest of the Center.

11. **Termination by Affiliate.** Affiliates may terminate this Agreement upon giving the Center thirty (30) days prior written notice.

12. **SLEWS Academy training and Affiliation cost.** Affiliate agrees to pay the Center a SLEWS Academy program fee of **\$3,000** per organization, which includes 3-4 staff in attendance at the training. This fee is due and payable no later than the day prior to the first day of training of the SLEWS Academy. Affiliate understands and agrees that the Center may charge, and Affiliate agrees to pay, additional fees should Affiliate require any additional or customized training that is not included in the regular SLEWS Academy program, including without limitation tuition fees for additional Affiliate staff to attend a SLEWS Academy training session. Affiliate further understands that a renewal fee may be charged to remain an affiliate after completion of the first program cycle.

13. **Compliance with law.** Both parties shall abide by all applicable federal and state laws and regulations in the performance of their respective obligations under the terms of this Agreement.

14. **Relationship of Parties.** This Agreement shall not be construed to create any employment relationship, agency relationship, or partnership between Affiliate and the Center. Affiliate shall have no authority to bind Company into any agreement, nor shall Affiliate be considered to be an agent of the Center in any respect.

15. **Limitation of Liability.** The Center shall not be liable for any loss of profits or costs, or for any direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential damages, including costs associated with the procurement of substitute goods or services (whether Center was or should have been aware or advised of the possibility of such damage), arising out of or associated with any loss, suspension or interruption of service, termination of this Agreement, use or misuse of the SLEWS Materials, or other performance of services under this

Agreement.

16. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one agreement.
17. **Severability.** If any part or parts of this Agreement shall be held unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect. If any provision of this Agreement is deemed invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, and if limiting such provision would make the provision valid, then such provision shall be deemed to be construed as so limited.
18. **Headings.** The headings for section herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.
19. **Choice of Law.** This Affiliation Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any legal action arising as a result of this Agreement must be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction within the State.
20. **Entire Agreement.** This written Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties, merging and superseding any prior understandings either written or oral, and may be amended only by a writing signed by the parties.

The undersigned represent and warrant that they are authorized to agree to the terms and conditions of, and execute this Affiliation Agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

**For Affiliate:**

**For the Center:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME, TITLE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME, TITLE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

## **SLEWS Academy Complete Information Packet**

With support from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Center for Land-Based Learning is reinstating the SLEWS Academy. The S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation and the James Irvine Foundation supported the initial launch of this program. This returning program trains educators and natural resource professionals to create meaningful, hands-on, habitat restoration-focused programs for high school youth in schools and communities throughout California. This comprehensive training in the best practices of the award-winning Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Program will enable more organizations to engage youth in meaningful science and service-learning.

### **SLEWS Academy – why participate?**

Connect young people to agriculture and the environment

Develop new partnerships

Engage your community

Utilize an established model for youth engagement with all the tools such as field day activities, evaluation, and outreach materials, already created for you.

### **CLBL background**

The Center for Land-Based Learning (CLBL) was founded in 2001 by Winters, CA, walnut farmer Craig McNamara to teach the next generation about the cause and effect relationship between agricultural practices and the environment, and to create connections with the land that so many youth need. CLBL serves urban, suburban, and rural youth throughout California in 15 counties from Yuba to Sonoma to Los Angeles.

*The Center for Land-Based Learning is dedicated to creating the next generation of farmers and to teaching California's youth about the importance of agriculture and watershed conservation. Combining innovative hands-on experience with classroom learning, participants in CLBL's many programs develop leadership skills, learn how sustainable agriculture practices contribute to a healthier ecosystem, and create connections to agricultural, environmental, and food system careers.*

### **SLEWS Program Background**

The Student and Landowner Education and Watershed Stewardship (SLEWS) Program began in 2001, and has engaged more than 8,500 students and teachers in 13 counties in California. This award winning program has been recognized by national, state, and local partners for excellence in conservation education. With 22 years of history and collaboration with high school teachers, restoration professionals, private landowners, state and national agencies, universities and non-profit organizations, the SLEWS Program is an established and comprehensive approach to youth engagement.

### **Meeting Educational Needs**

With the implementation of Common Core Standards, the SLEWS Program supports a key element of these standards, College and Career Readiness. These standards focus on speaking and listening, preparing students for being able to engage in conversations, consider points of view, and develop a line of reasoning. The SLEWS Program facilitates structured and informal conversations with professionals and peers. Skills applicable in all career fields, and commonly cited as lacking, such as communicating across generations, wearing appropriate attire for the given task and setting, seeing a task through from beginning to end, and problem-solving with a team, are practiced through the SLEWS Program.

In addition, California implemented the Next Generation Science Standards in 2015. These were the first broad national recommendations for science instruction since 1996, and brought sweeping changes for how science should be taught in the United States. The focus is shifted toward helping students experience *how* science is done so that they can understand how ideas are developed and tested, discern between strong and weak evidence, and how science is utilized to address issues. The SLEWS Program and the corresponding SLEWS classroom science curriculum were already perfectly suited for and supported Next Generation Science Standards upon its roll out. SLEWS programs continue to adapt, improve, and support current NGSS.

### **SLEWS Academy**

The SLEWS Academy class will be limited to six teams to allow us to provide highly customized, hands-on instruction.

The SLEWS Academy consists of the:

- 3-day Intensive Training Kickoff,
- Six Monthly Group Sessions,
- Individual Program Support,
- 2-day Culminating Retreat of Sharing Your Implementation Plans, and
- SLEWS Network Access

### **3-day Intensive Training Kickoff – January 30, Tuesday - February 1, Thursday, 2024**

The 3-day intensive training near Woodland, CA (exact location TBD) will focus on SLEWS program objectives and philosophy, field day structure and elements, funding and budgeting, habitat restoration for high school youth, developing essential partnerships, program evaluation, engaging culturally diverse audiences, SLEWS in the classroom and yearlong program elements.

Participants will receive comprehensive SLEWS Program development materials:

- SLEWS Administrator and Coordinator Manual
- SLEWS Classroom Curriculum
- SLEWS Field Guides
- SLEWS Program Activities Toolkit

### **Regular Group Sessions – February through July 2024**

Six monthly online sessions following the 3-day workshop will further prepare teams to launch their own program. These sessions will go into greater depth on cultural competency; recruiting, training and rewarding mentors; taking SLEWS home with community action and public



participation in science; resources for program funding; and site visits to established and new SLEWS Programs.

### **2-day Culminating Retreat - August 21 - 22, 2024**

Teams will be sharing their organization's SLEWS program implementation plans. We will discuss, and provide feedback for moving forward.

### **Individual Program Support**

CLBL is committed to helping each organization successfully launch or enhance their program. Individual support may come in the form of meeting facilitation with new partners, assistance with project and school selection, fundraising support, and evaluation. This will include a CLBL visit to each organization, scheduled to meet their program needs.

### **SLEWS Network – Ongoing**

The SLEWS Network will help participants stay connected to CLBL and peer organizations. The network will be open to all who participated in the SLEWS Academy, connect participants to a network of CLBL-certified practitioners who are applying SLEWS methods in their own communities, and provide an ongoing opportunity to transmit knowledge and share new practices as participants work to implement SLEWS in their communities.

### **TIMELINE**

- January 30 - February 1, 2024: 3-day Intensive Training Kickoff
- February - July: Six Monthly Online Group Sessions
- Ongoing: Individual Program Support throughout your program implementation
- August 21 - 22, 2024: 2-day Culminating Retreat of Sharing Your Implementation Plans, and
- SLEWS Network Access
- Implementation of SLEWS programs during the 2024-2025 and/or 2025-2026 school year

### **CONTENT**

How SLEWS works – what it would look like for YOU to run SLEWS.

The SLEWS Program is designed around partnerships. The core team includes:

#### ***SLEWS Program Coordinator***

Through the SLEWS Academy, your staff will have the tools and training they need to coordinate the team and to run the SLEWS Program. The SLEWS Coordinator is the lead on designing and implementing SLEWS field days, including student involvement in restoration tasks, teambuilding, leadership and science learning activities. The Coordinator also provides in-class presentations, trains volunteer mentors, and performs evaluation and reporting of field days.

#### ***Restoration Project Planner***

Often from a partner organization, but sometimes on the same staff as the SLEWS Coordinator. This person is the lead on the restoration project planning and implementation; including restoration project funding, permitting, ordering plants, site preparation and maintenance.



### ***High School Teacher***

The teacher coordinates school logistics for SLEWS field trips such as scheduling buses and substitutes, participates in all SLEWS field days, and connects hands-on learning to the classroom with SLEWS curriculum.

### ***Landowner***

The landowner works closely with the Restoration Project Planner and the SLEWS Program Coordinator on logistics such as timing of SLEWS field days and access to the property. Often landowners will participate in SLEWS field days and discuss their land stewardship and/or agricultural operation with students.

### ***Mentors/Community Volunteers***

Mentors attend all the SLEWS field days for a particular school and project. They receive training in ecosystem restoration and outdoor education and help facilitate SLEWS field day activities. Mentors lead small groups of students to ensure student safety and restoration project success.

## **WHAT YOU NEED**

### ***A Team***

Organizations should identify a team of three to four people who will attend all components of the SLEWS Academy together, and participate in the implementation of your program. This team can include someone from outside your organization who will be a partner in implementing your program such as a teacher or natural resource professional. At least one of your team members must be in an upper management position within your organization (i.e. Executive Director, Program Director, Supervisor).

### ***Tuition***

The tuition for an organization to participate in the SLEWS Academy is **\$3,000**. This covers 3-4 staff members from your organization (your team) to attend the 3-day SLEWS Academy Training Kickoff, the online once a month sessions, and the program support.

### ***Organizational and Financial Support***

Our goal in providing the SLEWS Academy is to invest in the capacity and training of youth providers and natural resource professionals, thereby increasing the number of high quality outdoor experiences for youth. Therefore, to be effective, we expect organizations who participate in the SLEWS Academy to implement their new programs within 1-2 years of participating in the training.

### **Questions?**

Please contact Sabreena Britt, SLEWS Academy Manager at [SLEWSAcademy@landbasedlearning.org](mailto:SLEWSAcademy@landbasedlearning.org)

**Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: October 11, 2023

Agenda Item #: #6

Agenda Item Subject: SRCD Staff Report

To: SRCD Board of Directors

From: Austin Miller and Brittany Friedman

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**National Association of Conservation Districts' (NACD) 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

Next year's Annual Meeting for the National Association of Conservation Districts will be held in San Diego, CA from February 10 – 14, 2024. <https://www.nacdnet.org/news-and-events/annual-meeting/>

**Sacramento County RCDs**

Links: [Florin RCD](#) | Lower Cosumnes RCD (*coming soon!*)

Florin RCD: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 6:30pm

**Rancho Murieta Community Service District (CSD)**

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>

There will be a **Residential Organics Workshops** for residents of Rancho Murieta on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to help residents comply with California Senate Bill 1383. Food waste and food soiled paper, such as napkins and paper towels, must now be thrown away in the Gray Cart along with yard waste. The Gray Yard Waste Cart is now considered the Gray Organics Recycling Cart.

Learn more here: <https://www.ranchomurietacsd.com/cal-waste-organics-workshop>