



Tulare County Resource Conservation District

3530 W. Orchard Court ~ Visalia, CA 93277
Phone: (559) 622-0378

14 June 2023

Board Meeting Minutes

Directors Present: Warren Hutchings, Johnny Gailey, Scott Powell
Staff: Teri Van Huss, Antonia Perez, Bob Puls, David Witt, Jeff Gletne
NRCS: Lurana Strong, Yissel Martinez
Cal-Fire: Chief David Shy
Y/SRC&D: Erin Capuchino
Guests: Cody Moody

Warren called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Review Minutes: The minutes for May 9th were reviewed. Johnny moved to approve the minutes. Warren seconded. Aye vote ensued.

Financial Report: Financials were presented for May/June. Johnny moved to approve them, Scott seconded. Aye vote ensued.

NEW BUSINESS:

Local Working Group: We are keeping in touch with Aaron Fukada, manager of Tulare Irrigation District, to get a meeting date with the whole district for our LWG activity this year.

Docu-Sign approval: We received a quote from Docu-Sign of \$3,260 for a year's subscription, onboarding training, and continued support. Johnny moved, and Scott seconded, to approve this purchase. Aye voted ensued.

Cal-Fire applications: Chief Shy reported that two of the applications will probably moved forward.

CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES:

Cal-Fire Fuel Break projects (Clearances, Ward Canyon, Direct Award, Whisset) – The Board packet contains a chart of all the Cal-Fire and Sequoia National Forest projects. Each one was assigned a project manager and the current status was recorded. Most are just getting started, many are in the CEQA stage.

Cal-Fire Fuel Break projects (Ponderosa) – David / Jeff Ponderosa is still too wet to get started, but hopefully will soon.

Case Mountain, BLM project: The roads were repair and the masticators have been brought in.

Forest Health Task Force: Bob attended the recent meeting. There is a Fire Safe Council grant being offered for the same kind of services we are doing under the Clearances grant. Bob has applied already, and it looks like the County will apply as well. There is only one grant per county offered.



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Regional Parnter Updates: The Area IX meeting is in Kerman – Bob will attend.

SGMA: Johnny reports the Tule GSA is talking to the State. Greater Kaweah is looking at land following programs.

CARCD RCPP: Antonia is having difficulties doing field visits in the foothills, the roads are a mess. The grant has been extended to August.

NRCS Updates: Lurana introduced one of her new employees, Yissell, an engineering student staying for the summer. The Inflation Reduction Act has created money for tractors.

Public Comments: none

Correspondence: none

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Minutes by Teri Van Huss. The next RCD meeting is scheduled for July 12th in the NRCS Conference room and by Zoom