

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TRANQUILLITY RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
September 18, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Tranquillity Resource Conservation District (TRCD) met in the McMullin Area Sustainability Agency Conference Room for a live and in-person meeting via MS Teams meeting protocols, on Monday, August 14, 2023, at the hour of 3:00 P.M.

Jerry Radinoff presided, and Steve Haze kept the Minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jerry Radinoff and Matt Hurley

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Steve Shehadey, Anthony Borges and Patrick Abercrombie

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Haze – Executive Director, Erwin Duenes, Fresno County NRCS District Conservationist, Michael Kazzi, Fresno County NRCS and Blair Bain, Area 3 Field Office, NRCS

No quorum was declared which required at least 3 Directors being present. No action could be taken and the discussions as transcribed were informational only.

I. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. **Board Minutes:** Review of draft minutes for August Board meeting was deferred to the October 9th Board meeting.
2. **Appointments of Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer:** Discussions on Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for consideration deferred to next Board meeting on October 9th.
3. **CSDA Web Services Program:** Website migrated over and now available to the public with the official URL: <https://tranquillityrcd.ca.gov>
4. **Executive Director Report:**
 - a) **General:** Update of activities associated with the operations was provided. Additionally, the ED shared the following:
 - Introductory meeting conducted with Erwin Duenes, new NRCS District Conservationist for Fresno County.
 - Initial outreach with Alexandria Miranda, Carbon Cycle Institute’s Coordinator for San Joaquin Valley Region Carbon Farming Hub program.

- Attended 2-day Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) Pacific Region Summit with NRCS and CA Association of RCDs. Gave presentation on the value of RCDs in the San Joaquin Valley.
 - Participated in CERF (CA Economic Resilience Fund) plan development working group representing local governments in west Fresno County
 - Been appointed by Executive Director of CA Association of RCDs as Alternate Board Member of the Central Valley Joint Venture (CVJV)
 - Matt Hurley and ED Haze met with Cesar Lucio, Coordinator for F3: The Future of Food Initiative a \$65 million regional initiative to determine how best to participate in the program that is being managed by the Central Valley Community Foundation.
 - Implemented ESRI GIS licenses. Working Jeevan Singh to determine opportunity areas for data analysis and potential for providing future services within agriculture.
- b) **Funding:** No change to the account balance of \$1,559.82. Will be paying the 1-year service cost of \$1,008.00 to Streamline for the website.
- ED Haze provided an update of the Activities Report which is a consolidated list of several undertakings. Preparatory work has commenced under the 3-year Conservation Cooperative Agreement with the NRCS.
- c) **NRCS Update:** Erwin Dunaes started as NRCS's District Conservationist. Mikhael Kazzi provided an update on the WaterSMART on-farm recharge program within MAGSA and the RCPP (Regional Conservation Cooperative Program) with the American Farmland Trust (AFT).

5. Planning and Priority Discussion:

- a) **Annual and Long-Range Plans:** Continued discussions on the need to review the annual and long-term plans for re-prioritization of TRCD efforts and the need to perform a regular audit. The next Board meeting will be devoted to begin the review process.
- b) **Potential Development District Carbon Management Plan:** Future discussion in conjunction with CCI's SJV Regional Carbon Farming Hub program.

II ADJOURNED TO THE REGULAR October 9, 2023, MEETING

With no quorum present the meeting did not officially convene – thus, no official adjournment.