

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TRANQUILLITY RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 12, 2024**

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, February 12, 2024, at the hour of 3:03 P.M.

Jerry Radinoff, Chair presided, and Steve Haze kept the Minutes.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Jerry Radinoff, Steve Shehadey, Patrick Abercrombie, and Matt Hurley

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Anthony Borges

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Steve Haze – Executive Director, Johnnie Siliznoff, Blair Blain, and Dannamarie Acevedo-Velazquez, NRCS

At 3:03 pm a quorum was declared

#### **I. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

1. **Draft Agenda Review and Approval:** PA Motioned approval and MH Seconded. Passed unanimously.
2. **Board Minutes:** Draft meeting minutes for November 13, 2023, was reviewed. MH motioned approval and PA seconded. Passed unanimously with JR abstaining due to being absent for that meeting. There was no meeting on December 11th.
3. **Executive Director Report:**  
**General:** An update of outreach and development activities was provided that included the following:
  - The account with Central Valley Community Bank was active and the first deposit was made on 1/25. Next step is to have Mechanics Bank account closed and balance of funds transferred.
  - Continued participation in CERF (CA Economic Resilience Fund) plan development working group representing local governments in west Fresno County in which TRCD is being funded. Received payment of first invoice. May be role for Matt to play under MAGSA.



- Briefly discussed the challenge of becoming engaged in F# - Farms-Food-Future Innovate program.
- Jerry and Steve met with Alexandria and Noah with CCI about potential participation or support for cotton producers. Still formulating how that could work.
- Participated along with Jeevan Singh in U.C. Merced's Digital Tools for Water Management and Experimental Smart Farm. Steve passed out the agenda of presentations. Only a handful of potential users attended.

**Funding:**

- NRCS Conservation Cooperative Agreement. Blair again discussed the challenges of getting TID to come to the table and work cooperatively with the NRCS and TRCD. Unfortunately, has not worked. Will need to come up with some other approaches in the future.
- Strategic Growth Council TCC award pre-contract activities are in full swing – and it seems optimistic that the agreement will be available before the original June estimate.
- Continued participation in Fresno Council of Governments (COG) Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) which must be approved and submitted to U.S. EPA by March 1<sup>st</sup>. With an approved PCAP, \$500 million available through U.S. EPA's Climate Pollution Reductions Grant Program (CPRGP). Letter Of Intent was submitted to EPA on 2/1 indicating TRCD has targeted \$350 million in project funds to be requested for dairies, orchard removal and water management using GHGR technologies. Team is being formed in which to develop full application by April 1 deadline. EPA will have a webinar on 2/15.
- Steve presented current finances. A CERF receivable of \$3,300 was deposited into CVCB with an expense of \$3,000 to ED for services performed in 2023. A balance of \$300 remains – along with the \$607.32 with Mechanics Bank. There are no other outstanding debts.
- ED Haze provided an update of the Activities Report which is a consolidated list of several undertakings.

**NRCS Update:**

Dannamarie shared that there is a deadline for IRA monies directed towards GHG reduction on March 1<sup>st</sup>. This would be for Ag and Forestry Programs and funding decision will be made on 3/22.

**4. Planning and Priority Discussion:**

- a) **Annual and Long-Range Plans:** No Discussion
- b) **Potential Development District Carbon Management Plan:** In conjunction with CCI's SJV Regional Carbon Farming Hub program.

**|| ADJOURNED TO THE REGULAR April 8, 2024, MEETING, (March meeting cancelled. ED will be on leave from 3/10 thru 3/22)**

Adjournment declared at 4:42 pm.