

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TRANQUILLITY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
April 14, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Tranquillity Resource Conservation District (TRCD) met in the McMullin Area Sustain Groundwater Sustainability Agency Conference Room for a live and in-person meeting and via MS Teams meeting protocols, on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 3:08 P.M.

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

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the President Jerry Radinoff at 3:08 P.M. at the District Office 275 So. Madera Avenue, Suite 301, Kerman and via MS Teams remote access and a quorum was declared.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were Jerry Radinoff, Steve Shehadey and Anthony Borges. Absent: Patrick Abercrombie and Matt Hurley

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Haze Executive Director, John Heywood as a guest and via MS Teams Erwin Duenas, NRCS and Jeevan Singh.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Review and Approval of Agenda: Motion – SS and second by AB. Passed unanimously.

Review and Approval of draft Minutes from February 10, 2025 – Motion: AB and second by SS. Passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

a) **General – Outreach and District Development effort**

- I. Fresno County Public Works & Planning and CA Conservation Corps – Dumping on Ag Lands clean-up: No update. Still waiting for County to provide letter to defer to TRCD.
- II. **TAP** – Technical Assistance Provider training with scholarships. Jeevan Singh is still participating as classes are available. Target for completing certification is in the Fall.
- III. **UC Merced** – Partnership Opportunities, SEEN, F3 and other programs. The ED continues to perform outreach and met with representatives from the Central Valley Community Valley Foundation and others.
- IV. **Outreach to other RCD and Others s in Area 9** – ED attended Tranquillity Irrigation District Board meeting on Wednesday, February 19th. They conveyed that they did not have any interest in supporting NRCS’s WaterSMART program. Have attempted outreaching to Firebaugh RCD – with no response. ED attended Eccles Family Rural West Conference on Wednesday, February 26/27 and the SJV Small Farms Conference at Merced College on Friday, February 28th.
- V. **CERF/CA Jobs First** – No new developments to report. \$5M awarded with \$9M remaining.
- VI. **Fresno COG** – Continued participation for the development of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan – CCAP and Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) development.

b) **Financial Reports – 2024/25 Year To Date Income and Expenses Report:**

- Community West Bank Account Balance - \$86,097.19 including Advance from SGC: \$74,975
- Total Grants in progress - \$271,860
- Accounts Receivables - \$17,597.77
- Accounts Payable - \$21,168.31
- AR versus AP Balance – (\$3,570.54)

TRCD's Funded Programs Report and CWB Account Transactions from January 2024 to Current were provided.

c) **Funding – Grant Development, Submission and/or Active**

- I. **Proposition 4 and CA Budget & Policy Center's Insights Summit** – Continued participating in CARCD's discussions on Prop 4 regarding the \$2.65B for 2025/26 funding allocations out of the \$10B total. Attended the Summit on the 10th.
- II. **Pollinator Grants and Active Demonstration Site** – Jeevan Singh has offered his property to be used for demonstration purposes. He is looking at the pollinator grants through Xerces and Pollinator Partnership as an organic almond grower.
- III. **Mobile Irrigation Systems Testing** – Prop 4 monies include SWEEP and Healthy Soils – will be tracking.
- IV. **Sustainable Lands Initiative (SLI) framework** – The plan is to execute an MOU with Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD in which TRCD will be paid \$2,000 per Carbon Farm Plan. Jeevan will be involved with two plans.
- V. **CARCD -- California Water Resilience Initiative (CWRI) Private Sector Funding** – Steve met with Cora Snyder with the Pacific Institute on 4/9. PI hopes to have an agreement under CWRI in place with Netafim in the Fall timeframe. Will continue to keep in touch.
- VI. **NRCS – Conservation Cooperative Agreement** – Local Working Group (LWG) second meeting is scheduled to occur on April 23rd. This will be held at the Woodward Park Public Library in Fresno. Agenda is being finalized with the NRCS.
- VII. **Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program** – Advance received on April 4th. This will help provide stability for the program. Next scheduled community meeting is Tuesday, May 6th in the town of Tranquillity.

d) **SJV Natural Resources Hub** – Alexandria Miranda, CCI Regional Coordinator not available. ED continues to support the Hub and engaged in Strategic Plan development.

e) **NRCS Update** – Erwin Duenas, District Conservationist for Fresno County reported that they have 112 EQIP applications and to-date have obligated 30 contracts. TRCD continues to provide assistance as best as possible during these challenging times.

f) **District Carbon Management Plan** – This is being approached based upon working with the Carbon Cycle Institute, TAP training, and now with potential benefits coming from the Sustainable Lands Initiative (SLI) and their Carbon Farm Planning program that TRCD will begin to be involved with.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:50 P.M. to the next Regular Meeting on June 9, 2025, 3:00 P.M., Boardroom of the Agency or as otherwise directed by the Board.