

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TRANQUILLITY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
February 10, 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 3:04 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 3:04 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 Patrick Abercrombie, Matt Hurley, Jerry Radinoff and Steve Shehadey. Absent was Anthony Borges.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Haze Executive Director and via MS Teams Jeevan Singh

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

1. **Review and Approval of Agenda motion** – JR and second by PA. Passed unanimously.
2. **Review and Approval of draft Minutes from January 13, 2025** – Under 4d, amend from “Cotton Growers” to “Cotton Brokers”. Motioned by MH and seconded by JR. Passed unanimously.
3. **Review and Approval to Execute NDAs** – Motioned by JR and seconded by SS. The Executive Director has authorization to enter into None Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) and other arrangements for the planning and design as necessary and relevant to biomass utilization and conversion technologies. This includes H2B2, Bloom, FCRTA and others. Passed unanimously.
4. **700 Forms** – A reminder that 700 forms are due by April 1st.
5. **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: Further discussion on potential to move forward. The Board requested additional information be sent to them.
 - II. **TAP** – Technical Assistance Provider training with scholarships. Jeevan Singh is still participating as classes are available.
 - III. **UC Merced** – Partnership Opportunities, SEEN, F3 and other programs. The ED will attend the African American Farmers of California Board meeting on Thursday, February 13th in which a presentation on F3 will be conducted by the Central Valley Community Foundation.
 - IV. **Outreach to other RCD and Others s in Area 9** – ED will be attending Tranquillity Irrigation District Board meeting on Wednesday, February 19th. Will also be outreaching to Firebaugh RCD. Will be attending 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** –The ED submitted on 1/31 a concept proposal at \$50M to Fresno COG to support the development of an Ag-Travel Plaza on Highway 180 across from Bar 20 Ranch. Intent is to utilize biomass and conversion technologies to produce electricity for supercharging stations, hydrogen and biodiesel fuels. This was supported by the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA) as a sponsor and adding to the RTP projects list. ED one of two that participated in the DMA – Data, Methods and Assumptions review for the development of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan – CCAP for Fresno COG.
 - VII. **Fresno Business Council / SJV Manufacturing Alliance / New California Coalition** – No new developments to report.
- b) **Financial Reports** – 2024/25 Year To Date Income and Expenses Report:
- Community West Bank Account Balance - \$5146.59
 - Total Grants in progress - \$369,335
 - Accounts Receivables - \$30,330.76
 - Accounts Payable - \$25,155.53
 - AR versus AP Balance - \$5,175.23
- 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** – Participated in online session by CA Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) regarding the \$10 Billion in funding allocations has been scheduled on January 24th.
 - II. **Mobile Irrigation Systems Testing** – Prop 4 monies include SWEEP and Healthy Soils – will be tracking.
 - III. **Sustainable Lands Initiative (SLI) framework** – This was developed by the Upper Salinas & Las Tablas RCD and cBRAIN. Jeevan and ED have a session w/ cBRAIN/USLTRCD Tuesday, February 11th. Jeevan has offered to allow his property to be a demonstration site.
 - IV. **CARCD -- California Water Resilience Initiative (CWRI) Private Sector Funding** – Project Manager has left. Will check on other options.
 - V. **CARCD/NRCS Block Grant** – Small Farmers on hold and will probably be cancelled by the federal government.
 - VI. **NRCS – Conservation Cooperative Agreement** – Local Working Group (LWG) second meeting is targeted to occur in late March or early April due to uncertainties at federal level. Working agenda is being drafted by Morgan and ED.
 - VII. **Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program** – ED to submit 25% advance pay request as soon as possible. The community outreach date is Tuesday, March 18th at the Caruthers Public Library. 3rd quarterly progress report and invoice submitted approved.
- d) **SJV Natural Resources Hub** – Alexandria Miranda, CCI Regional Coordinator not available. ED participated in the Strategic Planning meeting on 2/6. Plans on attending the SJV Small Farms Conference on Friday, February 28th.
- e) **NRCS Update** – ED has been working with Yissel Martinez, Public Affairs Officer in the Fresno Office on better coordination and sharing of information as both agencies manage current changes at the federal level.
- f) **District Carbon Management Plan** – This is being approached based upon working with the Carbon Cycle Institute, TAP training and the potential benefits coming from the Sustainable Lands Initiative as noted previously.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:30 P.M. to the next Regular Meeting on March 10, 2025, 3:00 P.M., Boardroom of the Agency or as otherwise directed by the Board.