



Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

5855 Capistrano Ave, Suite D, Atascadero, CA 93422 | 805.460.7272 | www.us-ltrcd.org

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 2024 Atascadero, CA

- I. Call to Order, 4:03pm called to order by Devin. We have quorum.
Attendance
Board Directors: In Person - Randy Heinzen, Director; Tom Mora, Director; Mike Bonnheim, Director.
Staff: Devin Best, Executive Director; Lauren Danna, Program Manager.
Public: Hilary Phillips, NRCS District Conservationist; Potential Board Member, Steve Carter; Potential Board Member, Chris Smith; Potential Board Member, Jason Callen
- II. Additions/Changes to the Agenda (Gov. Code 54954.2(B)): None
- III. Public Comment: Introductions. None.
- IV. RCD Reports
 - a. Board Updates: MB; None, RH; None TM: Tom reviewed financial reports and says RCD did very well first half of year.
 - b. Executive Director Report: DB: Reports on updates on list of current projects. Some that stand out - Projects coming into play. Scope of work being worked on for MILR project. Deadline pushed back. Will be using SLI within the project. Will be a half million-dollar grant. Grant is only for program creation. 24-05 monarch habitat projects at camp SLO and camp Roberts. Pollinator habitat on both camps. RCD will be working on planning, implementation and monitoring. SLI – worked with Cal Poly to submit grant to NACD to support 5 RCDS. Will go towards implementing conservation practices. WCC – working on job description for conservancy position. October 17th kickoff event for Willow Creek. MB: Asks why is there an easement? DB: shares so condos can't be developed. SLO PBA – Spencer from RCD is working on developing this to provide a service to local farmers and growers in the area to do prescribed burns. Currently only 2 entities can do this. Potentially some new board members. Hired Cody Blinkenship, he's working out great. He is applying for our Working Lands Climate Corps position. Grizzly Corp program will work with 4 RCDs and supervised by Community Environmental Council.
 - c. WCC Kickoff: Need people to rsvp because of food and parking.
 - d. New Board Members: DB mentions 3 new potential board members in room. Has current members share what they have done on board and new board members to introduce themselves. DB shares he needs guidance on truing up actual board members. How to interpret code with Susans position. Randy will talk with Susan and confirm if she wants to be on the board in the future. DB asks if current members will return - MB will continue, RH will not, TM will continue. Randy suggests changing term lengths for various seats so not all are set to a certain term. TM wants to welcome all members on the board. Next steps are to submit letter to board of supervisors of 3 folks interested pending Susan's qualification to serve
- V. Consent:
 - a. RH motioned to approve, MB seconded. All in favor



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- VI. Other Agency, Director, and Association Reports
 - a. NRCS Report- Hilary Phillips – at end of fiscal year. Big news – IRA funds allocated last year, they just got little of those, but next 2 years are supposed to be huge. Farm Bill – looks like they are going to extend the current farm bill. Change with Urban Farming – will update on that next year. Good opportunity for people with smaller farms to get funding. Cooperative agreement – Coastal holds the agreement. Funds RCDs to do TA in the area.
 - b. USFW: Dylan Wilder – not present
 - c. WRAC: Tom Mora – No meeting during summer. Next is September.
 - d. ALAB: Need board to approve staff to go to ALAB meetings. TM will consider going.

- VII. Board Action Items
 - a. Submit letter to board of supervisors to slate 3 potential members interested pending Susan's qualifications to serve on the board. RH motioned. TM second. All in favor.

- VIII. Agenda Setting
 - a. TM & MB - Water issues and big picture

- IX. Adjournment of meeting: 6:00 pm. Next meeting is September 26th at 4pm.