

Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

REGULAR BOARD

MEETING

September 11, 2023 at 6pm
305 Lincoln St.
Sierraville, CA

APPROVED

TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

Note: This is audio only. Video conference will not be available.

Phone Number: 1 (669) 444-9171

Meeting ID: 860 5842 7118

Passcode: 354174

MINUTES

1. **Meeting called to order at 6:07pm**
2. **Roll call** – Directors present: Rick Roberti, Annie Tipton, Bryan Griffin, Lorenzo Larrucea
Not in Attendance: Chad Smith
Others in Attendance: Victoria Fisher, Paul Roen Sierra County BOS, Tracy Schohr UCCE, Ben McNally NRCS
3. **Approval of Agenda**
4. Director Roberti asked to move item #12 up to item #7 for all future meetings.
**Director Tipton motioned to approve the agenda as amended, moving item #12 up in the agenda. Director Griffin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.*
5. **Public Comment:** None.
6. **Approval of August 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**
** Director Griffin motioned to approve the August 14, 2023 minutes. Director Tipton seconded the motion. Director Larrucea abstained. All other directors were in favor. Motion passed.*
7. **Announcements:** It was announced that Director Roberti, Victoria Fisher and Bob Kingman will be meeting up in Calpine at the fire station on Tuesday, September 12th at 9am to conduct site visits of 2 past grants, Carmen Valley Phase II and the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project. The tour is open to anyone who would like to attend.
8. **Discussion/Action: Financial Report & Executive Director's Update**
 - A) **Financial Review/ Payment of Invoices:** Director Tipton reviewed the bank statements for August 2023 and invoices from Victoria Fisher. These invoices were approved and paid. It was noted that the 3rd SNC #1314 advance was received and Paul Roen was paid to current on his invoices. It was also noted that Victoria was paid for a previous outstanding invoice and for her current invoicing. *The financial report was approved by consensus.*
 - B) **General Account Balance:** Account balance is \$7,609.15. No checks pending.
 - C) **SNC #1314 Money Market Account Balance:** Account balance is \$126,484.73. No checks pending.
9. **Discussion/Action: County Conditional Permitting**
**The board will keep this on the agenda for future discussion.*
10. **Discussion/ Action: Allotment Grazing**
**The Board will keep this on the agenda for future discussion.*

11. Discussion/ Action: Smithneck WUI Forest Health & Fuels Reduction Project

A) **3rd Advance Request & Project Update:** The 3rd advance was received and deposited to the money market account designated for SNC #1314. This will be the RCD's final advance for the project. All contractors are now paid to current. Danielle provided a text update that she will be meeting with the new CDFW biologist and John Watkins on September 25th at the project site to discuss adding additional acreage to the project and to bring them up to current on work completed. Victoria also mentioned that she hiked the Antelope Valley Road portion of the project to obtain pictures for the RCD website and future project documentation. The work completed looks really great. Director Roberti suggested that the board reach out to the new biologist and invite her to a board meeting.

12. Discussion/ Action: Future Ag Project Opportunities

A) **Noxious Weeds & RAC Funding:** Director Roberti will reach out to Mike Rahe (Beckworth Ranger District) and Director Tipton will reach out to Rachel Hutchinson (Sierraville Ranger District) to see if there are any funding opportunities.

B) **Sierra Valley Grasshoppers:** Nothing to report at this time.

13. Discussion/ Action: Committee/ Agency Reports

Agency Reports, Open Floor: Willo Vieira reported via email that she is working on scheduling a study session for the new Private Applicator's test, possibly in November. She will update us as soon as she has some dates in mind. Ben McNally reported that he is working on obligation of contracts. The end of September is the end of their fiscal year. They have several contracts in the works. Director Roberti asked about the Farm bill. Ben replied that the next couple years should show quite a bit of funding towards this and there may be some interesting funding sources for the board in the future. Ben said that EQUIP may have some options for funding towards noxious weed control.

14. Adjournment: Adjourned at 6:51pm.

NEXT MEETING: October 9, 2023, Sierraville