

Meeting Minutes
of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
EAST MERCED RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Wednesday, May 23 2007, 1:00 p.m.,
Conference Room, 2135 W. Wardrobe Ave., Merced, CA 95340
Call EMRCD for more information (209-723-6755)

Directors Present: Karen Barstow, Cathy Weber, Glenn Anderson, Bernard Wade

Directors Absent: Tony Azevedo, Bob Bliss

Others Present: Karen Whipp, EMRCD personnel
Cindy, EMRCD personnel and associate director
Gwen Huff, EMRCD personnel
Sharon Boyce, NRCS

Item #

President Wade called meeting to order at 1:22 pm.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Done.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There was discussion about the MRS meeting on May 21, 2007.

3. CORRECTIONS AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Cathy Weber moved to add payment of Merced River Stakeholder Facilitator to the agenda.
Seconded by Glenn Anderson.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of the March 20,2007 EMRCD Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of April 18, 2007 EMRCD Board Meeting
- c. Treasury Report
- d. DOC and Prop 13 Updates

Glenn Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda.

Cathy Weber seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4e. FACILATOR FOR MERCED RIVER STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Karen Barstow moved to approve paying Beccie Michael to facilitate the May 21, 2007 Merced River Stakeholder meeting for an amount not to exceed \$600.

Seconded by Cathy Weber.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ONLY

- a. Letters
 - None
- b. Meeting Notices and Reports
 - CSDA e-NEWS April 30, 2007

- CSDA e-NEWS May 7, 2007
 - CSDA e-NEWS May 14, 2007
 - San Joaquin River Restoration Program Update
- c. Newsletters (available to review at the meeting)
- The California Runoff Rundown
 - Forestry Notes
 - NACD News and Views
 - National Arbor Day Foundation's Seventh National Conference October 8-9, 2007
 - CSDA March – April 2007 Magazine
 - 2007 CARCD Annual Conference
 - California Trees
 - CSDA Annual Report
 - Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO) Proposed 2007-2008 Budget
 - 2007 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards On-line Application Announcement
- For information only.

6. WRITTEN AND ORAL REPORTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service Report, Sharon Boyce

- Sharon gave a report and handout on Farm Bill 2007
- She also reported on the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), the Private Lands Protection Program, Conservation Security Program, Conservation Reserve Program and the Wetland Reserve Program.
- Sharon talked about the EnvironThon and that she will be going to the nationals.

Watershed Coordinator--DOC Report, Gwen Huff and Cindy Lashbrook

- Gwen talked about the MRS meeting briefly and grant writing.
- Cindy is working on the River Fair
- Cindy is finishing up the hedge row project

Merced River Alliance--Prop 13 Report, Cathy Weber and Karen Whipp

- We've been working on the River Fair
- The State wants to come to visit in July and see Stillwater do work on the River Fair.
- Gwen said she needs more volunteers for the River Fair.

7. RESOLUTION OF THE EAST MERCED RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO SUBMIT WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN GRANT APPLICATION

Cathy Weber I support this grant because there have been gaps of information to make recommendations and “full-picture” choices for the Merced River Watershed. I see a need for this plan to help decision makers and citizens make informed decisions about conservation issues in the watershed.

Karen Barstow I'm a farmer and landowner and I support the proposal because it is in line with State expectations of bringing all of us together on an issue that is vital to all of us; California's most critical issue-**water**.

Glenn Anderson I'm a 72 year-old farmer, landowner, life-long appreciator of the river, and someone who has watched the abuse of the river. Our district has now begun a journey of community appreciation of this river and we need to continue this work to expand our community involvement.

Bernie Wade I'm submitting my support of this proposal. It is the imperative continuation to preserve, conserve and enhance the Merced Watershed. It is important that we continue scientific studies and analysis to preserve this natural resource.

Glenn Anderson moved to adopt resolution 2007-02 to submit the Watershed Management Plan grant application.

Cathy Weber seconded motion.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. 2007-2008 EMRCD BUDGET

Karen Barstow moved to approve the 2007-2008 EMRCD Budget.

Seconded by Glenn Anderson.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION WITH MERCED COUNTY LANDUSE ISSUES AND GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Glenn Anderson talked about the landuse issues that were discussed at the general plan focus group he is involved in. Cindy Lashbrook gave a report about the planning commission meeting. Cathy Weber talked about the general plan focus group she is involved in. Cathy is involved in the riparian habitat focus group.

10. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Board Member Recruitment,
Sharon Boyce will call Rick Furey from the Planada/Le Grand area.
- b. Other Old Business
No other business

11. PRIORITY ACTION TOPIC FOR THE NEXT EMRCD AGENDA

The Priority Topic for next month will be the Mustang Creek.

12. NEXT MEETING: The next EMRCD is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 20, 2007, 1:00 pm** in the USDA Office Conference Room, 2135 West Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA

13. ADJOURNMENT 4:43 pm.

For more information, contact: East Merced Resource Conservation District, 2135 W. Wardrobe Ave., Suite C, Merced, CA 95340, Phone (209) 723-6755, Fax (209) 723-0880.