

EMRCD Board Meeting

April 18, 2007

MEETING MINUTES

Board Directors Present: Bernard Wade, Glenn Anderson, Cathy Weber, Bob Bliss, Tony Azevedo, Cindy Lashbrook (Assoc Director)

Others Present: Gwen Huff

1. Introduction – Meeting called to order at 1:14 PM by President Bernard Wade

2. Oral Communications –

Director Glenn Anderson suggests that the EMRCD present themselves annually to the Merced County Board of Supervisors, in a manner similar to what was done in March of this year. If there are special events, additional and less formal updates would be appropriate.

Directors mentioned some confusion regarding the status of the line of credit extended to the EMRCD by Merced County. Question as to whether or not we still have access to those funds. Board President Wade will approach the County to ascertain this and determine whether or not we can access the line of credit to pay staff while we are waiting for DOC reimbursement check.

Director Weber suggests appointing a board member as treasurer in order to interface with the County as needed when there may be difficulties. Suggest approaching board member Barstow about this and having it be an agenda item next meeting.

Director Anderson raised the question about the use of contract employees by EMRCD. Gwen Huff will research this topic with County Council and CARCD and present it at next meeting.

Directors brought up the Mustang Creek project and questioned what methods do we have to loose ourselves from responsibility for this. Director Barstow has requested (previously) that Mustang Creek be a topic for discussion at the board meeting in May.

Director Azevedo noted that the board meeting agendas use a lot of paper and would like us to consider ways to reduce the paper use, possibly by using both sides of the paper.

3. Corrections and/or additions to agenda – None

4. Consent Agenda – Postponed until May board meeting

- a. Minutes of March board meeting
- b. Treasury report
- c. DOC 2 and Prop 13 updates

5. Correspondence – none

*Board requests email notification of any incoming correspondence (such as EIR hearing etc..) that have a timeline that falls before the next board meeting.

6. Written and Oral Updates

- a. NRCS Update** - Sharon Boyce updated us on NRCS work, saying that EQIP contracts have been signed. She is also very busy with the upcoming Envirothon. The program is in 48 US States and 8 Canadian provinces. Curriculum covers environmental and agricultural topics and revolves around competition. Ms. Boyce asked the board if they would be willing to assist with some expenses.

MOTION: Assist the Enviro-Thon with \$200 toward expenses

1st Tony Azevedo, 2nd Glenn Anderson

Unanimous approval. **Motion Passes**

- b. Watershed Coordinator Update** – Included as attachments from Gwen Huff and Cindy Lashbrook

Additional oral update from Ms. Lashbrook – attended UC Merced Fairy Shrimp Festival, found very little that actually addressed fairy shrimp, conducted outreach for Merced River Fair. She suggests next year the EMRCD work with the festival organizers and lead a tour to vernal pools.

c. Merced River Alliance Update – Included as an attachment from Nancy McConnell

7. Merced River Fair

Promotional packages were distributed to all board directors.

a. Directors were asked to commit to volunteer at the event (commitment from Azevedo, Weber, Anderson)

b. Approval of MOU between the Ecological Farming Association and EMRCD regarding the Merced River Fair.

MOTION: Sign MOU between EFA and EMRCD

1st, Weber 2nd Azevedo

Unanimous approval, Motion Passes

c. Certificate of Coverage – Not Discussed

8. 2007-2008 EMRCD Budget – Tabled

9. EMRCD Logo

The board was presented with a potential new logo for their use. It was distributed through CARCD and is free for RCDs to use.

MOTION: Adopt new logo as EMRCD logo

1st Anderson, 2nd Azevedo.

Unanimous Approval; **Motion Passes**

10. Board Member Participation with Merced County Land Use Issues – Not Discussed

11. Old Business – Not Discussed

12. Priority Action Topic for Next EMRCD Agenda – Mustang Creek

Researching Options for Having and Audit

13. Next EMRCD Board Meeting – To be Determined – Will be May 23rd, in order to allow board members to attend Watershed Day in the Capitol, if absent board members agree. Otherwise, regular date of May 16th.

14. Adjournment – Meeting Adjourned at 3:34