Regular RCD Board Meeting (Called to Order at 3:01pm)

Welcome and Introductions:
In Attendance: Shirish Shah, Bob Bliss, Aaron Wentzel, Trina Walley and John Vollmar.

Oral Communications:
At this time any person may comment on any item that is not on the Agenda. Individual comments are limited to 5 minutes per person. Please state your name and address for the record.

Testimony Corrections and/or additions to the Agenda: None at this time.

   a. January 15, 2020 minutes approval and signature Walley
   b. Treasury Report for January 31st Funds available $43,413.53 Wentzel

2. Written and Oral Updates from Partners and Projects
   a. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Representative
      i. First batching period scheduled for March. No NRCS staff available due to state training.
   b. Sustainable Groundwater Agencies (SGA) Representative
      i. No member present however, DWR recently posted Draft plans for public comment on the SGMA portal. Comment period ends April 15th for some and May 4th for some.
   c. East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District (ESRCD) Walley
      i. Moving forward with scheduling May workshops in Merced and Madera counties for Irrigation Water Management and Nutrient Management. Still waiting on the final contract with the new Conservation Innovation Grant and expect that at least one demonstration site will be in Merced.
   d. NACD Project with Coarsegold RCD Walley
      i. Carbon Farm Planning in progress under existing NACD agreement. Coarsegold submitted to the newest round of Technical Service for another $60,000 to expand technical service.

3. Financial and Project Review
   a. Transactions and Invoices for approval of payment (ACTION) Wentzel
      i. $88 to Wells Fargo for office monthly fees
      ii. $19,860.00 to Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting for work on EPA Vernal Pool study
      iii. $222.12 to Kimberly Rodriguez for work on Bowles Carbon Farm Plan - MSC to approve submitted invoices for payment. MSC (Aaron/Bob). Passes unanimously.
   b. EPA Invoice for submission for payment (ACTION) Vollmar/Walley
      i. Process with county to approve invoices to be paid upon receipt of EPA funds. Then submit to EPA for payment. Upon receipt of funds to county treasury EMRCD to notify county to move forward with payment of invoices within 5 days of receiving funds from EPA.
      ii. Invoice #1 to EPA for $7,955 for Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting and $500 for East Merced RCD. - MSC to approve EPA invoice for submission for payment. MSC (Bob/Aaron). Passes unanimously.
      - John Vollmar: Presented on the past reports created from the vernal pool studies which will be published in a book in the near future.Reviewed recently published book “Preserving Landscapes One Property at a Time” regarding the changes in conservation easements over the past 20 years.
   c. Bookkeeping and Audit Updates Walley
i. Audit In progress. In office day scheduled for March 13th with Bob Johnson
ii. Bookkeeping needs additional clarification from county on true balances.

d. Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Update
   Okuye
   i. Payment still pending from Merced Irrigation District for the DWR grant for $16,700.

e. Pending Grant Applications (ACTION) Walley
   i. NACD submission for Technical Assistance funds.
   ii. Bear Corps submission for FT member assigned to EMRCD. Requires match of $20,000.
   - MSC to approve joint submission with Coarsegold to NACD and submission to BearCorps with $20,000 Match. MSC (Aaron/Bob). Passes unanimously.

f. Funding Outreach Event with ESRCD (ACTION) Walley
   i. February 13th event with UCCE and ESRCD went well with over 40 attendees.
   ii. Request approval of hosting a May irrigation management workshop with East Stanislaus RCD.
   - MSC to approve hosting May workshop event. MSC (Aaron/Bob). Passes unanimously.

4. Requirements of the Board
   a. Board Officer election (ACTION) Walley
      i. Tabled for next board meeting
   b. Review and consideration of amending Policy Manual (ACTION) Walley
      - Tabled for next board meeting
   c. Tier 1 Requirements Walley
      i. Continued review of list of needs. Referred Board Members to Ethics training website and requested certificates for file. No action needed at this time.
   d. Review and consideration of correspondence (ACTION) Walley
      i. February 28th McConnell State Park education day with UC Merced. Need volunteers
      ii. March 7th Parent Institute – need volunteers for booth representation
      - No action needed or taken at this time on correspondence.

5. Adjournment at 4:28 pm

NEXT MEETING March 18, 2020 AT 3:00pm

Minutes approved:

Board Signature: ________________________________ Date: __________________

Name: __________________________________________ Title: __________________________