

AGENDA

Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 4:00 PM

This meeting will be held in-person and via teleconference at:

Truax Building

41923 Second Street, Fourth Floor

Temecula, CA 92590

To view and participate via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 868 4864 8853

Passcode: 452353

AB 2449 provides for remote participation under the *just cause* provision if a member is travelling while on official business for a public agency.

Mission Statement:

The TEAM RCD promotes conservation practices of natural resources, opportunities for public education and participation, and a sustainable quality of life for communities within the District

I. Preliminary Functions

1. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call/Establish a Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Public comment:

Any person may address the Board at this time upon any subject not identified on this Agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District. If you wish to address the Board on a matter not on the agenda, please fill in a pink Speaker Request form and give it to the Board Secretary. If you wish to speak to a matter on the Agenda, please fill in a green Speaker Request Form. When the Board President calls your name, please begin by giving your name and address for the record. Each speaker will be given three (3) minutes to address the Board. Please note that for items not listed on the agenda, the Brown Act imposes limitations on what the Board may do at this time. The Board may not take action on the item at this meeting.

II. Consent calendar:

1. Approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of November 9, 2023.
2. Approve the current Financials and Management Reports for the period ending November 31, 2023.
3. Approve the current bills and reimbursements (refer to Monthly Management Report for details):
 - a) Bills paid
 - b) Bills to be paid or reimbursement
 - c) Accounts Receivable.

III. Action Items

- A. **Subject:** Approve three contracts to support the implementation of the Water Efficiency and Technical Assistance (WETA) program for TEAMRCD.

Background: In July of 2023 TEAMRCD was notified that the District's application to Water Efficiency Technical Assistance Grant program had been successful. On November 8, the California Department of Food and Agriculture forwarded a contract to support TEAM's WETA program in the amount of \$354,000. This contract is presented to the board for approval at the December 14, 2023 Regular meeting.

TEAM's implementation strategy consists of two main parts, 1) to contract with a vendor to support the program by implementing the three objectives of providing 72 irrigation efficiency analyses, 15 pump efficiency analyses, and 12 educational workshops for growers in TEAM's and Mission RCD's District by March 2026, and 2) to hire a Climate Corp Fellow to provide additional support.

On November 20, 2023, TEAMRCD requested proposals from four qualified companies and resource conservation districts, with three declining to propose and only Mission RCD submitting a proposal by the deadline of Wednesday, December 6th.

In addition, President Biancardi has drafted a Climate Corps Fellow position description for the WETA program. The deadline for applying for a fellow is December 31st, for a March 2024 start date. Recruitment and selection would take place in the months of January and February.

The President is requesting that the Board approve the WETA Contract, the Mission RCD proposal, and the Climate Corps Fellow Contract.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Directors take the following actions:

1. Approve the CDFW/WETA grant agreement 23-0663-000-SO.

2. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.
3. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to take all necessary steps to implement the Agreement, including, but not limited to, negotiating, approving and executing any subcontracts associated with implementing TEAMRCD's WETA program, subject to approval as to form by the Office of County Counsel.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Directors take the following actions:

1. Approve Mission RCD's *Irrigation Mobile Lab and Grower Training Project* proposal to support TEAMRCD's WETA Program.
2. Authorize the President and Treasurer of TEAMRCD to work with legal to execute the proposed Service Agreement with Mission RCD on behalf of the District.
3. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to take all necessary steps to implement the Agreement, including, but not limited to, negotiating, approving and executing any subcontracts including hiring independent pump efficiency contractors associated with implementing TEAMRCD's WETA program, subject to approval as to form by the Office of County Counsel.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Directors discuss and:

1. Approve the Climate Corps Partner Agreement, position description language, and determine an appropriate stipend.
2. Form an ad hoc committee to interview and make recommendations to the Board on Climate Corps candidates.
3. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.
4. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to take all necessary steps to implement the Agreement, including, but not limited to, negotiating, approving and executing any subset of the agreement, subject to approval as to form by the Office of County Counsel.

B. Subject: Establish a System for Award Management (SAM) number for TEAMRCD.

Background: The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) sees value in the WETA program and the Service wishes to form a Cooperative Agreement with TEAMRCD to share, with grower permission, the results of the irrigation efficiency analyses, so as to prequalify producers for NRCS financial and technical support. NRCS's Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations Curtis Tarver has requested that TEAMRCD set up a System for Award Management (SAM) number so as to be able to receive funding from NRCS should a Cooperative Agreement be awarded.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Directors take the following action:

1. Authorize the TEAMRCD Office Manager to request and set up a SAM number for TEAMRCD; and
2. Authorize the TEAMRCD President to take any necessary steps to activate and utilize the SAM number.

C. Subject: Re-approve the January - July 2023 legal bills previously discussed during the Regular Meeting of November 9.

Background: Legal bills from January to July of 2023 have been disputed by President Corona and the entire amount remained outstanding in July. In an effort to resolve this dispute, President Biancardi negotiated a reduction in the bills and the Board approved the payment of this lower sum in the November regular meeting. However, the bills had not been included in the packet so out of an abundance of caution, they are being presented again for approval, with the originals and reduced amounts included in the package and accessible to the public.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Directors take the following action:

Approve the January - July 2023 legal counsel bills at the reduced rate.

D. Subject: Designate a project lead on the implementation and reporting of the National Association of Conservation District grant for Cultivating Inclusion.

*Background: In July of 2023, the National Association of Conservation Districts awarded TEAMRCD \$10,000 to support the proposal on behalf of the Murrieta Farm, **Cultivating Inclusion**. This item is brought before the board to ratify work done since then in alignment with the previously approved project and budget.*

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS: That the Board of Directors take the following action:

1. Ratify President Biancardi's request to Mission Resource Conservation District to conduct an irrigation efficiency evaluation at Cultivating Inclusion, and recommend best management farming practices to Cultivating Inclusion.
2. Ratify President Biancardi's request for Mission RCD to plan and implement the outreach and training portion of the NACD Cultivating Inclusion grant.
3. Authorize the President of TEAMRCD to take all necessary steps to implement the NACD/Cultivating Inclusion Agreement, including, but not limited to, negotiating, approving and executing any subcontract associated with implementing the program and budget as approved by the Board, subject to approval as to form by the Office of County Counsel.
4. Review and file Director Corona's 11/5 letter National Association of Conservation District (NACD) Scope of work and budget concerns.pdf.

E. Subject: Assign a Director to serve as a contact person with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on the update of the Lake and Streambed Agreement (LSA) update:

Background: The TEAMRCD Lake and Streambed permit, which gives TEAMRCD authority to conduct certain types of work in stream beds, is up for renewal. The regulator who issues the permit, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), has initiated discussions with TEAMRCD about how that permit might be updated to better reflect current and anticipated needs. In the interest of efficiency and clarity, it is recommended that the Board appoint a point person to head up these discussions.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Directors take the following actions:

Authorize Director xxxxx to coordinate with CDFW to produce a draft revision of TEAMRCD's LSA to be brought back to the Board for approval.

F. Subject: Approve TEAMRCD's 2018-2022 Four Year report for California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

Background: TEAMRCD is required to submit a range of reports to CDFW on the District's work on behalf of Flood, and our Conservation Easements management. One of these is a report that is due every four years and evaluates changes over that period. Director Corona is requesting that the Board approve the 2018-2022 report which has been submitted to CDFW.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Directors take the following action:

Approve the report language and submission to CDFW of TEAMRCD's Four Year CDFW report.

IV. Reports/Discussion:

A. Discuss Conservation Easement management at Greer Ranch and TEAMRCD obligations.

Background: Greer Ranch Home Owners Association (HOA) has reported issues with its Conservation Easements around fuel modification and management. The HOA has requested a meeting with TEAMRCD in the New Year. This item is agendized as an opportunity for Directors to share background information and formulate an approach with the HOA.

B. Management report: Rae Shirer

- a. Status on email archive and porting
- b. Records management progress
- c. Form 700

C. Legal matters: Teri Biancardi

D. Cultivating Inclusion: Teri Biancardi

E. SAWA: Teri Biancardi

V. Directors 'Reports:

VII. Future Agenda Items:

CDFA Healthy Soils Program pending grant program - applications open Jan 8.

VIII: Adjournment

ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by §202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to the District at least 48 hours before the meeting, if possible.

Next Regular Meeting: January 11, 2023, at 4:00 PM