



Regional Water Management Group

LOCATION: Online (ZOOM)

MINUTES

Monday, August 26, 2024, 1:30 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm, by Don Roberts, temporary chairperson.

Those present included:

Al Solis – SEMCU

Aleta Allen – Madera County

Anne Deniz – Madera County FB

Ashely Pomona – North Fork Rancheria

Becky Horn – Triangle T WD

Brandon Tomlinson – Chowchilla WD

Christina Beckstead – Madera County FB

Dina Nolan – Madera ID

Don Roberts – Gravelly Ford WD

Emily Garcia – Madera County

Fahed Mosleh – Madera County

Gretchen Heisdorf – Root Creek WD

Jacinta Cabral – Madera County

Jacob Roberson – RWMG Coordinator

Jason Rogers – City of Chowchilla

Jenny Nunez-Rodriguez – Madera County

Keith Helmuth – City of Madera

Leticia Tapia – Madera County

Tukta Phetasa – Madera County

2. Review & Approval - Agenda & Minutes

- A motion to approve the July minutes and August agenda was made by Gretchen H; Jason R second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

- Items of interest were mentioned by Jacob R (for more information, reach out to Jacob):
 - Prop 4 will be on the ballot in November, and this will provide funds for IRWM projects if approved.
 - The Sierra Vista Scenic Byway will be hosting their annual tour this year on Saturday, August 31st, starting at 9 am.
 - The Urban Streams Restoration Program is currently accepting applications. This program funds projects and provides technical assistance to restore streams impacted by urban development to a more natural state.

4. Discussion & Action - Financial Report/Warrant Approvals

- August 2024 Financial Report
 - Jacob R reported that there were no incoming or outgoing expenses for the month. We started and ended the month with \$39,802.40. Jacob also added that an agreement with the City of Madera is being finalized for them to handle the accounting functions for the group.
 - A motion to approve the August financial report was made by Gretchen H; Jason R second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

5. Review & Approval – Yosemite Springs Park Utility Company Membership Application

- Jacob R commented that this application has been in the works for about a year. The YSPUC has gone through some board changes, and they did get the membership application over to Jacob last month. This application is to get the YSPUC in as a paying member for the Madera RWMG.
 - A motion to approve the YSPUC Membership Application was made by Gretchen H; Brandon T second; all voted; Motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion – Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement Funding

- San Joaquin Valley
 - Chowchilla Nitrate Control Program / Chowchilla Management Zone
 - Becky H reported that they participated in a health fair with the Madera County Department of Public Health. They distributed over 150 school bags with supplies and had good discussions with attendees. This event was held at a Chowchilla School Auditorium. A lot of the attendees they had discussions with lived closed by within the City of Chowchilla so they are supplied with city water, but a lot of them knew of people that get their water from a domestic well. They also handed out flyers advertising services they provide for homeowners and renters with domestic wells. 4 applications were received for domestic well testing at this event and they have also seen an increase in applications submitted since this event.
 - CMZ is also working with the Chowchilla WD, and they sent over some referrals for homeowners and renters who are in different stages of having a new domestic well drilled. The CMZ has done some water testing for those individuals. For those who have contacted CMZ but do not have their new wells finished, CMZ will be following up with those individuals once the well drilling is completed.
 - Becky also mentioned that Sarah W did a presentation at a Dairyland's School Board meeting. They have been approved for grant funds to drill a new well for their School District. Sarah presented on the idea of the School Board working with CMZ to get a kiosk installed so families in the School District can get free drinking water from the new well. The Board was very receptive to the idea. This is still in the grant agreement execution stage so more to come from this.

7. Discussion – Proposition 1 IRWM Implementation Funding

- San Joaquin Valley Counties
 - City of Madera
 - Keith H commented that they have spent all of the IRWM funds for this project. For the 1 project that is ongoing, the last 4 large meters will be installed in the next month.

- City of Chowchilla
 - Jason R mentioned they are still moving forward with the project. They are about 75% - 80% complete. They are expecting the project to be completed within the next couple of months.

8. Discussion – SGMA Implementation Grant

- Gretchen H reported for the various projects going on under this grant:
 - For project 1, grant administration continues. The formal amendment #3 was executed, and Pay Request 8 was executed by DWR on August 20th. They are expecting to receive payment from the DWR by the end of September or beginning of October.
 - For the other projects, there have been no changes between now and last month.

9. Discussion – Drought Working Group

- Jenny N reported their next meeting is currently scheduled for September 27th. For the SB 552 funding that they received for the development of a domestic well mitigation program in the Madera Subbasin, they are wrapping up the contracts with the consultants.

10. Discussion – Hidden Lakes Water Storage Tanks and Fill Line Project

- Fahed M reported that this project is already in construction and they are working on moving 1 of the funding agreements towards this project. Fahed has been coordinating with the IRWMP department within DWR and the Small Communities Drought Relief department within DWR. They are amending both of the agreements in order to indicate which funds from either DWR department is going towards for this project. They are currently installing the tanks. They are also installing the lines which consists of a 10” HDPE for the tank fill line. The funds from IRWMP will be going towards the offsite piping which has to do with the distribution line, tank fill line, air release valves, storm drain and storm drain manholes, drop inlets, etc. The overall project is 30% complete.

11. New/Suggested Members for the Madera RWMG

- Jacob R mentioned that he heard back from Alviso WD GSA’s representative with Provost & Pritchard. He reached out to Jacob this morning, and mentioned they are interested in joining the group.

12. Future Agenda Items

- Nothing suggested.

13. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2024, on Zoom

14. The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 pm.