

DRAFT

Southern Sierra IRWMP

Planning Meeting

April 21, 2010 1:00 - 4:30 pm

TCRMA Office Main Conference Room

Visalia, CA

5961 South Mooney Boulevard

Visalia, California 93277

Call in Information: Tel. 219 509-8111; PC: 78530

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Carole Clum – Tulare Co. Citizens for Responsible Growth
Hilary Dustin - Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Ilma Garcia – Tule River Tribe/Environmental Dept.
Jeannie Habben – Upper San Joaquin River Project/Madera Region RWMG
Carolyn Hunsaker – USDA Forest Service, PSW
James May, Tulare County RMA
Dick Moss – Provost & Pritchard Consulting
Larry Otter – Foothill Engineering
Bob Puls – Tulare Co. RCD
Augustine Ramirez – County of Fresno
Robert Robinson – Desert Mountain RC&D/Kern Valley Indian Council
Ken Schmidt – KDSA
John Shelton – Department of Fish and Game
Chris Stewart – Sequoia National Forest
Kerri Vera – Tule River Tribe/Environmental Dept.
Julie Allen – Facilitator, Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Elissa Brown – Project Grant Writer
Bobby Kamansky, Project Manager, Sequoia Riverlands Trust
Frances Tweed, Administration, Sequoia Riverlands Trust

Via Phone: Steve Haze – Sierra RCD
Gary Temple – SRCD & SAFCA
Debbie Vaughn – Tulare Co.

Meeting Notes by Agenda Item

○ Introductions

Julie Allen opened the meeting at 1:10.

Julie introduced herself and everyone around the table did the same. Then those on the phone identified themselves.

○ Review of Minutes/Agenda

- a. Julie asked if there were minutes from the March meeting. Bobby said there were not. Note: Frances was on vacation and Bobby had not had time to type them.
- b. Julie asked if there were any additions or changes to this Agenda. There were none.

○ Administrative Report

- a. Bobby said that there is no handout today for the financial report. There are three Fiscal Agent applicants: Desert Mountain RC&D, Yosemite/Sequoia RC&D, and Sequoia Riverlands Trust. Bobby explained that a Fiscal Agent executes the grant given by DWR. Bob Puls asked if another application could be accepted at this time. Elissa said yes, applications could be taken until the end of July, but to allow time to rank and make a decision, .

Bobby said a sub-committee needed to be formed, which would develop a ranking criteria for deciding on the Fiscal Agent.

A motion was made by Bobby to open the Fiscal Agent applications until May 31. Gary Temple and Jeannie Habben seconded and all approved.

Bob Robinson asked what the requirements were to be a Fiscal Agent? The basic requirement is that you must be a 501c3. Julie said that financial capacity and management skills are required as well. Elissa went over the Document of Eligibility, which is listed in the Grant. This can be found in the DWR website under Proposal Solicitation Package. There was discussion about whether the applicants should make a five minute talk to the Planning Committee.

Bobby called for volunteers for the sub-committee to help rank the application for the selection process and to make recommendations. Those that volunteered are: Carolyn Hunsaker, Gary Temple, John Shelton, and Chris Stewart. Others are still invited to participate.

Kerri Vera asked what the benefit is to being the Fiscal Agent? Bobby said it was, 1) to have influence on the project, 2) to have your name out there and, 3) capacity increase.

- Major Topic(s)

- a. Elissa went over the DWR Guidance for IRWM Plan Standards handout and the Survey handout.

She said that everyone at the grants conference did not like match requirements. One to one match, if it includes in-kind time people put in. There's management focus rather than monetary.

Bobby talked about the PSP, Sierra Nevada Alliance letter includes requiring things like a fundraising plan, this is a concern as many groups don't have the capacity to do this.

Elissa went over the Schedule with the RWMG Action/DWR Action.

- b. Elissa went over the handout of the SS IRWMP Budget Outline/Application Budget, Tasks # 1-7. This is connected to our Survey

Dick Moss, Provost & Pritchard talked about Task 7, Create IRWM Plan, and the Klamath Water Shed.

Hydrologist, Ken Schmidt, spoke about groundwater study, not surface water, which started off with DWR grants. One group thinks there is unlimited water. The other thinks there's none. In the San Joaquin Valley, there's a long history of water levels, since 1905. He talked about groundwater flows, showing maps he had brought.

Elissa suggested that, regarding the funding for the hydrology study, this group should choose a funding source, a candidate is the Local Groundwater Assistance Grant, from DWR. Gary Temple is doing a Groundwater Management Plan. Maybe there should be a sub-committee to talk to DWR, etc.

- Outreach and Communication

- a. Bobby to meet with Fresno County on May 5 with Gary Temple. Then he will meet with the Tulare County Water Company on May 24.
- b. No JPA report.

- Member and Area Reports

Jeannie Haben said that the Madera Regional Water Management group accepted the MOU with the SS IRWM group.

Carole Clum spoke about the Sierra Club and their *Resilient Habitats* handout. She also spoke about the growth rate from the Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) information.

- Public Comment

None

- Calendar Update

- The next Planning Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, May 26 from 1:00 to 4:30 at the U.S. Forest Service office in Clovis. The June meeting will be on the 23rd in Visalia, at the RMA building.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.