



**Central Sacramento Valley
Resource Conservation & Development Area Council**
P.O. Box 606 • 327 Fourth Street, Orland, CA 95963

MINUTES

(Items to be followed through with are in bold.)

Date: Monday, July 25, 2005

Time: Called to Order at 1:05 p.m. by Gary Freeman, President

Place: Feather River Tribal House
2145 Fifth Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965-5870
(530) 532-6811

I. Roll Call/Introductions

A. Council Members

Gary Freeman, President and Glenn County Supervisor
Christy Scofield, Vice President and Colusa County Supervisor
Mike Yalow, Secretary/Treasurer and Mayor of Orland
Ernie White, Tehama County RCD
Peter Jukusky, Colusa County EDC
Gilbert Ramos, Colusa County RCD
Ron Warner, Mayor of Tehama, Tehama County Supervisor
Claudia Martin, Business Resource Specialist Tehama Local Development Corp.
D.C. Jones, Butte County RCD

B. Members Absent

Mike Landini, Glenn County RCD

C. Other Guests

Hue Dang, District Conservationist, NRCS (Butte County)
Bill Connelly, Butte County Supervisor, District 1
Larry Akin, Program Coordinator, Central Sacramento Valley RC&D
Kandi Manhart, Executive Assistant, Central Sacramento Valley RC&D

II. Posting of Meeting Agenda

Akin confirmed meeting notice was posted per Brown Act.

III. Approval of May 9, 2005 Council Meeting Minutes & June 13, 2005 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Jukusky moved to approve the May 9, 2005 minutes with the corrections as stated. White noted the correction of deleting present and inserting approved in IV. White seconded. Approved unanimously.

White moved to approve the June 13, 2005 minutes with the corrections as stated. Scofield noted the correct spelling of Salten is Salton. Scofield seconded. Approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of Invoices for Payment

Yalow presented the following invoices for payment:

1. Spartacus 5 (USFS Map Grant 026)	\$10,090.00
2. Corners & Dobbins (01, 02, 03 Returns, QB setup)	\$ 1,200.00
3. Access Now (1 year)	\$ 20.00
4. SBC Global	\$ 29.95 per month
	\$ 12.95 S&H
5. Capital Press	\$ 44.00
	<u> </u>
	Total \$11,369.90

President Freeman asked the level of value that comes to Council by subscribing to the Capital Press. Akin confirmed the benefit of articles pertaining to the Councils projects is very valuable.

White moved to approve the presented invoices. Scofield seconded. Approved unanimously.

V. Public Comment

none

VI. Partner Introductions and Reports

Dang reported the Conservation Security Program (CSP) is a new program that promotes conservation work by awarding funding for their efforts. It closed about three weeks ago; Butte County had the largest turnout in the State of California. The recipients for funding should be notified from the Secretary of Agriculture this coming week. In addition, this coming fall (October 1), watershed selections will be announced. The next step in the CSP is to service the contracts. NRCS will be looking for partners, such as the Resource Conservation Districts (RCD) and Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&D), to help those awarded reach Tier 3. She noted one of the challenges in the program is having adequate staff to carry out the business. She said the RCDs actively participated in the outreach, while NRCS performed the screening of applications. Dang also noted it is an eight year program. Dang reported Akin will be helping Butte County in their strategic planning.

Ramos reported the Colusa Basin Grant is slowly coming to an end. There is also only one employee for the RCD, Pattie Turner.

Warner reported that Bill Burrows, Sunflower CRMP is obtaining 10,000 Hair Sheep for their project. Herders are being hired from Peru. They may possibly obtain 30,000 head in the future. They have created 27 miles of fire break at 300 feet wide in the Red Bluff area and continue to search for grants.

VII. Office/Council Management

- Personnel Search

Yalow noted it will be important to create a procedure manual for QuickBooks 2005 and to list knowledge of QuickBooks as one of the qualifications for hire. He said Kelly Dobbins may have to help train the new employee. Akin suggested the Council keep two sets of books – one on QuickBooks and one in a hand written General Ledger. It was suggested to contact the training centers in the Counties for a potential candidate. Chico State and the community college may also be a great place to look. An email will be distributed announcing the position when the Council determines.

- Insurance

Akin noted the current coverage will expire on September 29, 2005. Driver Alliant is currently negotiating with a new carrier; however, the agent said the coverage and premiums should be about the same. The agent did recommend the Council budget 10% more for the premium just in case (General Fund Budget). The Council agreed that project liability is a must in the terms.

- ISP Proposed Changes

Akin noted the Council needs to look at changing ISP providers. Manhart confirmed that Digitalpath has done all they can do to correct the connection, however, none of it has been successful. The recommended ISP is SBCglobal at \$29.95 per month and a one time Shipping and Handling fee of \$12.95. Martin moved to cancel Digitalpath and subscribe to SBCglobal as the ISP. Warner seconded. Approved unanimously.

- Proposed Change in Website Address

Akin recommended the Council change their internet address to www.csvrcd.com instead of www.csvrcandd.com, as the current address is hard to rely. The Council email address is recommended to be council@csvrcd.com. Yalow moved to change the internet address to www.csvrcd.com and the Council email to council@csvrcd.com. Martin seconded. Approved unanimously.

- Subscription to Capital Press

Council voted on payment in section IV.

VIII. President's Report

President Freeman presented the fall conference flyer (September 28, 29,30 in Palm Desert, CA). He reported there will be a great line up of speakers, including Andy Gordon, NARC&DC and Chair of the State Water Board. He noted he obtained two round-trip tickets for \$233.00 (Southwest) and a rental car for approximately \$160.00. The conference theme is water and will revolve around the Salton Sea. There will be a tour and discussion on invasive species. It was suggested that Brian Leahy be a speaker since he sits on the State Water Committee. President Freeman liked the idea and mentioned that **a letter should be sent to Leahy and Patrick Truman, President, CARCD**. Election of officers will occur at the conference. **President Freeman explained the awards and suggested they apply for as many as possible. Manhart will send copies in**

the mail. He encouraged Council Members to attend as there is conference money budgeted.

President Freeman noted the Pac Rim conference will be held in Hilo, Hawaii the last week of October. And, in 2006, the Pac Rim conference will be held in combination of the CARC&DC annual fall conference in the Yosemite Sequoia RC&D area – Teniya Lodge.

President Freeman presented a letter from the Ag Energy Workshop. The letter asked the Council to join with them in endorsing the 25 x '25 agriculture energy vision. He expressed his concern since there are many changes occurring in the National Energy Policy; therefore, there are a lot of unknowns. Yalow noted he thought there were a lot of broad assumptions. The Council made the decision to hold off in supporting their efforts at this time.

President Freeman noted that CARC&DC received a grant to host a statewide biomass conference. The purpose is to help influence policymakers, develop a strategic plan, and build partnerships. Specialist will be invited, such as Brian Duff, BBI International. President Freeman noted Duff signed a contract with the National Energy Committee to make the biomass tools created a more general approach.

He also noted the CARC&DC is encouraging RC&D expansion to cover the entire State. For example, this RC&D is looking to expand into Sutter and Lake Counties. President Freeman said all but five counties are in RC&D areas.

President Freeman asked the Council to fill out their Volunteer Time Tracking Sheets and return to Manhart. He noted RC&D's obtain an average of \$500,000.00 in volunteer time annually (\$17.00 per hour).

IX. Program Coordinator's Report

Akin presented the final map created, through the US Forest Service Grant, by Spartacus 5. He noted a logo was created with Upstate California Adventure as its name. Akin said they have purchased the domain name upstatecaliforniaadventure.com, [.net](http://upstatecaliforniaadventure.net), and [.org](http://upstatecaliforniaadventure.org). He said the map has multiple day events within the four counties with the exception of the Maxwell Rodeo, which is only one day. There were 11,000 copies printed for distribution between the locations on the map, Chambers of Commerce, and visitor centers. Jukusky suggested researching where tourists are coming from before fully distributing the map. Match created amounted to \$28,000 when only \$10,000 was stated in the budget. The majority of it was created through using Debra Lucero's Chico State class. Martin noted that Greg O'Sullivan was thrilled by the name and hopes that it will bring Northern California more united. Akin said he will be working with Rick Krepelka, IBTG and agInnovators to create the on-line directory that can be edited day by day. Yalow reported that it will take them about three days to create the on-line directory; however, asked how it will be paid for. Akin noted some volunteer time can be used to upload the on-line information. Martin asked if sponsorship money will be obtained for future printings, because hunting clubs would be an ideal category to help sponsor. Warner suggested highlighting the Sacramento

River. It was said this map will eventually be passed over to a private entity. Akin noted he has drafted a letter to the Butte County Board of Supervisors in support of Deborah Lucero's work on the project. He and Lucero are on the August 2nd agenda to present the project, so Akin will present the letter at that time. Warner asked Akin to present it at Tehama County's meeting. It was suggested that he present it at Glenn and Colusa Counties meeting also.

Akin noted he and President Freeman will be presenting at the Sutter County Board of Supervisors meeting August 1st. They may also need to present at Lake County's meeting also. Jukusky presented his concern of East Lake County joining.

Akin presented two packets from the NARC&DC concerning biomass and asked those who wanted a copy to sign their name on the packet.

Akin discussed the statewide biomass conference in further detail. Jukusky suggested asking the California Biomass Collaborative to help sponsor the event also.

Akin asked the Council what they wanted to do with the Area and Annual Plans. He said Butte County needs to be added and potentially Sutter and Lake Counties. Akin said they could fast track the annexation of the counties within six months. **The Council suggested bringing the plans up to date, including Butte County.**

X. agInnovators Grant Update

Yalow thanked Akin on creating the map.

Yalow noted the dynamics of the agInnovators project have changed. He spoke to Eileen Eckert, Small Farm Center, UC Davis and they are interested in putting their Agri-tourism conference on the Web site. A meeting will be scheduled for next week to discuss details.

Yalow also noted he spoke to a programmer from UC Davis, and he estimated the agInnovators Web site is worth \$100,000 to \$125,000; therefore, Krepelka is a great source to be contracted with.

Yalow reported that it will take approximately three days to put the map on the internet and the additional funding from NRCS (\$25,000) could help do that. Krepelka estimated \$100 to \$6,000 in expenses to develop the page; however, suggested \$3,750 for a nice location. Yalow noted this would be termed Phase I; however, personnel costs are not included in the \$3,750.00.

Jukusky moved to approve that a formalized agreement between the RC&D and IBTG be created and signed for the work of the Conservation Security Program (CARCD \$5,000 grant). Warner seconded. Approved unanimously.

Akin noted the agreement between the RC&D and Glenn County RCD has been received and signed. He said the delay was CARCD in getting their agreements to the RCD's.

Jones moved to approve payment of \$3,750.00 to IBTG as payment for work of Phase I. Martin seconded. Approved unanimously.

XI. Financial Report

Yalow reminded the Council that we are switching to fund accounting, QuickBooks for Non-Profits. A procedure manual will be developed for the program. Jones recommended calling Pia Sevelius, Butte County RCD for further assistance if needed. The Council also opened a second checking account to separate restricted from non-restricted funds. Yalow said, for example, any sponsorship fees for the map would be deposited into the general fund (non-restricted). Yalow predicts the financial reports will be off QuickBooks at the next meeting. He noted two preliminary budgets will also be presented at the August E.C. meeting and September Full Council meeting.

XII. Other Business/Unscheduled Matters

Yalow mentioned there is a grant opportunity with the CA River Parkways Grant Program. Funds would come from Proposition 50. He suggested partnering with the Glenn County RCD to develop an application for the Stony Creek Watershed. The RC&D could potentially administer the \$6 million grant, while the RCD provides technical assistance. He noted 120 acres have been donated for the project. Deadline is October 18th. On August 4th there is a meeting concerning the grant opportunities in Redding, CA. The Council is in agreement that it is a great project and recommends that he obtain more information and investigate the logistics before providing a full commitment.

Chombeau announced that Stirling City Days will be August 6th from 10am to 4pm in Stirling City. He encouraged all to attend.

Jones announced that Butte County RCD's survey was mailed out to 2,500 people.

Warner mentioned the septic issue in Tehama County and explained how, if passed, it would affect them.

XIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by President Freeman at 4:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Kandi Manhart, Executive Assistant