

**Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors - MEETING AGENDA  
June 15th, 2022 5:30pm**

**Teleconference Information**

Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/vid-kzjb-trq](https://meet.google.com/vid-kzjb-trq)

Phone Number: (US)+1 424-444-6178 PIN: 640 502 470#

**Notice:** *This meeting will be held in accordance with AB 361 and the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act. The Board will hold this meeting telephonically using Google Meet. All members of the public may observe and participate in the meeting via teleconference or webcast.*

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call:** Stuart Crook, Stephen Dietrich, Kirk Ford, Maiya Morrison, Jim Phelan, Mike Sardella, Galen Weston

**Public Comment**

*(5 minutes per item maximum) We would like to welcome the members of the public who have taken the time to bring their concerns to this meeting. Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any matter within the Board's jurisdiction. This need not be related to any item on the agenda; however, the Board cannot act on an item unless it was noticed on the agenda.*

**Business**

1. Discussion and action related to Remote Meetings and Resolution 2022-07.
2. Discussion and action related to Minutes for May 2022 Board Meeting.
3. Discussion and action related to Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project CEQA Document – Resolution No. 2022-08.
4. Discussion and action related to DRAFT 2022-2023 Budget.
5. Discussion and action related to TCRCO Grant Program Updates:
  - a. RCPP Forestry Program and CARCD Forestry PACE Program
  - b. Twain Harte Community Stormwater Enhancement Project
  - c. CAL Fire Fire Prevention Grant - Pine Mountain Lake Fuel Reduction Project
  - d. Mother Lode PBA
  - e. TStan IRWM Administration
  - f. Pending Project Proposals

**NRCS Update**

**District Manager Update**

**Closed Session: PERSONNEL MATTERS – PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT Gov. Code § 54957 – Annual Review of District Manager**

**Correspondence and Announcements**

**Other Matters at the Discretion of the Chair**

**Adjournment**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact District Manager Lindsay Mattos at (209) 559-9066. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the TCRCO to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II)*

**Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors - MEETING MINUTES  
April 20, 2022**

**Notice:** *This meeting was held in accordance with AB 361 via Google Meet.*

**Call to Order:** 5:32 pm

**Roll Call:** Stuart Crook, Jim Phelan, Mike Sardella, Kirk Ford, Stephen Dietrich

**Guests:** Jessica Baker, AFF

**Public Comment:** No Comment.

**Business**

- Discussion and action related to Remote Meetings and Resolution 2022-04. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-04 by director Phelan, second by director Dietrich, roll called, motion passed unanimously.
  - Discussion and action related to Minutes for March 2022 Board Meeting. Motion to accept the minutes by director Phelan, second by director Crook, roll called, motion passed unanimously.
  - Discussion and action related to Resolution 2022-05 CCRCD HWY 108 North Fuel Break Project. Discussion by board in support, motion to adopt resolution by director Sardella, second by director Phelan, roll called, motion passes unanimously.
  - Discussion and action related to American Forest Foundation My Sierra Woods Project. Overview by Jessica Baker of AFF on the My Sierra Woods project and the potential for hiring a forester to work on the project through TCRCD. Discussion by the board on how to provide support for the project. Motion by director Crook to authorize the District Manager to coordinate with AFF on the My Sierra Woods Project and hiring a forester, second by director Dietrich, roll call, passes unanimously.
  - Discussion and action related to TCRCD Grant Program Updates:
    - RCPP Forestry Program and CARCD Forestry PACE Program
    - Twain Harte Community Stormwater Enhancement Project
    - CAL Fire Fire Prevention Grant - Pine Mountain Lake Fuel Reduction Project
    - Mother Lode PBA
    - TStan IRWM Administration
    - Pending Project Proposals
- L. Mattos provided an update on all of the current projects. Discussion by the board on the CAL Fire Pine Mtn Lake project.

**NRCS Update:** No report provided.

**District Manager Update:** Update on District Staffing and request to review applications for Grant Administrator position at next board meeting.

**Correspondence and Announcements:** None.

**Other Matters at the Discretion of the Chair:** None.

**Adjournment:** 6:55 pm

June 15, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TUOLUMNE COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE TUOLUMNE COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD 30 DAYS PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District's legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District's legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the District, specifically, Governor's Executive Orders (N-25-20, N-29-20, N-35-20); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that continuing threat of COVID-19 has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the

requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District as follows:

Section 1. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, and the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District will be utilizing the option for virtual participation in meetings to ensure the safety of those participating in District business.

Section 2. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency,.

Section 3. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The District Manager and Board of Directors of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 4. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective for 30 days, or such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District at a meeting of the Board held on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_. Motion by \_\_\_\_\_ and second by \_\_\_\_\_.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

June 15th, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-08

RESOLUTION OF THE TUOLUMNE COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF CEQA FINDINGS AND AUTHORIZATION TO FILE A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR A COORDINATED REGIONAL WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, The function of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District is to take available technical, financial, and educational resources and coordinate them so that they meet the needs of local land managers and citizens for conserving soil, water, and related natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Water resource quality, quantity, and distribution is the top priority natural resource issue identified in the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District's Strategic Plan to be addressed through District projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, The Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District has been awarded funds through State Water Resources Control Board for funding for the Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board requires environmental review of all grant funded projects;

WHEREAS, the Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project will consist of stormwater mitigation strategies including a large above ground stormwater tank to capture runoff and reuse for turf irrigation, bioswales to slow flow and for filtration, climate appropriate plantings to slow and sink stormwater, a rain garden to filter and capture runoff, multiple rain tanks with pads to slow storm runoff and capture rain to be stored and used for irrigation, installation of irrigation, and educate the community to encourage similar improvements on private properties across the community.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District hereby finds that the Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project will not have any adverse effects on the environment because construction activities will consist of improvements to the health of local habitat, capture, reduce and reuse otherwise potentially destructive storm runoff, replacement and enhancement of landscapes with area appropriate plantings, and installation of rain catchment devices will further slow stormwater runoff and increase water resilience. All other activities are educational or outreach related.

It is further RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District hereby finds that the Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project is Exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15301, Class 1 consisting of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination; § 15302, Class 2 consisting of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities; § 15303, Class 3 consisting of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; installation of small new equipment and facilities in small structures; and the conversion of existing small structures from one use to another where only minor modifications are made in the exterior of the structure; § 15304, Class 4 consisting of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes, specifically new gardening or landscaping, including the replacement of existing conventional landscaping with water efficient or fire resistant landscaping; § 15311, Class 11 consisting of construction, or placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities; and § 15322, Class 22 consisting of adoption, alteration, or termination of educational or training programs which involve no physical alteration in the area affected or which involve physical changes only in the interior of existing school or training structures.

It is further RESOLVED that the Board of Directors directs the Chair or District Manager to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerks of Tuolumne and State Clearinghouse, with a copy sent to the State Water Resources Control Board.

AYES;  
NOES:

ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District

## NOTICE OF CEQA EXEMPTION MEMO

To: Tuolumne County Clerk  
2 South Green St  
Sonora, CA 95370

From: Tuolumne County RCD  
81 N. Washington Suite B  
P.O. Box 4394  
Sonora, CA 95370

Date: June 10, 2022

**Project Title:** Twain Harte School Stormwater Enhancement Project

**Project Location:** Tuolumne County:  
Township 2 North, Range 16 East, Portion Section: 9  
Mount Diablo Meridian, State of California

**Project Description:** The Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) acting as the Lead Agency, will implement stormwater mitigation activities. Considering the site receives stormwater flow from the adjacent community market, which experiences high vehicular use, bioswales have been designed to filter and treat water entering the site. Additional strategies to reduce water demand while decreasing runoff include a 40,000 gallon above ground stormwater tank to capture runoff and reuse for turf irrigation, bank of five, 5,000-gallon rain tanks capturing rainwater off the Gymnasium and adjacent classroom. This storage will blend with the captured stormwater for 5.52-acre feet per year irrigation offset. The overflow from these tanks will flow into bioswales to slow velocities, reduce nuisance flooding and winter ice hazards, create habitat, and recharge groundwater before entering the Tuolumne County storm drain system (see Tuolumne County Storm Drain Rehabilitation Project). An additional 5,000-gallon rain tank will be installed off the Music Room to offset irrigation demand for the school garden. This tank would also serve to reduce nuisance local flooding and winter ice hazards. The overflow from this system, as well as sheet flow entering from the adjacent roadway, will be treated in a bioswale (previously constructed as part of this project through TCRCD DWR funding). Lastly, to reduce nuisance flooding to downtown business, at the lower slope of the property, a rain garden will be placed at the center of the bus and automobile drop off area, near the lowest spot on the property. This strategic raingarden will capture and filter stormwater running across the site before entering the storm drain system. This will serve to create habitat for native species and demonstrate LID treatments in a highly visible area. In total, the bioswales and rain garden at the school will treat 7.4-acre feet of water per year. Highly visible signage will be installed to educate the community to encourage similar improvements on private properties across the community.

Treatment activities, including the installation of bioswales and a rain garden, and tank and pad installation for rainwater capture and reuse with irrigation attached will be conducted under this Notice of Exemption (NOE).

**Exempt Status (Guidelines Section and Class) Categorical Exemption:** Section 15304, which exempts minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The RCD has determined that the project's implementation will result in multiple benefits, including stormwater reduction, watershed improvement, and wildlife habitat enhancement. Project is located on less than 5 acres and surround by commercial and public land uses and as such has no value for endangered, rare or threatened species or their habitats. There are no hazardous materials at or around the project site. The project will avoid all archeological resource sites. The project will not result in cumulatively significant impacts. The project will have no significant adverse effect on the environment, traffic, air, or water quality.

**Public Agencies that will be involved with the project:**

Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD)  
Twain Harte Community Services District (THCSD)

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**

Lindsay Rae Mattos, District Manager TCRCD  
(209) 559-9066 or lindsay@tcrd.org

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lindsay Rae Mattos, District Manager  
Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District

**ATTEST:**

I, Lindsay Rae Mattos, District Manager, Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District, do hereby certify that the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District approved this Notice of Exemption on the \_\_\_\_\_ by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstentions:

Absent:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindsay Rae Mattos, District Manager  
Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District