



Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District
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AGENDA
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
EASTERN KERN COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (EKCRCD)

MEETING TIME: Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Ridgecrest United Methodist Church small meeting room
639 North Norma Street, Ridgecrest
Dial-in option: 551-240-6749; no access code needed
Online option: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/ekcrd3>

All agenda-item supporting documentation is available for public review in the office of the Administrative Assistant of the Board (address above) during her regular hours (Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM except Federal holidays) following the posting of the agenda. Any supporting documentation that relates to an agenda item for an open session of any regular meeting that is distributed after the agenda is posted and prior to the meeting will also be available for review at the same location. It is recommended that you make an appointment to review the documentation.

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report:

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA*:

**Additions to the agenda may be briefly discussed to assign for research or placed on the next agenda, but cannot acted upon.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Board on any matter that is not on the agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Board members may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information, or request staff to report back to the Board at a later meeting. Also, the Board may take action to direct the staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. However, no action may be taken by the Board at this time. [Gov. code 54954.3 (a)]

CONSENT ITEMS: Consent items are considered to be routine and non-controversial. They will be considered first and may be approved by on motion if no member of the Board or audience wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the Consent list and will be considered in listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Board concerning the item before action is taken.

Minutes for July regular meeting.
Correspondence logs for July
Financial Reports for July:

- Balance and spending reports
- Bank statements
- Reconciliation reports
- Registers

Approve consent items.

ACTION ITEMS (Votes Required):

- **Authorize signing on to letter supporting US S. 4673 (Sinema, Cornyn).** It codifies the definition of “special district” and makes them eligible for federal funding as local government agencies.
- **Authorize spending of up to \$150 for a plaque for Emma Lynch (of BLM) to recognize her outstanding service to the district.**
- **Authorize payment of 2024-25 CARCD dues in amount of \$888.64.**
- **Review/approve committee assignments.**
- **Discuss/approve initial plant list to send to Emma Lynch by Aug. 15.**
- **If available approve seed purchase for 2025 grow order.** (Seed due to AVRCD by Oct. or November.)
- **Approve plan to avoid or lower bank fees at Umpqua Bank.** (Deposit money into the checking account and/or reduce number of users to two.)
- **Discuss new heat illness prevention rules and decide on next steps.** New rules might go into effect as soon as 8/1/24.

Updates:

WCB-CARCD Habitat Implementation Grant-Discuss new contractor rates and revision of number of restoration sites.

Native plants and seeds- Madena Asbell has left her job as Director of Plant Programs at Mojave Desert Land Trust and will continue advising them as a consultant. She can advise EKCRCD and would like to set up an appointment in September. Her rates are \$125 per hour plus travel.

- **If desired approve funds for Consulting and additional funds for Meetings, Seminars & Travel; discuss possible dates to meet with Madena remotely or in person.**

AGENCY REPORTS:

CARCD-See notes from 7/30/24 special meeting (attached in board packet and available in EKCRCD office). Review timeline of bylaws revision.

REGULAR REPORTS:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWVWD)-

Reports on July meeting. See written report (available at meeting or in EKCRCD office).

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

Report on July meeting. See written report (at meeting or in EKCRCD office).

Administrative Assistant Report:

- Website hits for July were 11,001; hits for June were 11,753.
- Ethics training is due for Decker and Holman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: See Xeriscape Committee minutes attached in board packet (available at meeting or in EKCRCD office).

CLOSED SESSION: Employee review.

Closed session report.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Revise/approve long-range plan and strategic plan Request for Information.

The next EKCRCD regular meeting will take place on 9/10/24 in Community Resource Center of the Desert Valleys Federal Credit Union, 100 E. Ward Street, Ridgecrest.

ADJOURNMENT

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (GOVERNMENT Code Section 54953.2).

The Board of EKCRCD offices are accessible to persons with disabilities. Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Board may request assistance from the Administrative Assistant, address above, or by calling (760) 384-5477. Every effort will be reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in alternative formats Requests for assistance should be made five (5) working days in advance of a meeting whenever possible.