

AMADOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, 12 May 2026

Time: 4:15pm - 6:00pm **Location:** 12200-B Airport Rd, Jackson CA 95642

Virtual attendance via video conference available via Microsoft Teams:

Meeting Link: <https://shorturl.at/HUAOb> Meeting ID: 253 928 575 091 9 Passcode: Kf6XX9aA

ARCD Directors: Steve Cannon, Dan Port, Dr. Kelsi Williams, Amber Gardner

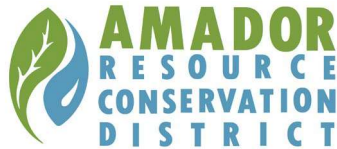
Associate Director: Kent Reeves

Executive Director: Amanda Watson

Approval of agenda for this date, and any and all off-agenda items, must be approved by the Board of Directors Pursuant to Para 5495.2 of the government code. Oral communications by the public for items not appearing on the agenda consideration of “emergency or “subsequent need” items not appearing on the agenda cal. gov` t code 54954.2(b)(2).

Item #	Topic
1	Public Comment: The Board of Directors is limited by State law to providing a brief response, asking questions for clarification, or referring a matter to staff when responding to items not listed on the agenda.
2	Consent Agenda*: The following items are expected to be routine/non-controversial. Items will be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. Any Board member may request that any item be removed for later discussion. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval of Agenda 2. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes: April Board Meeting 3. SAWQA Report 4. Financial Report
3	Warrant Summary* - <i>Dana Simpson</i>
4	NRCS Report –
5	2023 FY & 2024 FY Audit – Request to award contract to Blomberg & Griffin* - <i>Dana Simpson</i>
6	Call Special Meeting for June* – <i>Steve Cannon</i>
7	2026 COLA Request* – <i>Dana Simpson</i>
8	Organizational Committee Update – <i>Amanda Watson</i>
9	Education Committee Update – <i>Amber Gardner</i>
10	Notice of Exemption for Kennedy Mine Pollinator Project* - <i>Amanda Watson</i>
11	FIREWORKS Letter of Support* - <i>Steve Cannon</i>
12	Executive Director Report – <i>Amanda Watson</i>
13	Adjourn
Next ARCD Board of Directors Meeting: June 9th, 2026, 4:15 - 6pm	

***ACTION ITEM**



Minutes for Regular Board Meeting of 14 April 2026

Called to order on 14 April 2026 at 4:15 p.m. at 12200-B Airport Road, Jackson, CA
Present: Directors Cannon, Gardner, and Port
Staff: Dana Simpson (DS), Amanda Watson (AW), Gordon Long (GL)
Absent: Williams (arrived 4:46pm)

Public: Toney Tillman, Serena Hangs

Director Cannon called the meeting to order 4:24pm

Public Comment:

None

Consent Agenda*

The following items were approved as part of the consent agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes: January Board Meeting
3. SAWQA Report

Motion: To approve Consent Agenda by Director Port, seconded by Director Gardner.
All in favor.

Absent: Williams.

Motion Passed

Warrant Summary *

Motion: To approve warrant summary with warrant 26-037 by Director Port, seconded by Director Gardner.
All in favor.

Absent: Williams.

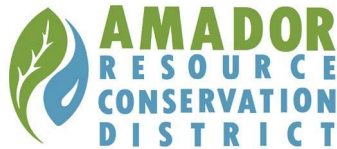
Motion Passed.

Financial Report

DS reported that deposits continue to be made from SAWQA membership fees. The reserve account balance currently stands at \$300,000. Accounts receivable for ARCD total \$430,820. Combined, the two organizations hold approximately \$1,000,000 in total assets, with total liabilities of \$54,000.

DS reported that spending on certain projects, primarily DSPACE and DOC, is slightly behind schedule; these expenditures will be rolled over. Overall, expenditures remain balanced with revenue. Net income to date is \$34,000.

Membership fee collections continue, with approximately \$270,000 collected to date, and additional member fees still being received.



DS reviewed the budget timeline and requested guidance from the Board on the budget rollout process. The Board expressed a desire to hold a special meeting in June to review the proposed budget. DS discussed the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) process and noted that a COLA memo will be presented at the May meeting as an action item.

NRCS Report

Toney Tillman introduced himself and provided a brief report. NRCS has approved a 120-day detail to fill a temporary District Conservationist (DC) position for the office. Toney will be present in the office two days per week until the position is permanently filled.

The EQIP and CSP application deadline passed on April 10. Ten applications were preapproved for CSP and six for EQIP. Additionally, five RCPP selections were made. A secondary application deadline of May 15 is available for additional submissions. NRCS will continue to accept applications; however, applications received after the deadline will be evaluated for the 2027 fiscal year.

Education Committee - Recommendation of 2026 Scholarship Award*

Director Gardner and Cannon reported that the committee met to review scholarship applications. Seven applications were received. Two top candidates were selected, and the committee recommended awarding two full scholarships.

Motion: To approve the committee's recommendation to increase 2027-2028 scholarship budget to \$3000 and award two scholarships to applicants selected by the by Director Port, seconded by Director Gardner.

All in favor.

Abstain: Williams.

Motion Passed.

Rendic Fuel Break Notice of Exemption*

Motion: To approve updated submission of the Rendic Fuel Break Notice of Exemption by Director Gardner, seconded by Director Port.

All in favor.

Motion Passed.

SAWQA Memorandum of Understanding

Agreement Between Northern California Water Association and Subwatershed Groups for Program Administration, Representation and Cost-Sharing for the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition

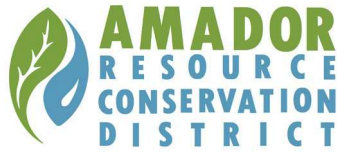
Motion: To approve the SAWQA MOU by Director Port, seconded by Director Williams.

All in favor.

Motion Passed.

Hangs on the Homestead Fencing Contract Approval

This project is subject to prevailing wage and was put through the in-formal procurement process. We requested bids from 8 fencing contractors. We received 1 response. The proposed cost is \$18,886.88.



Directors: Steve Cannon, Dan Port, Kelsi Williams, Amber Gardner **Associate Director:** Kent Reeves

Motion: To approve awarding the contract to Sierra Foothill Fence in the amount of \$18,886.88 by Director Williams, seconded by Director Gardner.

All in favor.

Motion Passed.

Executive Director Report

- The first FHS workshop is scheduled for May 9 and is being planned by TZ.
- NACD funding terms changed to a one-year cycle; the next funding round application has been submitted but is delayed, creating a temporary funding gap. Staff are seeking interim support from CARCD.
- The Defensible Space program is expected to open its application process in mid-May.
- Amador County hosted its first green waste chipping event, serving over 800 vehicles.
- A regional Habitat Festival is planned for September 12 at Kennedy Mine, in partnership with Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne RCDs.
- Pollinator restoration projects are in the planning phase at Kennedy Mine, Crestview, and Hangs on the Homestead.
- A community listening session regarding NWL will be held on May 7.
- The Strategic Plan staff survey has been completed.
- Cailin McLaughlin was hired as Outreach and Administrative Coordinator and began on April 16.
- ARCD and Placer RCD plan to submit concept proposals for HSP block grants.
- Sloughhouse is applying for a SWEEP block grant, with RCD providing technical assistance.

CLOSED SESSION: Annual Performance Evaluation of Executive Director

The Board will meet in closed session to conduct the annual performance evaluation of the Executive Director. This session is authorized under Government Code Section 54957, which permits closed sessions for discussion of personnel matters involving public employees.

Reconvene Open Session: Report Action if Necessary.

Reconvene at 7:44pm – No action taken and SC requested this be added to the June agenda as a closed agenda item.

Adjourn at 7:45pm

ARCD	Grant Period	Amount Awarded	Direct Cost	Indirect Cost	Remaining Advance	Expended to Date	Invoiced	Amount remaining
NACD 2024 - Round 6	3/31/2026	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00		\$ 25,529.98	\$ 49,466.17		\$ 25,533.83
Sierra Jobs First Catalyst (CCRCDD)	05/01/2025 - 09/30/26	\$ 15,656.00				\$ 814.10	\$ 379.62	\$ 14,841.90
WCB Grant - Pollinator	2/14/2023 - 2/28/2027	\$ 251,000.00	\$ 251,000.00			\$ 63,290.59	\$ 26,324.53	\$ 187,709.41
WCB Grant - Wildlife Habitat	12/20/2023 - 2/28/2027	\$ 200,000.00				\$ 134,306.66	\$ 8,340.61	\$ 65,693.34
CCI Coordinator	9/1/2024 - 3/31/2027	\$ 220,000.00			\$ 60,000.00	\$ 89,841.29	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 130,158.71
DOC Grant	2/22/2024 - 3/31/2027	\$ 1,618,366.64	\$ 1,407,275.34	\$ 211,091.30		\$ 425,479.22	\$ 274,880.70	\$ 1,192,887.42
Stewardship Agreement (CCRCDD)	Sept 2024 - 8/31/27	\$ 54,600.00				\$ 8,666.05	\$ 8,666.05	\$ 45,933.95
NRCS Cooperative Agreement	8/2/2024 - 9/30/2027	\$ 41,910.00	\$ 38,100.00	\$ 3,810.00		\$ 6,836.49	\$ 6,836.49	\$ 35,073.51
Placer HSP Block Grant	12/8/23 - 10/31/27	\$ 92,814.00	\$ 69,610.50	\$ 23,203.50		\$ 53,971.05	\$ 14,402.73	\$ 38,442.95
Healthy Soils - Round 3 23-0672-000-SG	11/1/2023 - 2/29/28	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 37,563.69	\$ 11,031.98	\$ 22,436.31
2023 RCPP Round 2	11/1/2023 - 7/15/2028	\$ 594,600.00				\$ 166,714.09	\$ 53,652.82	\$ 427,885.91
Chipping 3 (CalFire)	1/30/2026 - 02/15/2029	\$ 596,929.54	\$ 532,972.80	\$ 63,956.74		\$ 24,219.35	\$ 24,219.35	\$ 572,710.19
Workforce Development (CARCD)	6/14/2024 - 2/28/2029	\$ 23,935.31	\$ 20,235.31	\$ 3,700.00		\$ 8,938.32	\$ 6,251.48	\$ 14,996.99
Defensible Space 5GG22102	12/27/2023 - 03/15/2029	\$ 633,584.00	\$ 565,700.00	\$ 67,884.00		\$ 48,913.26	\$ 48,913.26	\$ 584,670.74
Misc Receivables							\$ 531.41	\$ -
AFSC Staff Time							\$ 105,245.18	
LCRCD Staff Time							\$ 8,437.63	
SAWQA Staff Time								
		\$ 4,478,395.49	\$ 3,013,893.95	\$ 379,645.54	\$ 85,529.98	\$ 1,119,020.33	\$ 628,113.84	\$ 3,359,375.16

*Deferred Rev

*Accounts Rec

SAWQA

	Amount Billed	Amount Received	Amount Due
2025 Member Fees		\$10,836.28	
2026 Member Fees		\$259,709.26	

Amador Resource Conservation District

05/08/26

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis

As of April 30, 2026

	<u>Apr 30, 26</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
101768 · Sac/Ama Water Quality Alliance	408,992.10
101769 · Amador RCD	
101769C · Amador RCD Checking	140,331.97
101769R · Unrestricted Reserves	<u>300,000.00</u>
Total 101769 · Amador RCD	<u>440,331.97</u>
Total Checking/Savings	849,324.07
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivable	<u>628,113.80</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	628,113.80
Other Current Assets	
13000 · Prepaid Expenses	<u>608.59</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>608.59</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1,478,046.46</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,478,046.46</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	<u>73,619.91</u>
Total Accounts Payable	73,619.91
Credit Cards	
002 · Bank of America	<u>195.72</u>
Total Credit Cards	195.72
Other Current Liabilities	
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	509.30
24500 · Accrued Time Off	14,579.45
25800 · Unearned or Deferred Revenue	<u>85,529.97</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>100,618.72</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>174,434.35</u>
Total Liabilities	174,434.35
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	714,685.99
32000 · Retained Earnings	560,989.98
Net Income	<u>27,936.14</u>
Total Equity	<u>1,303,612.11</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,478,046.46</u>

Amador Resource Conservation District Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2025 through April 2026

	Jul '25 - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
45000 · Investments				
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	12,946.93	7,500.00	5,446.93	172.6%
Total 45000 · Investments	12,946.93	7,500.00	5,446.93	172.6%
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46009 · Partnership Contracts	254,238.88	298,461.49	(44,222.61)	85.2%
46430 · Miscellaneous Revenue	490.00		490.00	100.0%
Total 46400 · Other Types of Income	255,178.88	298,461.49	(43,282.61)	85.5%
47890 · Program Income				
47891 · Grant Income	582,272.51	1,290,493.96	(708,221.45)	45.1%
47894 · Admin Fee (Indirect Cost)	72,505.01	180,191.35	(107,686.34)	40.2%
Total 47890 · Program Income	655,377.52	1,470,685.31	(815,307.79)	44.6%
Total Income	923,503.33	1,776,646.80	(853,143.47)	52.0%
Gross Profit	923,503.33	1,776,646.80	(853,143.47)	52.0%
Expense				
50100 · Payroll Expenses				
50100-1 · Payroll Expense	464,844.01	649,536.09	(184,692.08)	71.6%
50100-2 · Vacation Expense	20,075.88		20,075.88	100.0%
50100-3 · Retirement	30,451.08	43,222.28	(12,771.20)	70.5%
50100-4 · Health Benefits	28,976.04	45,600.00	(16,623.96)	63.5%
50310 · Payroll Tax Expense	42,842.33	57,431.61	(14,589.28)	74.6%
Total 50100 · Payroll Expenses	587,189.34	795,789.98	(208,600.64)	73.8%
51000 · Insurance				
50600 · Worker's Compensation Insurance	9,353.66	11,840.00	(2,486.34)	79.0%
51500 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,576.28	4,000.00	(423.72)	89.4%
Total 51000 · Insurance	12,929.94	15,840.00	(2,910.06)	81.6%
52000 · Memberships and Dues	4,422.90	4,000.00	422.90	110.6%
52200 · Office Expenses				
52200-1 · Office Equipment	6,005.98	10,000.00	(3,994.02)	60.1%
52200-2 · Postage, Mailing Service		150.00	(150.00)	
52200-3 · Printing and Copying	214.63		214.63	100.0%
52200-4 · Supplies	21,925.85	25,200.00	(3,274.15)	87.0%
52200-5 · Telephone, Telecommunications	3,784.39	4,500.00	(715.61)	84.1%
52200-6 · Advertising	130.00		130.00	100.0%
52200-7 · Software	7,303.71	7,200.00	103.71	101.4%
52200-8 · Website	2,604.66	3,600.00	(995.34)	72.4%
52200-9 · Tech Support	356.56	250.00	106.56	142.6%
Total 52200 · Office Expenses	42,325.78	50,900.00	(8,574.22)	83.2%
52300 · Professional Services				
52300-1 · Legal Fees		5,000.00	(5,000.00)	
52321 · Auditor's Services		5,000.00	(5,000.00)	
52383 · Bookkeeping	5,305.25	4,500.00	805.25	117.9%
52385 · HR Support	5,250.00	6,300.00	(1,050.00)	83.3%
Total 52300 · Professional Services	10,555.25	20,800.00	(10,244.75)	50.7%
52360 · Outreach				
52360-1 · Event Supplies and Rentals	1,316.27	8,200.00	(6,883.73)	16.1%
52360-2 · Swag	384.41	1,000.00	(615.59)	38.4%
52360-3 · Printing/Materials	319.38	2,000.00	(1,680.62)	16.0%
52360 · Outreach - Other	180.31		180.31	100.0%
Total 52360 · Outreach	2,200.37	11,200.00	(8,999.63)	19.6%
52364 · Staff/Board Development				
52364-1 · Training	1,517.50	12,700.00	(11,182.50)	11.9%
52364-2 · Team Building	444.23	800.00	(355.77)	55.5%
52364-3 · Business Events/Celebrations		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	
52364-4 · Convention and Meetings	1,545.91	2,000.00	(454.09)	77.3%
Total 52364 · Staff/Board Development	3,507.64	17,000.00	(13,492.36)	20.6%
52800 · Special Departmental Expenses				
52800-1 · Community Garden		500.00	(500.00)	
52800-3 · Fair Booth	696.00	700.00	(4.00)	99.4%
52822 · Education/Scholarships	1,750.00	5,000.00	(3,250.00)	35.0%
Total 52800 · Special Departmental Expenses	3,046.00	6,200.00	(3,154.00)	49.1%
52905 · Travel and Transportation				
52905-1 · Mileage	2,614.96	12,550.00	(9,935.04)	20.8%
52905-2 · Hotel/Per Diem/Meals	1,175.92	2,200.00	(1,024.08)	53.5%
Total 52905 · Travel and Transportation	4,147.68	14,750.00	(10,602.32)	28.1%

**Amador Resource Conservation District
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2025 through April 2026**

	Jul '25 - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
54138 · Contractor Services				
54138-1 · Groundwork Contractor	21,948.82	450,300.00	(428,351.18)	4.9%
54138-2 · Professional Service Contractor	24,003.30	209,000.00	(184,996.70)	11.5%
Total 54138 · Contractor Services	45,952.12	659,300.00	(613,347.88)	7.0%
54200 · Partner Payments	188,427.24	125,000.00	63,427.24	150.7%
Total Expense	904,712.69	1,720,779.98	(816,067.29)	52.6%
Net Ordinary Income	18,790.64	55,866.82	(37,076.18)	33.6%
Net Income	18,790.64	55,866.82	(37,076.18)	33.6%

SAWQA
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2025 through April 2026

	Jul '25 - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
45000 · Investments				
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	14,422.15	10,000.00	4,422.15	144.2%
Total 45000 · Investments	14,422.15	10,000.00	4,422.15	144.2%
47890 · Program Income				
47895 · SAWQA Member Fees	308,278.65	417,710.00	-109,431.35	73.8%
Total 47890 · Program Income	308,278.65	417,710.00	-109,431.35	73.8%
Total Income	322,700.80	427,710.00	-105,009.20	75.4%
Gross Profit	322,700.80	427,710.00	-105,009.20	75.4%
Expense				
51000 · Insurance				
51500 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,247.85	3,000.00	247.85	108.3%
Total 51000 · Insurance	3,247.85	3,000.00	247.85	108.3%
52200 · Office Expenses				
52200-2 · Postage, Mailing Service	616.68			
52200-3 · Printing and Copying	871.20			
52200-7 · Software	2,399.00			
52200 · Office Expenses - Other	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
Total 52200 · Office Expenses	3,886.88	5,000.00	-1,113.12	77.7%
52300 · Professional Services				
52300-2 · Project Administration	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
52300-5 · Record Keeping	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
52300-6 · Monitoring and Reporting	144,450.96	144,450.96	0.00	100.0%
52321 · Auditor's Services	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
52383 · Bookkeeping	0.00	29,239.70	-29,239.70	0.0%
52384 · State Board Oversight	154,769.72	154,769.72	0.00	100.0%
Total 52300 · Professional Services	299,220.68	371,960.38	-72,739.70	80.4%
52364 · Staff/Board Development				
52364-1 · Training	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
Total 52364 · Staff/Board Development	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
Total Expense	306,355.41	381,960.38	-75,604.97	80.2%
Net Ordinary Income	16,345.39	45,749.62	-29,404.23	35.7%
Net Income	16,345.39	45,749.62	-29,404.23	35.7%

SAWQA Report
Prepared for: May 12th 2026 ARCD Board Meeting

Member/Reporting Updates:

- 95% Reporting Complete
- 90% Invoices Paid
- 2nd late invoices (20%) went out on April 30th.
- We are planning to pass along the non-reporter list to Gurbinder for enforcement letters - this will be early next week.

Nitrogen Management Plan

Meeting scheduled with LWA 5/8 to discuss our Management Plan, and what data we need the database to collect moving forward.

Timeline

- Exceedance – October 2021, 18 mg/L*
- Exceedance – December 2021, 20 mg/L
- Exceedance – December 2022, 11 mg/L
- Management Plan Approved – January 2025
- Exceedance – February 2026, 11 mg/L
- EARLIEST POSSIBLE COMPLETION – February 2029
- Next monitoring event – October 2026

*10 mg/L as N MCL for nitrate + nitrate acts as the ILRP trigger limit for the Coalition.



Blomberg & Griffin Accountancy Corporation
Certified Public Accountant

INDEPENDENT AUDIT PROPOSAL

Board of Directors
Amador County Resource Conservation District
12200-B Airport Road
Jackson, CA 95642

April 23, 2026

Dear Board Members

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following proposal to serve as independent auditor for the Amador County Resource Conservation District.

We propose to conduct the audit of the financial statements of the Amador County Resource Conservation District for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2024.

We will plan and perform the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and minimum audit requirements for California Special Districts and will include tests of the accounting records and other procedures considered necessary under the circumstances. If our audit report is other than unmodified, we will fully discuss the reason with the District's manager prior to presentation of the report. If during the audit we become aware of significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls or of ways management practices can be improved, we will communicate such information to the District Board of Directors in a separate letter.

We propose to begin the audit for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2024 as soon as the District records are available. Set-up, pre-list and certain other procedures would begin with notification of the contract. Fieldwork would begin soon after District personnel complete the trial balance.

Our fee for the above services is based on hourly rates from \$75 to \$150 per hour with a maximum fee not to exceed \$7,475. for the audit year's ended June 30, 2023 and 2024.

Amador County Resource Conservation District-Audit Proposal-Page 2

This audit proposal is for a financial audit, and the above fees include our entire out-of-pocket expenses including up to 7 bound copies of the audit report. Additional copies are available at \$10 each.

We will need the cooperation and assistance of District personnel to successfully complete the audit. Such assistance will include but not limited to obtaining copies of documents, contracts, invoices, etc., various audit inquiries and assistance with preparation of the audit confirmations and other standard auditing procedures.

Should the District need additional services, our fee assisting will be billed at the rate of \$150. per hour in addition to the audit fee discussed above. Such additional fees, if there are any, will be discussed with the District in advance of providing such services.

Should you need any additional information regarding this proposal please call John E. Blomberg, C.P.A., direct at (209) 466-3894.

Respectfully Submitted,



John E. Blomberg, C.P.A.
john@blombergcpa.com

Approved By:

Signature

Dated

MEMORANDUM

To: Amador RCD Board of Directors

From: Dana Simpson, Administration and Finance Manager

Date: May 1, 2026

Subject: Request for Company-Wide Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

Hi Board Members,

I hope you're doing well. I'm reaching out to request a company-wide Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) in response to recent cost increases.

2026 Social Security COLA (for reference)

The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced a 2.8% COLA for 2026, effective January 1, 2026, based on changes in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) from Q3 2024 to Q3 2025.

Why I'm recommending a COLA

Costs for basics like housing, transportation, and food continue to trend up. A COLA helps employees keep pace and protects purchasing power.

Implementing a company-wide COLA is also a good way to show we're invested in our team and to keep our overall compensation competitive and fair. We also did not provide a COLA in 2025, so this adjustment would help close that gap.

Request

With that in mind, I'm requesting a 2.8% COLA for all employees, effective July 1, 2026. This increase would be covered mostly by grant funding, with minimal impact to our general fund. I believe this will help relieve some day-to-day financial pressure and reinforce our commitment to employee well-being.

Thanks for your time and consideration. I'm happy to talk through this request and share any additional details that would be helpful.

Thank you,

Dana Simpson
Administration and Finance Manager

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Amador

810 Court Street

Jackson, CA 95642

From: (Public Agency): Amador Resource Conservation District
12200 B Airport Road
Jackson, CA 95655

(Address)

Project Title: Working Lands Pollinator Habitat Enhancement: Kennedy Mine

Project Applicant: Amador Resource Conservation District

Project Location - Specific:

12594 Kennedy Mine Rd, Jackson, CA 95642

Project Location - City: Jackson, CA Project Location - County: Amador

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will install approximately 5 acres of wildlife habitat. Habitat enhancement will include flowering native plant vegetation to benefit native pollinator species, emphasizing habitat for the monarch butterfly and certain bumble bee species. ARCD will provide technical assistance and plant, irrigation, and fencing material resources to the landowner for project implementation. ARCD and the landowner will share responsibilities for habitat installation and maintenance.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Amador Resource Conservation District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Howard Hoffman

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15333, Class 33
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project meets the criteria for Class 33 exemptions, in that project sites do not exceed 5 acres in size, will have no significant adverse impact on endangered, rare, or threatened species or their habitat, use only hand labor and no mechanized equipment, and use no hazardous materials.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Amanda Watson Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 217-1090

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Kennedy Mine Specs -5/8/2026

[\(Online Map\)](#)

1. Fan House

Fan 1

Mow and disc, seed only

Fan2

Mow and disc, seed only

2. Main Road

Mow, seed only

3. South of Head Frame

South of HF 1

Mow and disc, seed only

South of HF 1

Mow and disc, seed only

4. West of Master Garden

Mow, disc, irrigation, 1 inch PVC coming from garden, seed & plants

700 linear feet

5. Watertank

Mow, disc, irrigation, 1 inch PVC coming from garden, seed & plants

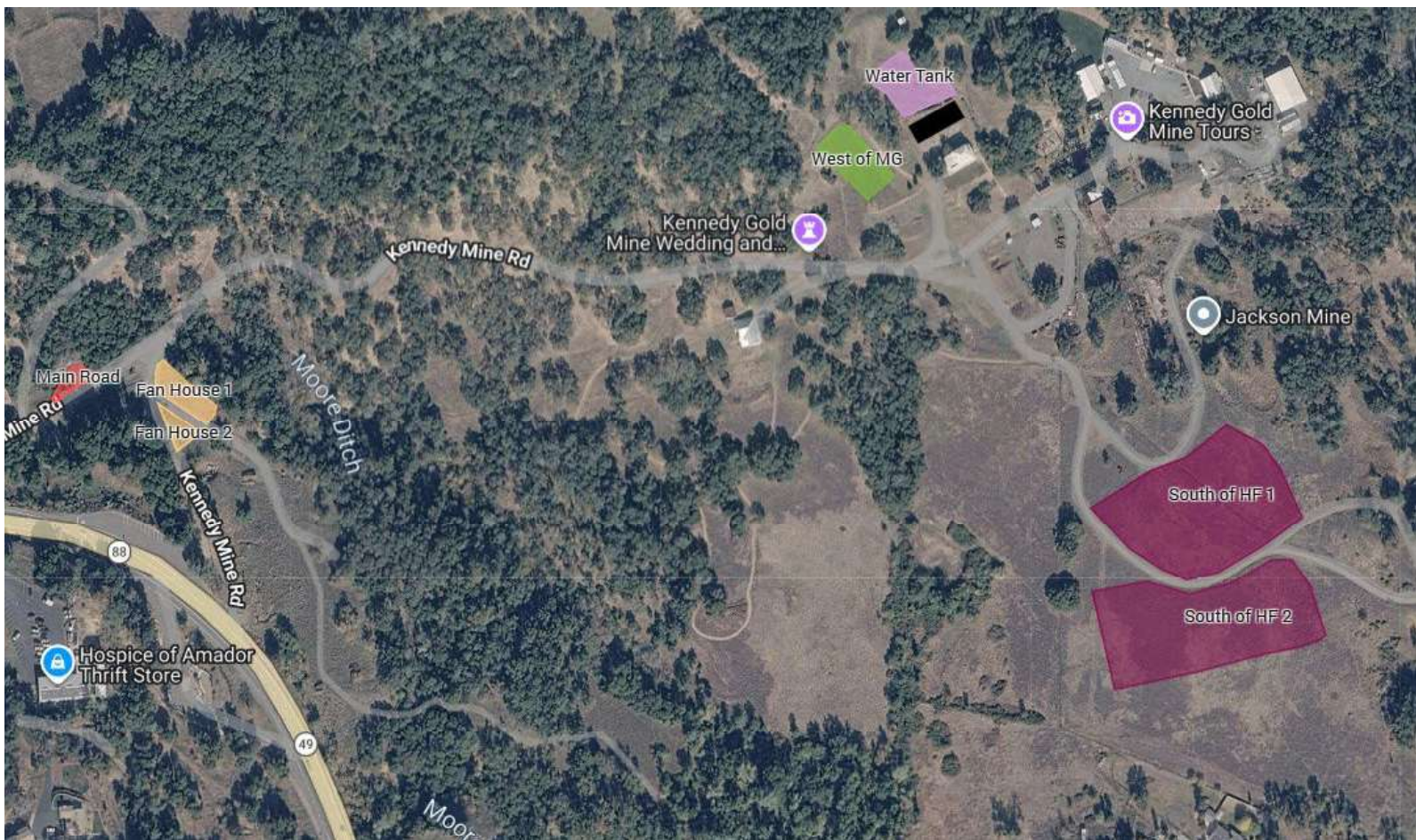
480 linear feet

4 rows 120 feet long running east and west

6. Master Garden

Prep soil by hand, irrigation, ? inch PVC coming from garden, Plants only along border/hedgerow 300 linear feet

Site	Acreage	Seed Type	Seed lbs.	Linear Ft.	Plant #'s
Fan House 1	0.189	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A
Fan House 2	0.091	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A
Main Road	0.074	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A
South of Head Frame 1	1.99	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A
South of Head Frame 2	1.99	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A
West of Master Garden	0.2	N/A?	N/A?	700	140
Water Tank	0.3	N/A?	N/A?	480	96
Master Garden	0.118	N/A	N/A	300	60



[Date]

Re: Support for the FIRE WORKS proposal to CAL FIRE's Workforce Development Grant Program.

Dear Grant Committee:

Please accept this letter of support for the Garden Valley Fire Protection District's "FIRE WORKS" workforce development grant proposal. The proposed project will provide both community and professional workforce training and will build long-term forest and fire management capacity in the region.

The existing programs of the Fire District and its partner entities working in Amador and El Dorado counties are already making a difference, bringing prescribed fire and vegetation management resources to the community. This project will provide additional workforce development directly with the creation of forest sector jobs and with regional support for prescribed fire training and certifications that will benefit multiple counties.

We endorse this proposal and look forward to the positive impact the Fire Works project will have on our regional workforce and the sustainable management of our forests.

Sincerely,

[Name]

Amador RCD
Executive Director Report
Prepared for: May 12th 2026 Board Meeting

Current Projects Updates:

Forestry Program:

Forest Health Assistance Program (FHAP): TZ is working on ranking documents for 5 clients for the May RCPP ranking deadline.

TZ is planning the **Amador Forest Property Owner workshop with the theme 'Trialing Treatment', May 9th**

NACD funding expired April 1st still awaiting CARCD agreement for stop gap funding.

Multi-owner EQIP (mEQIP) Project: GL is working to develop the process needed for designing and submitting a multiple landowner application to NRCS for funding fuels reduction and forest health work.

Defensible Space Project: Project is rolling out mid-May

5/6: FWC Virtual Townhall, 5/11: General Town Hall, 5/13: Application Opens, 5/13-5/14: In-person Office Hours, 6/12: Application Closes, June-August: Assessments/Work conducted.

Chipping Program: Will be working on green waste bins and green waste events with the county, but other work is on hold until Q3.

Grant Writing: Staff is reviewing opportunities for Wildfire Prevention Grant applications several projects: Grazing and Rx burn pilot project and second round of defensible space.

Ag/Natural Working Land Program:

Healthy Soil Program Technical Assistance Funding- Billy Synk (BS) has been working on verifications and learning the program. Billy is also working on developing a Pollinator and Irrigation workshop. Ag. & Working Lands Survey is live on the website, this survey will help develop our needs assessment and the ARCD Strategic Plan.

WCB Wildlife Habitat Installation: Planning has started for Tuolumne and Calaveras Phase 2 of applications. ARCD will be doing a targeted Phase 3, which will focus on NRCS clients and clients with ongoing projects, there will not be another open solicitation for applications in 2026.

Central Sierra Pollinator Habitat Celebration: Planning had begun for planning the fall event. The event will be held September 12th in coordination with the Farms of Amador Tour & Dinner. The event will be held at Kennedy Mine.

WCB Pollinator Project:

Hangs on the Homestead: BS has begun work on the setting up installation of infrastructure for this project including trenching, and irrigation installation has started, fencing installation will begin mid-May. Planting will take place in Fall 2026.

Multi-Benefit Fuel Breaks: Pollinator Restoration in Amador: this project will involve seeding and planting on the Crestview parcel, where AFSC recently completed a fuels reduction project. BS is working with BLM to ensure access to plants/seeds and working on project design. Implementation of the project will take place Fall 2026.

Kennedy Mine Pollinator Habitat: BS has conducted an several site visit on the Kennedy Mine site and created a site plan approved by Kennedy Mine, see attached Notice of Exemption.

Natural and Working Lands Hub: ARCD hosted the Listening Sessions on May 7th, we had 23 total attendees and great conversations. Additional 1:1 interviews will be held in May and June.

Admin:

ODC Meeting was met and discussed board recruitment and committees.
Admin Staff is working on FY 26-27 workplan in preparation for the budget.

Amador Fire Safe Council: See March Coordinator report

Upcoming Grant Applications

ARCD will be working with the Central Sierra RCD Hub to develop a second phase of Healthy Soils Incentive Program Block Grant. The program is limited to \$4 million; the group is considering submitting multiple coordinated block grants to better cover the full Central Sierra area. The ARCD is a potential lead entity for a second block grant after Placer RCD, the ARCD project will focus on assisting ranchers. ARCD staff are working with CS RCD Hub to develop the concept proposals.

ARCD will be working with the Central Sierra RCD Hub to develop a State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program Block Grant. The program would provide \$4 million for a regional project to provide funding technical assistance and funding to improve irrigation efficiency. Sloughhouse RCD will be the lead of this project.

Submitted Grant Applications:

- State & Local Cybersecurity Grant
- Jackson Creek Forest Health Phase 2 Concept Proposal to the Forest Health Grant
- Rancheria Fire Scar Forest Health Project Concept Proposal to the Forest Health Grant
- The Amador Pines Forest Health Project Concept Proposal to the Forest Health Grant

Upcoming Outreach Events:

May 9th 9am: Forest Health Workshop 'Trialing Treatment'
September 12th: Central Sierra Habitat Festival (name is undecided)
September 13th: Farms of Amador Tour & Dinner

Ongoing Projects

Project	Update
Amador County Fire Resiliency Project	Plan for treatment approved by BLM. See attached 2026-2027 AFSC/BLM Plan.
Tiger Creek/Crestview Forest Health	Project is completed; closeout documentation and final report submitted and approved. Plan for maintenance treatment approved by BLM.
AmCo Stewardship Forest Health	Received BLM DNA and Decision Record (NEPA) for three parcels to be treated near Buckhorn Ridge unit. Working with SNC for approval of new acres; SNC will conduct CEQA crosswalk. Plan for maintenance treatment approved by BLM.
Thompson Ridge Fuel Break	Waiting on finalized BLM DNA and Decision Record (NEPA) to submit to SNC to crosswalk for CEQA. Work is anticipated to start Fall 2026.
River Pines Fuel Break Butte Mtn Fuels Reduction Rendic Fuel Break NOE	River Pines & Butte Mtn Fuel Breaks: work is completed, final report submitted. See attached Project Close-out Summary Rendic FB: NOE submitted to ARCD board for approval at April board meeting. No funding for implementation. Project is included in ARCD Concept Proposal for the Rancheria Fire Scar Restoration project.
Volcano Hills Fuel Break	Tanner and Krisman are both currently working on Site. Tanner has submitted their first invoice for ~20 acres. Project anticipated to be completed within schedule.
PG&E Substation Fuels Reduction	GL is working on acquiring all ROEs for project.
Ingress/Egress Project	AFSC currently has two sources of funding to support this work. The CalFire Direct Award and the PG&E grant. Storm Damage Response: AW, TB, and DS met with Chief Boyce and discussed a process to allow for I/E money to pay CalFire Crews to conduct work on private roads to assist with storm damage in regard to vegetation along roadways. TB is working with Amador Pines to collect rights of entries to allow work to start in May. AW hasn't heard back from Sierra Pines and is waiting on a map from Sherwood Forest.
Mt Crossman Fuel Break	Funding awarded. AFSC needs to collect new Rights of Entry that meet SNC stipulations from all landowners before contract can be fully executed. TB is working on draft new ROE which will be send to SNC for review and then sent to landowners. This is not anticipated to affect implementation timeline of Fall 2026.
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	The Working Group Meeting and Steering Committee have reviewed the draft CWPP and comments and feedback are being incorporated into the document. Steering Committee and Working Group reviewed the DRAFT Amador County Wildfire Collaborators framework document, which will be incorporated into the CWPP (see attached: " CWPP Implementation & Coordination Plan "). CWPP on track for April 2026 completion. Progress posted on AFSC website with SIG web map. Amador County CWPP - Amador Fire Safe Council Upcoming CWPP related Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 27th CWPP Townhall • April 28th Board of Supervisors Meeting - CWPP • April 29th-30th CWPP Field Tours

Internal and Countywide Mapping	Contract with Mettja Kuna was approved for 2026. TB has been working with Mettja on moving through workplan.
Maintenance and Monitoring Protocol	GL and TB attended SNC/RFFCP Monitoring Protocol Training, and the team is working to finalize first draft of protocol to present to the AFSC Projects Committee.
AFSC Project Committee	The project committee has developed and approved the 2026-2027 AFSC/BLM Plan (see attached). BLM Motherlode Field Office staff are in support of this plan and we are moving forward with planning and implementation of projects.
Coordinator Grant	ARCD has hired a full-time Outreach & Admin Coordinator. Cailin McLaughlin will start April 16 th ! Extension request for County Coordinator funding is due April 15 th . Funding will extend work another 15 months and include an additional \$151k in funding.

Project	Project Lead
Jackson Gate/Kennedy Mine Fuel Break – Completed Final Report Approved	Gordon Long
Volcano Hills Fuel Break	Todd Bertwell
Rancheria/Thompson Ridge Fuel Break	Gordon Long
AmCo Stewardship Project	Gordon Long
Amador County Fire Resiliency Project	Gordon Long
River Pines Fuel Break (Rendic/Butte Mtn) Completed – Final report submitted	Gordon Long
Upper Jackson Gate Fuel Break – Completed – Final Report Approved	Gordon Long
Tiger Creek/Crestview Forest Health – Completed – Final Report Approved	Gordon Long/Amanda Watson
County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) development	Todd Bertwell
Internal Project Mapping system/Community facing map web apps	Todd Bertwell/Amanda Watson
County-wide Collaboration	Amanda Watson
Countywide mapping system	Todd Bertwell/Amanda Watson
County-wide monitoring protocol and maintenance intervals	Gordon Long/Amanda Watson
Countywide Ingress/Egress – CalFire - NEW	TBD
Pine Grove Ingress/Egress – PG&E - NEW	Gordon Long
Substation Fuels Reduction – PG&E - NEW	Todd Bertwell
Mt Crossman Fuel Break – SNC - NEW	Todd Bertwell
Projects in Planning/Development Phase	
La Mel Community Fuel Break – planning stages (grant amendment needed)	Gordon Long
Sutter Highlands Community Fuel Break – following up with community on ROEs/getting feedback from CalFire	Todd Bertwell
Sunset Heights – still in determination phase	Todd Bertwell
The Oaks – still in determination phase	Todd Bertwell
Mokelumne Rim Fuel Break – planning stage	Gordon Long
Upper Dry Creek Fuel Break – planning stage	Gordon Long
Pine Grove Central Fuel Break – planning stage	Amanda Watson

Current Grant Applications

Project	Current Grant Application	Amount Requested
<p>County Coordinator Extension</p>	<p>CaFSC funding; due 4/15. Requesting \$151k to continue county coordination. Activities include: facilitating AC Wildfire Collaborators Group/committees, participation in other county planning process, project development/grant writing, county mapping, CWPP implementation/facilitation, outreach/education, and FWC support.</p>	<p>\$151,000</p>
<p>Awareness to Action: Advancing Firewise Communities in Amador County (ARCD lead)</p>	<p>2026 State Fire Capacity (SFC) Grant Program; Request up to \$200,000, with a 1:1.5 non-federal match requirement. Due May 15th</p> <p>Overview: AFSC and Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) in partnership with the Amador Fire Protection District (AFPD), is seeking funding to expand and sustain support for Firewise Communities (FWCs) across Amador County. In the past year alone, seven new FWCs have been established, bringing the total to 37 active communities. AFPD provides essential support through community formation, resource kits, assessments, and quarterly forums. AFSC complements this by assisting with project development, securing funding, and supporting implementation. Continued investment will ensure these communities remain engaged, prepared, and resilient in the face of wildfire threats.</p> <p>Approach: Continued Firewise Community Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFPD will continue to assist with the formation of new Firewise Communities and sustain existing ones through outreach and education, workshops and trainings, community assessments, and FWC forums. • AFPD and AFSC will work to develop and implement FWC Training Program • AFSC, AFSC , ARCD will develop and host Annual Fire Resiliency Fair <p>Develop Amador County Fire Resiliency Outreach Collaborative: establish and host at least quarterly outreach planning meetings. Developing unified messaging in the county.</p> <p>Complete Amador County Fire Resiliency Project & Opportunities Mapping</p> <p>Project Development & Technical Support: AFSC will guide FWC in transforming their needs assessments into actionable projects. This includes providing technical assistance, identifying funding strategies, and supporting grant development and implementation. Developing a 'next steps' strategy for an actionable CWPP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conduct a Year 2 CWPP review. 	<p>\$100-200k</p>

Upcoming Outreach Events:

April 14th: Board of Supervisors Meeting – UCCE Support

April 27th CWPP Townhall – hosted by AFSC

April 28th Board of Supervisors Meeting - CWPP

April 29th-30th CWPP Field Tours – hosted by AFSC

May 7th 6:15-8pm: ARCD Listening Session – hosted by ARCD

May 9th 9am: Forest Health Workshop ‘Trialing Treatment’ – hosted by ARCD