



## TULARE BASIN WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP NETWORK JUNE 26, 2020 ZOOM MEETING NOTES

[Facilitator – Robert Gould, Senior Facilitator-Ag Innovations; Tech support - Suzannah Sosman, Program Manager-Ag Innovations; Participants - See Roster pp. 11-12 below; TBWP Network Design Team – Safeeq Khan-UC ANR, Jeff Powers–SRT, Matt Hurley-WM Pros, Carole Combs-TBWP; Note-taker – Dezaraye Bagalayos-TBWP & APA]

### **Meeting Purpose:**

1. A clear understanding of the challenges and opportunities that inspired the Network
2. An understanding of and input on the draft Charter: Purpose, Goal, Scope, Roadmap, Guiding Principles & Governance
3. Initial awareness of the interests of participants in the Basin and Network itself
4. A set of agreements and action items

**Welcome:** Carole Combs welcomed all – “we’re joining together to build a resilient future for nature and people in the Tulare Basin”.

**Introductions:** Each participant listed reasons for joining, as follows:

- **Adam Livingston:** opportunity to create a stakeholder forum building on other regional partnerships such as the Southern Sierra Partnership -- from Sequoia Riverlands Trust (SRT) Policy and Planning program perspective
- **Jeff Powers:** opportunity to collaborate with others in the region to implement high priority projects for the benefit of both natural resources and the local communities -- from the perspective of the SRT Director of Stewardship
- **Safeeq Khan:** opportunity to increase public awareness about water and wildlife issues -- from the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Water & Watershed Sciences Specialist perspective
- **Paul Peschel:** opportunity for Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) involvement due to 1.2 million acres in parts of Kings, Tulare, Fresno [and Kern] Counties -- from the KRCD General Manager perspective
- **John Austin:** opportunities for upper-lower watershed collaboration from the retired Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park planner and TBWP Board member perspective
- **Rob Hansen:** opportunity to learn what “resilience” means to meeting participants from the COS Biology Professor and current TBWP Board President perspective
- **Cathy Capone:** opportunity for Tule River Parkway Association president, California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Board of Directors member, and CNPS Alta Peak Chapter member to engage
- **Bruce Roberts:** opportunity to advance groundwork already done for a healthy environment -- from the retired CSUF Division of Agronomy & Soil Science Division Dean/JG Boswell Endowed

Chair, UC Cooperative Extension, and TBWP Board member perspective

- **Julie Allen:** opportunity for integrated watershed management from the SRT Board Secretary, Tulare County LAFCO member, and local water company president perspective
- **Dirk Charley:** opportunities to expand knowledge of Tribes in the region, take care of our landscapes and water, and utilize this Network to collaborate on ongoing projects -- from the Dunlap Mono Tribal Liaison perspective
- **Larry Saslaw:** grand scale opportunity for collaboration among the four Tulare Basin watersheds -- from the retired BLM Supervisory Wildlife Biologist and current TBWP Board Vice President perspective
- **Steve Haze:** opportunities to enhance Southern Sierra water management and water budget relating to environmental and socio-economic needs in the Southern Sierra – from the Sierra RCD District Manager perspective
- **Barbara Brydolf:** as President of the CNPS Alta Peak Chapter and co-owner of River Ridge Ranch – a major SRT conservation easement property, sharing experience with innovative landscape management and knowledge of ecosystem restoration, as well as integrating surface water with groundwater on a headwaters to groundwater scale
- **Gary Adest:** opportunities for sustainable and regenerative approaches to landscape scale conservation, keeping in mind impacts of regional population growth since 1900, from the retired CSU and UC Wildlife Biologist, River Ridge Institute President, and River Ridge Ranch co-owner perspective
- **Dan Smith:** opportunity to develop new partnerships -- from the Sequoia National Forest Ecosystem Staff Officer perspective
- **Ron Goode:** opportunities for thinking long-term regarding upper watershed meadow restoration and for ensuring there is an underground aquifer in the Tulare Basin that can store water -- from the North Fork Mono Tribe Chief perspective
- **Denise & Kayode Kadara:** opportunities to participate in collaborations that can improve quality of life in underserved communities, exemplified by the community of Allensworth through the efforts of the Allensworth Progressive Association (APA), from the perspective of two Allensworth community leaders -- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Disadvantaged Community member/TBWP Board member and Self-Help Enterprises Board member/TBWP Environmental Technical Advisor respectively
- **Richard Harriman:** opportunity to use the SGMA process to work together to maximize restoration for people and the environment -- from the perspective of a TBWP Advisor and attorney long involved in Tulare Lake issues
- **Jesse Bahm:** opportunities for regional collaboration on restoration projects -- from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Area Biologist and TBWP Advisor perspective
- **Chris Sanders:** opportunity to forge meaningful partnerships and explore solutions we haven't thought of yet -- from Sequoia National Forest Wildlife and Fisheries Program Manager perspective
- **Sarah Campe:** development of "gritty project details" combining Southern Sierra headwaters management and Valley floor resources management priorities -- from the Sierra Nevada

Conservancy South Area Representative perspective

- **Paul Hardwick:** opportunity for cross-boundary communication and information-sharing on water project collaboration -- from Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks Information Resources Branch Chief perspective
- **Mike Chrisman:** opportunities for real solutions from a collaborative process involving farming and ranching interests, taking advantage of good timing due to critical juncture in regional SGMA process, and defining “resiliency” from the perspective of Water Education Foundation Board President, former California Natural Resources Agency Secretary, Self-Help Enterprises Board member and local rancher
- **Annee Ferranti:** opportunities to collaborate for good conservation outcomes in the Valley -- from the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) Region 4 Environmental Program Manager/Acting Regional Manager perspective
- **Abigail Hart:** opportunity to collaborate across county, GSA, and watershed boundaries -- from The Nature Conservancy San Joaquin Valley Restoration Programs Director perspective
- **Erin Tennant:** opportunity to create a Network that looks at the big picture and enhances the management needs of ecological preserves in the Valley -- from the CDFW Region 4 Environmental Scientist and TBWP Advisor perspective
- **Ryan Macintosh:** opportunities to develop relationships to work on water rights and water systems issues -- from the Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribal EPA Division Director perspective
- **Mike Hagman:** advancement of farming interests and a healthy watershed -- from the East Kaweah GSA Executive Director, Lindmore Irrigation District General Manager, and farmer perspective
- **Matt Hurley:** development of Valley floor- upper watershed forest health investment opportunities -- from the perspective of the McMullin Area GSA General Manager, Tranquility RCD Executive Director, Sierra RCD Forest Health Watershed Coordinator “B”, WM Pros CEO and TBWP Advisor perspective
- **Nina Hemphill:** opportunities for cross-border collaboration -- from BLM CASO Lead-Aquatic Habitat Management Program perspective
- **Soua Lee:** “getting this group going” -- from Kings Basin Water Authority Program Manager and KRCD Associate Resources Analyst perspective
- **Dennis Tristao:** opportunities to move forward-- from JG Boswell Company Environmental Affairs Officer (retired 6.30.2020) and Tulare Lake RCD President perspective
- **[Dezaraye Bagalayos:** TBWP and APA Program Coordinator , TBWPN eNews compiler and TBWPN meeting note-taker]
- **[Carole Combs:** current TBWP Board Secretary-Treasurer & *pro bono* Executive Director – “saving my fire for later” —See **Why We Are Here** below]

**Robert:** “The reasons for joining are impressive. This is a diverse group, focused on collaboration, relationship-building, restoring ecosystems and watersheds, and overall watershed health. There is rich tapestry of thought and intention.”

**Meeting Overview & Guidelines (Robert):** Agenda review -- interactive format, role of Design Team, Ag Innovations facilitation and technical support, and comfort level with meeting guidelines

**Why We Are Here:**

- **Matt:** “Robert is an exceptional facilitator. The Design Team has worked diligently to prepare for this meeting, with significant past support from Sarah Campe, Soapy Mulholland [ until her December 2019 retirement from the SRT], and Erin Tennant, whose comments have been a driving force. The metaphor that summarizes where we are now is that of a Renaissance man of water in the Tulare Basin, floating down a river with an unnerving sound in the distance. It is a waterfall that we need to figure out how to approach. Turn our bodies toward the middle of the stream to work on solutions that will save us from going over the waterfall.”
- **Carole:** “The TBWP Network has evolved from the Tulare Basin Working Group (2003-2014), an umbrella group of federal and state agencies, regional NGOs and Tulare Lake duck clubs collaborating to get conservation projects done on the Valley floor in the Kern-Tulare Lake hydrologic area. This group asked me to form an IRS 501 (c) (3) to serve as its action arm, and so the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (2005-2019) formed with the vision to create a healthy regional watershed with ecologically functional waterways, wetlands and uplands that provide abundant clean water for both people and wildlife. The TBWP co-founded the Tulare Basin Watershed Connections Collaborative (TBWCC, 2014-2018), coordinated on an interim basis by the California Department of Water Resources Fresno-based Climate Change Specialist/Senior Environmental Officer, who made a career move to CDFW in early 2018. At that point, it was made abundantly clear that the TBWCC needed to form as an entirely local/regional stakeholder-driven entity, with the result that the TBWP Board offered the TBWP IRS 501 (c) (3) as the legal platform to enable the TBWCC to continue, and in July 2019 the TBWCC accepted that offer. In April 2019 the TBWP changed its name to Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership to begin the transition to a fully local/regional stakeholder-driven whole watershed landscape scale Network. The current TBWP Board supports this transition. We are hopeful that a governing structure and funding for initial staff for the TBWP Network will be in place by early 2021.”
- **Matt:** “The TBWCC was a laissez-faire group with no bones to it. There were discussions regarding a draft Charter and Strategic Plan, where we were heading, finding a middle ground given all the expertise at the table -- with a network element added. At the end of the TBWCC meeting on October 25, 2019, Soapy suggested that we were in fact starting a network. Since then we’ve done our homework on networks, so that’s what we’re doing. We’ve progressed from a rigid government-type organization to a more flexible and innovative venture. The most important thing we can do today is get to know each other. Ag Innovations is here to help us navigate and work through our thoughts and ideas. It’s important for all to understand from the beginning that the Design Team has served as a rocket booster and now we’re [almost] done. We have gotten things off the ground. Take this and go forward to get things done.”
- **Rob:** “As current TBWP Board President, my main message here is Welcome~! I’m a grandfather with two grandkids. I like talking about grandkids. Little brother asks big sister how

they share and play blocks with kids at school. I'm looking at all the skills here and how well we can play blocks together. My daughter took me birdwatching in Lindmore for Father's Day. E-bird did not have a pin on Lewis Creek – a place the TBWP had looked at carefully while preparing a regional planning document for CDFW. The cottonwoods and birds made me feel optimistic and hopeful. When we look at that stack of blocks, from that stack of blocks we can create a remarkable structure. When we look at the evolution of this organization, we need to keep our young people in mind and how they get their information so differently. We need to figure out how to reach the younger people in their ways of communicating. I'm an eternal optimist. We can figure out how to steer our passengers to safety by utilizing the skills of this group."

- **Matt:** "There is plenty of white water ahead to remind us that there is much to do between where we are now and the waterfall. I have had a strong interest in Native American culture since boyhood and am so happy to have Ron Goode, Ryan Macintosh, and Dirk Charley joining us today. We cannot get anywhere without Tribal involvement and guidance."

#### **The TBWP Network Draft Charter:**

- **Robert:** "A lot of thought has gone into the draft Charter. The intention was to save time for this group – to ask you to provide feedback on the draft and refine it. Matt will do an overview first. Then we'll go into the Purpose Statement and how it relates to your work and what you care about, followed by breakout sessions. We'll add more as we go."
- **Matt:** [re: Charter Elements slide] "We focused on the Purpose Statement and Scope of Our Work and established the concept of a Big Goal that will be the overall driver -- we're starting something that will go for a long time. The Guiding Principles are important, as are the Road Map and Governance. We'll focus on the first four today and touch upon the last two."
- **Matt:** [reads *Purpose Statement* slide – *The Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership Network (TBWPN) collaborates with leading experts and organizations in the Kings, Kaweah, Tulare and Kern River watersheds – headwaters to groundwater – to provide innovative solutions that advance ecosystem and watershed resilience, socio-economic sustainability, and adaptation to climate variability.*] "Break out groups will allow us to get into broader or more focused issues. For those wondering why we are doing this, we tried to make this comprehensive and inclusive, included all the things that Steve Haze mentioned in his introduction. All parts of the whole are important. The whole will not survive otherwise."
- **Matt:** [reads *Purpose One-liner* slide -- *We work in new ways across the Tulare Basin region to create a resilient future for nature and people.*] "This is subject to further review and input. That's where we are going next."
- **Safeeq:** [re: Critical Shift slide] "This is our definition of resilience. Let us know if it is good enough. We don't have a s system; we have a system of systems. We have identified three sub-systems: economic, social, and ecosystem. We're trying to build these systems, but they don't really communicate with one another. So we want to have cross-border conversations and collaborations and be at the center of all three subsystems. We are moving from loosely coupled subsystems to something more connected. We want overlap; we want a nesting of

systems that create better feedback loops – moving from unsustainable *status quo* to a more interconnected system.”

- **Robert:** “This may be familiar or new, we’ll keep circling back to see how this informs real work – the projects we pursue and their scope. Shifting now to getting your thinking, gathering brief reflections.”
- **Robert:** [re: Brief reflections slide] “Take a few moments on your own to answer these three questions; then we’ll split into breakout groups for 10-15 minutes and report out:
  1. What do you find compelling in the Purpose Statement?
  2. How could it support what you care most about in your work?
  3. What is unclear or don’t you like? What might you change?”

[**Suzannah** creates and manages 5 pre-assigned breakout groups, combining Group 6 with Group 8 to form seven groups, which meet in separate “chat” rooms to discuss the above three questions, assisted by a facilitator and note-taker for each group]

1. **Group 1 report (Safeeq):** “All agreed on the Purpose One-liner being compelling. Feedback on the Purpose Statement included emphasis on *sustainability*, focus on Tribes and how they can be presented better, questions regarding meaning of *leading experts*, lack of clarity regarding what we are providing and to whom, and concern regarding use of *resilient* and *resilience* as a noun, condition, and/or adjective.”
2. **Group 2 report (Larry):** “The watershed concept is compelling. There are overlapping missions up and down the watershed. There is a need to expand capacity to get things done. *To create* in the One-liner could be changed to convey stewardship for more restoration and the concept of land health.”
3. **Group 3 report (Jeff):** “The Purpose Statement aligns well with Forest Service thinking, and with Kings River Conservation District values. *Resilience* is an intriguing and lofty concept and the *headwaters to groundwater* concept brings this together.”
4. **Group 4 report (Sarah):** “The language is good, although *resilience* is a bit amorphous. Some of us like it; it’s used in the upper watershed. There was concern about the Critical Shift slide – a heavy lift in South Valley culture. There is hope that the Network will move forward as a group of groups to focus on science-led solutions. To work cross boundary is hard, so to have a group that does that and can take on innovative pilot projects is exciting.” [Comment from **Robert:** “The Design Team needs to figure out how to frame the story so that it does not turn people off.”]
5. **Group 5 report (Matt):** Kayode said that the word *collaborate* is awesome. If we end up in collaboration that will be nirvana. *Headwaters to groundwater* vs. *catchment to the Basin* and *sustainability* fall short. *Generation* and *restoration* should be added. What are *experts* and what does *new ways* mean? We’re not there yet; these questions remain for us to answer.”
6. [Group 6 combined with Group 8] **Group 7 report (Cathy):** “This was a very productive group discussion. The Purpose Statement is well-crafted. *Resilience* serves as an overall headline for the statements that follow and encapsulates the needs of the other

statements. *Leading experts and organizations* language may be improved to include a broader range. TBWPN can be the governance structure but that structure should collaborate with all of the stakeholders and even those who aren't interested but are important to *resilience*. All factors in the community are important to ecosystem resilience.

7. **Group 8 (Rob):** "There is a cultural reaction to taking advice from *leading experts*, so take a look at that. Part of collaborating is celebrating what we know and where we are -- rural/urban, upstream/downstream. Keep in mind that as we move forward we need to be willing to keep the Purpose Statement and One-liner flexible."

[Further comments and discussion of the Purpose Statement and One-liner followed at this point.]

- **Robert:** "This is a wonderful range of positive and affirming statements as well as some good critique."
- **Gary:** "The One-liner is disturbed by the separation of people and nature. People are part of nature. We need to grapple with this binary approach because it absorbs in it how we control nature as opposed to how we steward it."
- **Bruce:** "The goal for a healthy environment is *for nature and people*. Our group had an issue with *create*."
- **Ron:** "This is on the same theme but not –I travelled to Australia a few years ago to work with the Aborigines. A woman at a meeting I attended got up and asked, Do you know who you are? We know who we are. We are at one with Mother Earth. That's where it starts with your relationship with the Earth. You have to have that philosophy if you are going to live off the land. This leads people to think our role is to 'take care' [of the land], instead of how we live in communion [with the land]. We need to ask, who lives here? I ask for lists of endemic species from federal and state agencies which they cannot supply. To me we are on target right here. I wanted to put into our thinking that we are not the ones out there living on the land."
- **Robert:** "There is a deeper level of connection and understanding from folks who live on the land that needs to be brought into the discussion."
- **Richard:** "We could replace the word *create* with *ensure*, i.e. ensuring a resilient future . . ."
- **Larry:** " . . .Providing stewardship for a more resilient future . . ."
- **Matt:** "Going back to *leading experts*, these leading experts are us. This doesn't mean we aren't looking outwards for more input. We intended this to be an inclusive statement. Appreciating Ron's input, we have a lot to learn from Native peoples about their approaches to land stewardship."
- **Safeeq:** "The overall response is positive. I appreciate the feedback and knowing that people are thinking along the same lines."
- **Jeff:** "Paul Peschel has offered to assist with streamlining and clarification."
- **Robert:** "I'm glad to see the group insisting on a deeper connection to our ecosystems and nature. We could be trying not to alienate, but instead we are leaning in."

[Robert queries the group—to break now or push through? The group decides to push through.]

- **Robert:** [re: Scope of Our Work slide] “Moving now to the Scope of Our Work, which is more detailed, more involved. Jeff will give an overview and then we’ll get input from the whole group instead of breakout groups.”
- **Jeff:** “The Scope of Work has a lot of words for one slide so I’ll try to summarize. The intention is to define the nature and focus of our work. Where? This covers the entire region, no area is off limits for consideration. What? Looking at green infrastructure that complements grey infrastructure. How? Learn from actually doing things. Support good work, don’t reinvent the wheel. Undertake compelling, well-coordinated efforts that attract funding. Who? All of us here today and expanding as we go. When? Now and at least until 2040. Not in our Scope: We are not going to be just a policy-oriented, single-issue focused Network; it’s not going to be just discussion and information-sharing.”
- **Robert:** “Are there clarifying questions? What do we mean by X? Anything you are curious about? You can add comments in the chat as well.”
  - **Dezaraye:** “Make sure that groups and people not typically at the decision-making table are here to help build this table.”
  - **Matt:** “The Design Team has woven this into the Scope of Our Work and intends it to be a major part of the Network. Total inclusion, equity, and diversity will be woven in throughout – part of the main structure moving forward.”
  - **Safeeq:** “From the first meeting this was a topic in every discussion we’ve had. This will be taking on a more prominent role as we move forward. It will be woven throughout the entire Charter.”
  - **Bruce:** “Can someone please clarify *green vs. grey infrastructure*? [Hands go up from Sarah, Paul, Ron, and Larry]
  - **Safeeq:** “Grey infrastructure is everything that’s built (dams, aqueducts, etc.). Green is everything that’s not built (forests, rivers, etc.).”
  - **Robert:** “There is inherent value in green infrastructure on its own, since it provides value and services that are often overlooked.”
  - **Matt:** “Some in the Ag community think that anyone who works in the environmental community is an enemy and vice versa. But here there is no need to separate. We are seeking a way to move forward minimizing competition between these communities and offering ways to move forward.”
  - **Safeeq:** “Not all green infrastructure is natural; it’s more than just pristine landscape that doesn’t exist in reality.”
  - **Sarah:** “I like the Scope of Our Work – the language resonates. But I think in specifics and would like to hear an example of the kind of action this group might take – meadow restorations? Solicit funds?”
  - **Carole:** “An example of one such action this group might take is already been proposed to the Southern Sierra Regional Water Management Group, which is not positioned to do this on its own – invasive species eradication on all for watersheds. This could be a multi-benefit whole watershed landscape scale pilot project we could undertake early

on, [and the experience of doing that would be a learning experience that would inform how we organize and develop/implement other whole watershed landscape scale projects going forward].

- **Robert:** “Look at other [landscape scale] watershed groups and what they are doing.”
  - **Paul:** “I’m having a difficult time getting my head around this. What is the vision, destination of this organization? We need a mission statement that describes what the organization does. To me, from there you set goals and those goals are what you can grab onto to address the mission; then you describe specifics. I don’t want to be overly critical – I just want to get my mind around this.”
  - **Matt:** “Unfortunately the clock is racing ahead and we’ve raced past our Roadmap. There will be a little of starting a one point and getting to another, then having that expand and grow. We want to do SOMETHING. It will become clearer as we move forward into 2020-2021. 2021 will be a big year that will give us on-the-ground experience that will answer your questions.”
  - **Robert:** “We won’t touch on it today, but we are looking at creation of *ad hoc* groups – for example for funding, projects, and [perhaps] advocacy, etc. We want others to weigh in on this as well.”
  - **Ron:** “The wording *key partners and allies for specific initiatives* leaves people out. It doesn’t seem to fit.”
  - **Robert:** “Point taken. This is timely. The Design Team will need to work on this more.”
  - **Larry:** “Thanks for your comments, Sarah. We need to build capacity for stewards, whether that’s key agencies or land-owners. This group will increase capacity to get things done.”
  - **Matt:** “We haven’t emphasized landscape scale impact enough. This is about what we cannot do individually but about what needs to be done as a group. This is key.”
  - **Julie:** “I like the way this is written. I’m good to go with it.”
  - **Dennis:** “I agree with Julie.”
  - **Steve:** “Someone brought up the stewardship aspect – that’s critical. This gets more into our relationship with nature. If somehow we could address more in depth our relationship with nature, [that would be an improvement]. We need to show our connection with the environment and that we’re not separate.”
  - **Robert:** “Echoing what a number of people have brought up – we’re really putting stewardship forward. We need to contend with and embrace our interconnectedness.”
  - **Steve:** “As Dezaraye said, we all benefit from the good things that are happening for others.”
- **Robert:** [Due to time pressure, moving quickly through the Big Goal slide: *The Network implements innovative solutions to achieve ecosystem and watershed resilience across the Tulare Basin by 2040*] “This is a big, broad goal that could use some specificity, including a number beyond just the date. We need to do things on a large scale, but we don’t know how to do it. That’s the point that allows us to be truly innovative.”
  - **Robert:** [Moving quickly to the Guiding Principles slide] “This is about what we might do in

practice together with our partners and allies. We'll go more into this in the following weeks and will look at what this looks like operationally."

- **Cathy:** "Regarding the Big Goal, there is value in having the goal be 2030, not 2040."
- **Most all agree.**

[Robert queries whether the group will be willing to continue for another 10 minutes. All agree. Robert is experiencing an internet lapse. Matt and others continue.]

- **Matt:** "At this point, I would still love to do the word cloud poll. Our intention was to spend more time on the Big Goal and Guiding Principles but we've exceeded our expectations for input and discussion."
- **Matt:** [Re: the 2020 Roadmap and Objectives slide] "There is more work, convening, and visioning in Phase 3 and innovating in Phase 4. This underscores all the work we already do. We have a Design Team that is thrilled and flattered that you like our work. This group already has a nexus and power. I would like to especially thank Carole. Let's take a moment to exhale, breathe deeply, and enter a word into the poll for a word cloud, so we can look back in 2030 or 2040 just to see where we started."

[Suzannah puts up a poll with the question *If you could summarize your sense of what is possible for this initiative in one or two words, what would it be?*]

**Word cloud results:** environmental justice, community-based, inclusive, inclusion, a sense of place, educational, opportunity, diversity, connectivity, inspirational, connections, unwavering, awesome, infinite, synergy, collaboration, actions, Onward!, powerful collaboration,, success, imperative, equity, protect the future, experiment, committed, beneficial and the four most repeated words – **Integrated, Resilience, Justice, Hopeful.**

- **Safeeq:** "Happy to see the feedback and participation. Thank you everyone~!"
- **Jeff:** "I'm impressed by the level of energy and commitment to participate fully. It feels like we're at a good launching off point."
- **Carole:** "I'm just thrilled. Thank you all~!"
- **Matt:** "I have a big smile on my face. Thank you to Robert who is our rock and guide through this. Thank you Suzannah. I'm thankful for everyone's feedback. Please reach out to us [info@tularebasinwatershedpartnership.org]. September is coming up quickly, we'll likely be in touch to do more exploring between now and the next meeting [September 25]. We expect to expand at some point but wanted to keep this group small for efficiency, not exclusion. "
- **Carole:** "I highly recommend the book *Networks that Work*, by Paul Vandeventner and Myrna Mandell (2011). It's available at least cost (@ \$15 cf @ \$30 from Amazon) directly from Community Partners, Los Angeles, CA – www.communitypartners.org; contact Julie Cole, Executive Assistant (jcole@CommunityPartners.org, 213/346-3209) ; mention recommendation by the Tulare Basin Watershed Partnership Network."
- **Matt:** "This is a short book, can be read in under an hour. It presents case studies on connection, coordination, and collaboration – all three are different, and it's important to

understand the differences. This book is not new, but it's timeless. There is so much in it that could connect us and make us better thinkers.”

- **Robert** [rejoining]: “We will send out next steps as well. Meeting adjourned.”

## **PARTICIPANT ROSTER**

1. Adest, Gary – Co-owner-River Ridge Ranch, RR Institute Pres., info@river-ridge.net
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