

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
October 17th, 2023

100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite A-3, Colusa, CA. 95932
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Beth Nall, Ben King

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Alex Struckmeyer, Allen Gobel, Nas Chaudhary, Tom Hickok, Walt Seaver

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jennifer Sanders

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Harper- CCRCD Executive Director, Supervisor Merced Corona- County of Colusa Board of Supervisors, Avis Kalfsbeek- Member of the Public, Alexandra Berlier- CCRCD Office Assistant/Bookkeeper

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Harper presented the agenda but there were not enough directors to meet a quorum. The agenda was approved as items of discussion with recommendations for the board to vote on at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the meeting on September 19th, 2023, were presented to the board. The board will approve the minutes at the next meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Directors present received balance sheets for the period of September 19th, 2023, through October 17th, 2023. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: Umpqua checking account \$1,400.00; Petty Cash account \$100.00; CCRCD General Fund (464) \$189,324.93; CCRCD Misc. Projects (473) \$69,755.57; The DOC fund (475) \$59,320.77; CalFire fund (477) \$218,501.58; and Clearing Account fund (465) \$0.

The Board was presented with seven (7) claims to be paid in October. Tucker Bennett for \$151.96; Eduardo Blancas-Alcantara for \$182.09; Clyde Hladky for \$1,200.00; Elizabeth Harper for \$210.63; Colusa County RCD- Petty Cash for \$222.94; Sutter County RCD for \$5,733.24; and US Bank for \$2,958.39.

The fund balances, journal entries and claims to be paid in October were reviewed by the board but there was not a quorum to approve the financial reports and claims.

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

No partner reports.

Member of the Public, Avis Kalfbeek, is working with Center for Land-based Learning to find willing landowners to lease land to beginning farmers that go through CLBL programs.

Director Nall reported that Pond Day 2023 was a successful event. The CCRCD's curriculum for pollinator education was good and students were enthusiastic to learn in an outdoor environment.

General Business Action Items:

#1: Harper presented the board with the CCRCD's Long-Range Plan to be signed by directors. The plan was approved in the September meeting.

#2: Harper presented the board with a new healthcare policy. The recommendation to the board would be increasing the in-lieu healthcare payment from \$2.60 to \$3.00 an hour. This is added pay for employees to pay for their own healthcare. The board will need to vote on this policy in the next meeting.

#3: Speak Off contest was discussed and planned for. Avis Kalfbeek, Beth Nall, and Patti Turner volunteered to be judges. Harper was the timekeeper. No quorum was necessary and no vote was needed.

#4: Harper presented the Audit response for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Audit. The findings had corrective actions. Harper followed up with the CPA firm about "related parties" and is still awaiting a response. It was recommended by Director King that the RCD seek a quarterly review of financials conducted by a CPA to ensure that funds are being tracked and spent appropriately.

Harper went over the board of director requirements, trainings, and forms to be filed to serve on the RCD board.

CCRCO REPORTS:

- **UPDATED NRCS Cooperative Agreement 2021:** Tucker's background check cleared and has computer access. He has been assisting Ben and Owen on applications and contracts and also attending trainings on AgLearn.
- **Colusa Glenn Sub Watershed Program:** Harper went over reporting with staff and DMT. Harper attended a Sac Valley Subwatershed Meeting.
- **Healthy Soils Demonstration Site:** Closed
- **UPDATED 2019 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** Continuing to conduct survey of planting units and mapping of those survey transects to determine survivability rates and to create a "story" of vegetation regeneration and ecological succession. Reviewed Pile Burning logistics for closing out treatment 1.6 and working with Gary and Liz to implement burning operations for this winter. Working on verification shapefiles for submitting reporting to CalFire for treatments closed out. Working on reporting and invoicing due at the end of the month.
- **2021 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** For both CCI grants, worked on gathering Environmental Compliance documents for CalFire and meeting with them to discuss more in depth about the processes and what CalFire is missing. Reviewed current treatment progress and is reviewing previous Request for Proposals and contracting logistics to continue treatments. Working on reporting and invoicing due at the end of the month.
- **Department of Conservation (DOC) RFFC:** Completed monthly highlights for September and working on quarterly invoice and report Attended Regional Task Forces meeting and tabled at the event highlighting work done throughout the region. Continued with GIS training and attending Conservation Planner training and Prescribed Fire Training in the month of October.
- **After the Fire RCPP:** Harper updated the pay rates and staff is working on invoicing and reporting.
- **TNC- Outreach and Education:** Nothing to report.
- **CARCD Monarch TA on Working:** Completed
- **CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for HSP:** Tucker has been working with potential applicants to get their pre-application packets together so we can get their projects submitted. November solicitation opens.
- **CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for SWEEP:** Tucker has been working with potential applicants to get their pre-application packets together so we can get their projects submitted. November solicitation opens.
- **NEW CDFA Pollinator Habitat Program:** Tucker has reached out to land owners to confirm interest in the project funding. Harper has worked with Tucker on application form and general planning steps.
- **NEW County of Colusa Fire Mitigation Coordinator:** Harper reached out to fire authorities on how to subcontract planning and program development. Harper re-submitted compensation proposal for the RCD.
- **NEW CARCD/WCB Habitat Restoration:** Tucker conducted a maintenance plan for existing hedgerows at Davis Ranch. NOE was submitted on behalf of project 1 at DHR. Tucker continues to plan plantings.
- **Carbon Cycle Institute:** Christina met with Liz and other EDs throughout the region conducting an initial needs assessment. Christina submitted her 2 weeks and spent the last two weeks putting together an exit report and close-out meeting. Harper conducted a governance meeting with other RCDs on next steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 21st, 2023, at 3pm at the RCD office.

Respectfully Submitted,


Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD