

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

February 20, 2018
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Bob Alvernaz, Ben Felt, Jay Dee Garr, Beth Nall (left at 5:40), Tom Hickok and Kim Gallagher

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Gil Ramos

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Amy Gibbons

OTHERS PRESENT: Patti Turner-CCRCD Executive Director, Wendy Krehbiel-Colusa NRCS, John Loudon-Colusa County Board of Supervisors

Ben Felt, CCRCD President called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm at the Colusa Industrial Park Conference Room

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

Wendy Krehbiel the NRCS Colusa Field Office District Conservationist reported that three of the eight applications submitted were selected for funding for a total of \$800,000. Practices included two range conservation and one underground irrigation. The next batching period ends April 1st and there will be at least ten applications. CSP sign up ends March 2nd. She also reported on the SLEWS event that was held earlier in the day. There were twenty-two Pierce High School students that planted 1800 feet of hedgerow.

John Loudon reported on the current activities of the Colusa County Board of Supervisors including the settlement with the city on the cannabis lawsuit, half way through budget year and right on target, and in the next few years the County is going to see many hits to the budget due to unfunded mandates and reductions in State reimbursements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Gallagher to approve the January 16, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded by Hickok and passed with 6 ayes, 0 noes, and 1 absent (Ramos).

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The directors received a balance sheet for the period of January 16-February 19, 2018. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$1350; petty cash account \$71.68; CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$56,298.92; sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$7,555.29; Upper Stony Fuel Treatment (032031) \$0; Specialty Crop Block Grant (032026) \$0; DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$2,768.57 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0. Turner noted that Funds #032026 Specialty Crop Block Grant and Fund #032031 Upper Stony Fuel Treatment have both been closed.

Turner requested the board consider purchasing a laptop to be used for PowerPoint presentations. After some discussion a motion was made by Hickok for Turner to purchase a laptop with Microsoft Office software installed at a cost not to exceed \$500. The motion was seconded by Nall and passed with 6 Ayes, 0 Noes and 1 Absent (Ramos).

The board was presented with two (2) claims; Petty Cash in the amount of \$78.32 and Turner mileage claim in the amount of \$57.23. A motion was made by Garr and seconded by Gallagher to approve the financial report and two claims as submitted. The motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstained (Alvernaz due to conflict of interest with Turner Claim) and 2 absent (Ramos and Nall).

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

The group discussed possible future natural resource related projects that could take place in Colusa County. Kim suggested that the CCRCD might be able to aid farmers in addressing regulations. She thought there might be opportunities associated with completing paperwork for the Food Security Modernization Act (FSMA) or other regulatory programs imposed on agricultural producers. Turner added that the district should make sure their efforts support the CCRCD's mission statement and there is a funding source to cover staff time. Felt added that an additional employee might need to be hired. It was decided that Filter should be alert to possible services the CCRCD could provide as she addresses FSMA requirements through her work on her family's farm.

Turner gave the Board copies of the 17/18 CCRCD Mid-Year Budget recap and recommended modifications to review and approve. After spending some time reviewing the document a motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Garr to approve the budget modifications. The motion passed with 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, and 2 Absent (Ramos, Nall).

Turner advised the board to keep informed about the CoSu power line project that has selected the route through Colusa County as the most desirable alternative. There will be a new round of public input meetings soon.

Turner advised the board that 2018 Form 700 are dues by April 1st.

The Board was requested to make sure their Ethics and Sexual Harassment training is kept current. Directors have signed up for the upcoming training in Williams hosted by Golden State Risk Management Authority (GSRMA).

CCRCD REPORTS:

Turner provided a written summary of the activities associated with the CCRCD projects during the past month. She reviewed the tasks not previously discussed during the meeting.

- **Colusa County Grown:** Duties reported under DOC grant
- **Department of Conservation Capacity Building Funding;** Filter has finished presentation and gave at Farm Show workshop. She is working on scheduling other venues. Newsletter and Farm Show handouts about the CCRCD were completed. Soil Health coordination efforts continue. Helped NRCS Soil Scientist with FFA Field Day soil judging. Has looked at an erosion site as possible future project. Farm Show exhibit created, erected and staffed. Working on succession planning. Attended Premier Mushroom award breakfast for \$250 grant received for CCG program.
- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement:** Filter continues to work with NRCS in the field and office work towards her conservation planner certification. Turner makes sure invoices are sent and paid.
- **HSP Workshop Assistance:** Two of the three approved projects are backing out due to difficulties with equipment. Still waiting or invoice to be paid by CDFA.

- **SWEEP Evaluations:** Twelve sites have been verified and documents submitted to CDFA. This has been a good tool to meet with landowners and talk about other natural resource concerns for future projects. Turner is keeping invoicing current which are being paid in a timely fashion.

Turner announced the County is having a Local Hazard Mitigation Planning meeting next week to identify natural hazards that affect the county and identify actions that can be taken to eliminate or reduce the risks identified. Krehbiel will try to attend and talk about NRCS programs available.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 pm by President Ben Felt. The next regular monthly meeting will be held at 5:00 on Tuesday, March 20th at the CIP Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Turner-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD