

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

November 21, 2017
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Bob Alvernaz, Ben Felt, Jay Dee Garr, Gil Ramos

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Tom Hickok, Kim Gallagher, Beth Nall

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jim LaGrande

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

Ben Felt, CCRCD President called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm at the Colusa Industrial Park Conference Room

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

John Loudon reported that Supervisor Van was appointed as the USDA Rural Development Director and will be required to vacate her seat on the Colusa County Board of Supervisors. The board is still gathering comments on the future of cannabis production in our county and the hospital is not open yet. He also commented that the new nitrate water monitoring will be going in to effect soon.

Ben Martin-Biologist from the NRCS Colusa Field Office District Conservationist reported that the NRCS is busy modifying contracts to extend for an additional year. It is imperative that incomplete contracts are not allowed to expire on their own. There are twenty-five new applications in the County and additional batching periods have been added in the new year. They are waiting for the 2018 cost list and busy getting projects ready to start.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Alvernaz to approve the October 4th, 2017 minutes as mailed. The motion was seconded by Ramos and passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Hickok, Nall, Gallagher).

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The directors received a balance sheet for the period of October 4, 2017-November 20, 2017. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$1,074.81; petty cash account \$74.67; CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$53,448.66; sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$8,220.72; Upper Stony Fuel Treatment (032031) \$0; Specialty Crop Block Grant (032026) \$646.06 (pro-rated compensated absences earned but not used prior to the project termination; DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$1307.14 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0.

The board was presented with four (4) claims for approval: Petty Cash in the amount of \$350.52; Patti Turner mileage claim in the amount of \$57.25; Patti Turner reimbursement claim for state meeting expenses in the amount of \$127.44 and Jackie Filter mileage claim in the amount of \$63.13. A motion was made by Ramos and seconded by Garr to approve the financial report and claims as submitted. The motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Hickok, Nall, Gallagher).

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Turner advised the board that there were two potential new projects for the CCRCD to be involved in. The first is servicing as an active partner in the Colusa County Office of Education's Farm to School project and second is participating on the planning committee for the Waterfowl/ Colusa County Bounty event to be held in November of 2018.

Turner announced that the CCRCD 16/17 Audit has been completed and copies were mailed to the CCRCD today.

The board discussed the need to establish the Colusa County Grown board of director's official duties, authorities and responsibilities while acting as a program of the CCRCD. Turner and Felt will get together and come up with some guidelines to present to the board. A motion was made by Ramos and seconded by Jay Dee to approve the CCG Board's recommendation to appoint Jennifer Diaz as a new director. The motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Hickok, Nall, Gallagher).

Turner advised the board that the CCRCD's Enterprise System Catalog needed to be updated to include WordPress as the program used to develop and maintain the Colusa County Grown website. A motion was made by Jay Dee and seconded by Ramos to modify the Enterprise System Catalog as requested by Turner. The motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Hickok, Nall, Gallagher).

The Holiday Dinner was briefly discussed it was requested that Turner poll all directors to see if they were interested. If interest was shown she was instructed to reserve the backroom at Louis Cairo's for a short meeting prior to dinner.

The board discussed moving forward with selecting a firm to assist with moving the CCRCD Website over to WordPress. After some discussion it was decided that Turner will check to see if bids are still good and if it would cost less if Filter moved the existing website over to WordPress herself.

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:** Staff continues to assist the CCG program by attending meetings, promoting the program, helping with the Facebook page and website. Checking email daily Monday-Thursday. The next membership meeting will be held on March 20th (correct date is March 12th) in the CIP Conference Room.
- **Forest Service Cooperative Agreement:** All invoices have been paid in full and the project is terminated.
- **Department of Conservation Capacity Building Funding:** Filter is still working on the CCRCD presentation and the bi-annual newsletter. Turner has submitted the first report and invoice for activities between June 1-September 30th.
- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement:** Filter continues to work with NRCS in the field and office work towards her conservation planner certification. She attended the Healthy Soil Summit at the CARCD conference and assists the NRCS with landowner contacts as needed.
- **HSP Workshop Assistance:** Still waiting on invoice to be paid by CDFA.

- **SWEEP Evaluations:** Ten sites have been verified and documents submitted CDFA. Invoices have been sent for all work completed. No payments have been received yet.

Turner reported on the CARCD Sac Valley Region Fall Meeting and Regional Speak-Off Contest hosted by the CCRCD on Oct 17th at the Williams Community Center. The CCRCD's contestant Carlyn Marsh received first place and moved on to compete at the CARCD State contest.

Turner reported on the CARCD Conference held on Wednesday November 15-17 in Sacramento. She provided the board with copies of a written report by Kim Gallagher on her experience and assessment of the conference. Turner reported that the CCRCD's Speak-Off contestant did an excellent job and received second place. Total expenses for two staff and one director to attend the free day of training and the conference was \$1,838.64 most of which will be reimbursed by the DOC and GSRMA grants.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm by President Ben Felt. The next regular monthly meeting will be held at 5:00 on Tuesday, December 19th in a location TBA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Turner-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD

AFTER MEETING NOTES:

Directly following the meeting Jackie Filter gave a draft PowerPoint presentation she prepared about the CCRCD. The presentation will be given throughout the community to increase knowledge and support for the district. Her time to create and present this program is paid for by the DOC RCD Capacity Building grant to increase visibility of the district and seek project ideas.

The CCRCD held their annual Speak-Off Contest. This year's theme was "How Can RCD's Better Involve Their Communities in Conservation?" One contestant from Pierce High School competed in the contest. Carlyn Marsh did an excellent job with her fully memorized speech and received a well-earned first place award. She will move on to compete at the regional contest on October 17th in Williams.