

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 16, 2017
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Bob Alvernaz, Ben Felt, Tom Hickok, and Kim Gallagher

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Gil Ramos, Beth Nall and Jay Dee Garr

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jim LaGrande and George Green

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 5:05 pm in the Colusa Industrial Park Conference Room, 100 Sunrise Blvd., and Colusa, CA.

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

Ben Martin gave an update on Farm Bill programs in the NRCS Colusa Field Office. The current Waterbird Program had the busiest sign up ever and expended \$2.2 million.

John Loudon reported on the county's current efforts to determine the community's desires concerning cannabis growing in the unincorporated portions of the county. The County Superiors will open the floor to public comments at their September 19th board meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Alvernaz to approve the July 26, 2017 minutes as mailed. The motion was seconded by Felt and passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Nall, Garr, Ramos).

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The directors received a balance sheet for the period of July 26-August 15, 2017. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$1,401.00; petty cash account \$100.00 (including outstanding deposit); CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$19,195.50; sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$7,697.60; Upper Stony Fuel Treatment (032031) \$0; Specialty Crop Block Grant (032026) \$4,893.19; The DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$4,150.00 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0.

The board was presented with four (4) claims for approval: Petty Cash in the amount of \$49.00, CARCD for dues, CSG donation and Turner's conference registration in the amount of \$954.00, Jacquelyn Filter mileage claim in the amount of \$36.38 and Farm Bureau membership dues in the amount of \$122. A motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Hickok to approve the financial report and four claims as submitted. The motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Nall, Garr, Ramos).

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

After some discussion a motion was made by Alvernaz to move the monthly CCRCD meetings back to the third Tuesday of the month. The motion was seconded by Hickok and passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes and 3 absent (Nall, Garr, Ramos). Turner advised the group the change could not occur until the November meeting as the September date is the CCG Stakeholder meeting and the October date is potentially the Sacramento Valley Regional meeting.

The board did not discuss any new project ideas.

The group confirmed the dinner to bid farewell to retired NRCS employee Jack Alderson will be held on September 20th at Louis Cairo's in Williams. The group approved the verbiage for the certificate of acknowledgement for Jack's outstanding service to Colusa County's natural resources from 1998-2017.

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-Specialty Crop Project:** The district is still waiting for the final grant reimbursement and Turner has supplied additional information for the final report.
- **Colusa County Grown:** Turner has been assisting with the program and applying salary towards DOC and as CCRCD match. CCRCD needs to set some administrative guidelines for CCG.
- **Forest Service Cooperative Agreement:** Nothing has occurred since last meeting.
- **Department of Conservation Capacity Building Funding:** Filter is working on boosting CCRCD's social media presence. She is assisting CCG under the project with limited time, continuing to work on presentation, funding opportunities and bi-annual newsletter.
- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement:** Filter has planned and submitted 2 NRCS contracts and is hoping for approval, continues to work on conservation planner certificate, assists with landowner outreach and attends field visits whenever possible.
- **HSP Workshop Assistance:** Turner announced the CCRCD received funding to implement 3 HSP workshops for landowners. All workshops have been scheduled, one will be held in Yuba City as needed to fulfill the EPA disadvantaged community requirement. Turner requested permission to sign the agreement with the CDFA once it is received and reviewed.
- **SWEEP Evaluations:** Turner attended a webinar training, the CCRCD received copies of all contracts in Colusa County which were reviewed by Filter, and one request from verifications has been sent to the CCRCD.

Turner stated she is still waiting to hear if the CARCD Sac Valley Region approved the Oct 17th regional meeting date. Once date is confirmed the CCRCD will need to sign a contract to use the Williams Community Center.

Turner stated she has registered for the CARCD conference and will register for Gallagher and Filter. Gallagher is uncertain if she'll be able to attend for the entire day on Friday.

Turner and Felt reported on the CCG Stakeholder meeting that was held on August 14th. The attendance was good with 20 members and the speaker on utilizing social media to promote sales was excellent. The group decided to hold quarterly meeting with the next one being on September 19th. The group is also seeking a couple new board members.

Turner reported on the Farm Bureau hosted special membership meeting she attended on August 14th. The purpose of the meeting was for Colusa County Supervisors to query AG producers on their opinions about future cannabis farming in the unincorporated portions of Colusa County. Turner reported most of the comments made were negative. After much discussion Gallagher made a motion for the CCRCDC to make a formal declaration to the Colusa County Board of Supervisors against cannabis farming in Colusa County due to concerns about negative impacts to natural resources. The motion was second by Alvernaz and passed with 4 ayes, 0 noes, and 3 absent (Nall, Garr, Ramos).

Turner stated that Western Shasta's grant proposal on behalf of the Sacramento Valley Region for a Regional Durable Collaboration project has been accepted. The group's desire is to have one staff and one director from each RCD. The time commitment would be 6-8 conference calls and a one day retreat. No directors present volunteered to serve on the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm by President Ben Felt. The next regular monthly meeting will be held at 5:00 on Wednesday, September 20th at Louis Cairo's restaurant in Williams.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Turner-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD