

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

February 19th, 2019
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Ben Felt, Beth Nall, Tom Hickok, Jay Dee Garr, and Kim Gallagher

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT:

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT: George Green, Jim LaGrande

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Harper-CCRCD Executive Director, Emily Harmon-Natural Resource Coordinator RCD, John Loudon, County, Gary Evans, County; Stephen McCord, McCord Environmental, Inc., Atley Keller, Local Government Commission; David & Suzanne Lucientes, Elgin Mine landowners; Ted Kingsley, Kingsley Farms

Ben Felt, CCRCD President called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm in the Conference Room at Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa, CA

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

Emily Harmon reported on behalf of NRCS that is awaiting Farm Bill details to roll out new programs; NRCS has received 26 applications and staff has been busy with site visits and bringing the Soil Tunnel to Colusa County Farm Show.

Stephen McCord, assisted by Atley Keller, gave a presentation on the Westside SAC IRWM: Westside Brownfields Coalition Assessment Project, which provides funding for assessment and clean-up on mine scarred lands. There are two mines within the Colusa County boundary that have been identified as point sources for mercury contamination of the Cache Creek watershed. McCord has mapped the mine sites, talked to landowners, and has plans for cleanup. The Elgin Mine is one of two in Colusa County awaiting clean-up. The Rathburn-Petray Mine will be cleaned up by Bureau of Land Management under the pretense of a landowner letter which McCord is facilitating the relationship between entities. Most importantly, McCord has put together a draft Area-Wide Brownfields Plan with the hopes that the County of Colusa and the CCRCD would review and provide feedback on sections: REGIONAL PRIORITIES and IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY. McCord has partnered with RCDs in other counties on erosion control and revegetation practices and species lists on clean-up projects.

There were no other reports by partners.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Nall to approve the January 15th, 2019 minutes with correcting Patti Turner as Executive Director to Liz Harper. The motion was seconded by Gallagher and passed with 5 Ayes, 0 Noes and 0 absent.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Directors received a balance sheet for the period January 15th- February 15th, 2019. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$974.34; petty cash account \$87.99; CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$44,609.15; sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$4,742.95; DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$5,528.21 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0.

The Board was presented with six (6) claims to be paid in February. Petty Cash in the amount of \$437.67, Mileage Reimbursement for Harper in the amount of \$58.00, CalCard in the amount of \$135.15, Rocco's Bar and Grill in the amount of \$822.60, Family Water Alliance in the amount of \$50.00, Site Hatchery in the amount of \$240.00. A motion was made by Hickok and seconded by Garr to approve the financial report and claims as submitted. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, and 0 absent.

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Discussion of project ideas opened with Harper relaying conversations with community members expressing need for stream bank stabilization and erosion control after the flood. Supervisor Evans encouraged CCRCD staff and board to participate in water meetings throughout the county such as Sites JPA, Colusa Groundwater Authority and Colusa Basin Drainage District meetings. Evans is convinced that the CCRCD could be a vital entity in bringing multiple agencies together in dealing with water management and infrastructure in the district.

A discussion on Patti Turner's support role as retired Executive Director will depend on Harper and Turner reviewing budget after the DOC final report and invoice are completed to see if Turner can be funded for continued ED support for Harper. The board was supportive of keeping Turner on as finances are available.

The Fiscal Year 18/19 Budget Review was distributed for the board's records with amendments previously discussed.

Lundberg Farm tour is scheduled for March 22nd tentatively.

Discussion on the CCRCD's Long Range Plan for 2019-2023 opened with Harper's addition of Climate Change as a priority with objectives covering participation in the healthy soils program and development of a carbon farm plan. A motion to approve the Long Range Plan was made by Garr and seconded by Gallagher. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, and 0 absent

Discussion and possible approval of update Board Member Application Packets was moved to the March meeting due to insufficient amount of time.

A motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Garr to approve the updated Board Succession Plan pending on amending the Legal Qualifications for Directors to reflect specific language found on the Directors Application. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, and 0 absent.

Discussion of Board Make-up and Recruitment Strategy was moved to the March meeting due to insufficient amount of time.

A motion was made by Nall and seconded by Gallagher to appoint sub-committee to review and approve CCRCD 2018 Annual Report. The subcommittee was comprised of Garr and Gallagher. The motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 noes, and 0 absent.

CCRCD REPORTS:

Harper provided a written and verbal summary of the activities associated with the CCRCD projects during the past month. They reviewed the tasks not previously discussed during the meeting.

- **Department of Conservation Capacity Building Program;** ED training continuing to focus on finance management: payroll, filing reimbursement claims, and budget reports. Keeping Turner on for the term of the grant has worked out well for training and organizational purposes. All deliverables have been met including the Annual Report, Board Succession Plan and Long Range Plan.
- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement:** Harmon has been working on contract maintenance. Harmon was accepted to the Conservation Planning 3-week intensive. This will enable her to be a Conservation Planner! March 26th- April 11th.
- **HSP/SWEEP Assistance:** Harper has assisted about 16 individuals with questions on HSP and SWEEP. There has been a lot of interest that needs to follow up. Farm show was a great outreach event for HSP and SWEEP but not a lot of technical assistance occurred. RCD is applying for a HSP Demo site. SWEEP workshop was a success with about 30 attendees.
- **Title III and CFSC:** The contract is being reviewed and will be executed soon. Harper will attend grant award Workshop Tuesday 19th 2019.
- **Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program-** Harper has assisted 9 members- one over the phone and in the office. There are more impromptu conversations about ILRP at different events than actual assistance. Harper attended Nitrogen Management Grower Certification Workshop in Orland. A great attendance of more than 60 people. Harper attended a Sac Valley Coalition Meeting in Yuba City.

Farm Show was a valuable outreach event. Board members Felt, Garr, and Nall managed the booth over the three days with Harper. It was Nall's first Farm Show and she felt it was an incredible resource for farmers in our area.

Premiere Mushroom grant was awarded \$250. Harper and Harmon attended awards breakfast.

Harper is attending an online course through Solid Ground called the Communications Academy. Harper will present her learnings to the board next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm by President Ben Felt. The next monthly meeting will be held at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, March 19th, 2019 in the Conference Room at Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd, Colusa.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD