

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 20th, 2019
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: George Green

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Harper-CCRCD Executive Director, John Loudon-County, Wendy Krehbiel-NRCS, Brandi Murphy- NRCS, Jennifer Wallace Sanders, Wallace Brothers

Ben Felt, CCRCD President called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm in the Conference Room at Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa, CA

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

Harper requested to add 5 Discussion and Action Items: J- Memorandum of Agreement with CARCD and NRCS, K- Website Maintenance Need and Additional Fees, L- Review of Annual Plan for FY19/20, M- Review Associate Director Application, N- Scope of Work with Glenn County RCD to assist with the Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program. Nall moved to approve additions to the agenda and seconded by Gallagher. The motion carried with 5 Ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, 2 vacant.

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

John Loudon reported a "Groundbreaking Ceremony" for a new housing development happened at 11am earlier in the day, August 20th. The first phase of the development will consist of 80 residents with the project resulting in 290 new homes in the City of Colusa. A public hearing regarding AB1265 which changes the tax rate for the Williamson Act will be on August 27th at 9:30am at the courthouse.

Wendy Krehbiel reported NRCS so far this year has provided Technical Assistance on 16,144 acres anticipating another 10,000 acres will be added to that by 9/30, the end of their fiscal year (October1-September 30). In addition, NRCS's EQIP programs are on 28,206 acres in the county. NRCS- Colusa Field office completed batching period 1 for this fiscal year and has obligated 27 contracts equating to \$1.2 million. These contracts include: 22 Declining Species, 4 Water Conservation, 1 Rangeland. 1 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) was awarded for 2,225 acres. A new CSP Grassland Conservation Initiative was introduced this year and in order to receive incentive payments of \$18/acre the base acres should not have been cropped in the last 10 years. There are 22 EQIP applications that will rollover into the 2020 fiscal year which include 3 Catastrophic Wildfire, 2 Pasture, 4 Range, 6 Water Conservation, 2 Air Quality. NRCS has 51 active contracts that require follow up to make sure practices are being done.

There were no other reports by partners.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Hickok to approve the July 2nd, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Nall and passed with 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 absent, 2 Vacant.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Directors received a balance sheet for the period June 29th- August 15th. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$1400.00, petty cash account \$81.54; CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$37,274.36; sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$29,120.18; DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$0; Fire Safe Fund (032028) \$3,507.20 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0.

The Board was presented with four (4) claims to be paid in August. Petty Cash in the amount of \$18.46, Mileage Reimbursement for Harper in the amount of \$78.88, CalCard in the amount of \$721.82, Farm Bureau in the amount of \$122.00. A motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Garr to approve the financial report and claims as submitted. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Discussion of project ideas opened with Harper presenting the board with three grant opportunities: Campbell Foundation for General Funding, California Department of Food and Agriculture's Healthy Soils Technical Assistance Grant and Wildlife Conservation Board Pacific Flyway Grant with potentially partnering with CARCD.

Golden State Risk Management Association No. 02-2019 was presented to the board which includes language for volunteers and directors to be covered by the CCRCD's Worker's Compensation coverage. The motion to approve the signing of the new resolution was made by Gallagher and seconded by Nall. The motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

The directors reviewed the CCRCD Resolution 2019-001 to be presented to the Board of Supervisors that they would appoint CCRCD directors in lieu of elections.

Discussion of the amount in membership dues to the California Association of Resource Conservation occurred after being presented with past amounts of FY18/19 \$300 and FY 17/18 \$300. Harper reviewed the qualification of a full membership is paying 2% of the CCRCD's unrestricted budget. Full membership includes many benefits such as being able to serve on the CARCD's Board of Directors and the ability to vote at CARCD Business Meetings. Nall moved to keep the CARCD's Membership dues at \$300, a contributing membership amount foregoing the full membership benefits and seconded by Garr. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

Donation to the Pacific Policy Group was discussed. FY 18/19 the CCRCD donated in November 2018 \$300 and FY 17/18 the CCRCD donated \$275. Gallagher moved to donate \$275 and was seconded by Nall. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

The Sacramento Valley Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed. Nall moved to sign the MOU and seconded by Hickok. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

The Speak-Off Contest was discussed, judges and timekeeper were decided. The Speak-Off will take place October 2nd at 5pm. Nall moved to change the October CCRCD Board meeting from October 17th (third Tuesday of the month) to October 2nd at 3pm, just prior to the speak-off and was seconded by Hickok. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

A discussion to increase cash award amounts for the district's 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners ended in Gallagher moving to increase awards to 100,60,40 from 50, 30,20, doubling the prize money, and was seconded by Hickok. The motion passed with 5 ayes 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

Announcement for upcoming CARCD conference from November 12th- 15th. RSVPs needed as Early Bird registration fees end August 31st.

Announcement for upcoming GSRMA conference from October 23rd-24th at Colusa Casino. RSVPs needed.

Target Solutions Ethics Training still need to be completed by some directors. Harper will resend log-in credentials.

The Memorandum of Agreement with NRCS and CARCD approved by the California Department of Conservation was introduced for the CCRCD Directors review and is an action item on next month's agenda.

A discussion on website maintenance covered need for virus protection for the RCD's website after a number of attempts to access the website was denied. Sitehatchery that developed and hosts CCRCD's website has a maintenance plan that is \$79/month. The directors were leary of paying such a high monthly fee without further exploring other IT support options. Harper was directed to ask other RCDs about tech support costs and viral protections.

Harper presented the board with a draft of the FY19/20 Annual Plan which outlines goals from the Long Range Plan and who and how the goals are being accomplished within the fiscal year. Additions to the draft are welcome. Approval of the draft plan will be an agenda item for next meeting.

Harper presented to the board with an Associate Director application submitted by Jennifer Wallace Sanders. The Board will review and appointment will be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

A motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Garr to approve the Scope of Works renewing our contract with Glenn County RCD to assist with the Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program. The motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

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.

- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement:** Harmon is in Glenn County 3 days a week. Training and taking on Soil Con work while NRCS employee is on maternity leave. Working on Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and grazing land conservation initiative and working toward completing. Harmon is taking on new applications at Glenn office and get up to speed on contract maintenance while Glenn Soil Con is on leave. We still have not received the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Allocation from NRCS which will determine the allowable Indirect Rate we can charge ALL grant projects. Wendy has been helpful for seeing where we stand but there are still no defining answer on when we will know.

- **HSP/SWEEP Assistance:** HSP Grant expired, Re-applying for HSP Technical Assistance Grant by 8/31/2019; TA Grant for SWEEP is good through the end of the year to provide TA for one last solicitation but No SWEEP program next year.
- **Title III and CFSC:** Scope of Work was approved by GCRCD for FY 19/20 for \$17,360. This will increase CCRCD's capacity to assist members with reporting compliance. Harper has attended Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Board Meeting, Subwatershed Coordinator Meeting, and a Pyrethroid exceedance results review and plan of action for outreach to growers. I have also helped make phone calls to correct outlier results for Nitrogen Management Plans.
- **Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program-** Had two site visits with Davis Ranch. NRCS and CCRCD have done a resource inventory on the orchard cropping system. Partners and advisors include: Center For Regenerative Ag, CSU-Chico; The Freshwater Trust, Carbon Cycle Institute and the California Association of RCDs. Along with Yolo RCD assistance in starting the plan.

Sac Valley Durable Collaboration will continue receiving support from CARCD and Solid Ground Consulting until June 2020. The Sac Valley RCD MOU is being reviewed by all districts in the region and was sent to our LAFCO director for his records and review. Four Sac Valley RCDs applied a grant to create a Carbon Farm Planning Regional Hub. The participating RCDs include Yolo, Tehama, Glenn and Colusa.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm by President Ben Felt. The next monthly meeting will be held at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, September 17th, 2019 in the Conference Room at Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd, Colusa.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD