

**Colusa County**  
**RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**March 19th, 2024**

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**100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite A-3, Colusa, CA. 95932**  
**CCRCD Meeting Minutes**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Beth Nall, Walt Seaver, Ben King, Tom Hickok

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Nas Chaudhary, Allen Gobel, Alex Struckmeyer

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Jennifer Sanders

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Liz Harper- CCRCD Executive Director, Tucker Bennett- CCRCD Natural Resource Coordinator,

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 pm.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:** No agenda items were added.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes for the meeting on February 20th, 2024, were presented. Nall approved the minutes and agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by King. The motion carried with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent, 0 Abstain, 0 Vacant.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Directors present received balance sheets for the period of February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: Umpqua checking account \$1,400.00; Petty Cash account \$23.04; CCRCD General Fund (464) \$192,865.96; CCRCD Misc. Projects (473) \$11,179.32; The DOC fund (475) \$258,559.02; CalFire fund (477) \$1178,722.79; and Clearing Account fund (465) \$0.

The Board was presented with five (5) claims to be paid in March. Eduardo Blancas-Alcantara for \$207.43; Clyde Hladky for \$1,238.40; and US Bank for \$2,187.57; Petty Cash for \$76.96; and Elizabeth Harper for \$ 121.94.

Harper presented the board with an error on the US Bank Statement where Harper's personal Amazon purchases were charged to the CCRCD CalCard. Harper highlighted the expenses and showed her total amount charged with invoices and paid with personal check directly to US Bank.

Nall moved to approve the claims and fund balance report for March 2024. Nall also moved to acknowledge Harper's mistake and approved Harper paying the personal purchases charge to the CCRCD CalCard directly with personal check and required Harper to file the purchases for the audit. King seconded the motion. The motion carried with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent, 0 Abstain, 0 Vacant.

**PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:**

District Conservationist, Owen Hemming was absent, so Tucker Bennett updated the board on NRCS programs. The office continues to be busy with ranking deadlines and soon staff will be obligating contracts to producers. The Colusa County producers were not awarded as many contracts as seen in the past. The criteria changed for Colusa County producers, and many didn't receive awards because different screening requirements were used this year.

CCRCD Director, Ben King, recommended the CCRCD, as they are involved with the Fire Mitigation planning grant, to seek out landowners along riparian corridors to take part in a fire mitigation plan. This multi-benefit fuel management program could reduce fire risk and improve wildlife habitat and riparian water functions. The Sycamore Slough would be a good area to focus on.

CCRCD Director, Beth Nall, reported to the board that Eduardo Blancas Alcantara did a wonderful job presenting the Fire Risk Hazard Assessment and Fire Mitigation Plan to community members at the Community Kick Off meeting in Williams.

**General Business Action Items:**

#1: Harper presented the board with the Mid-Year Budget Review for fiscal year 2023-2024. The board reviewed adjustments needed for each fund. Nall moved to approve the Mid-Year Budget with new adjustments as presented. The motion was seconded by King and was carried with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent, 0 Abstain, 0 Vacant.

#2: Harper presented the board with the draft Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget including funding for two new positions. The board reviewed the budget. King moved to approve the budget but wished to see a three-year cash flow report and to include the cost of current overhead, expected overhead and realized overhead. The motion was seconded by Hickok and the board approved the budget with other reports to be presented at a later meeting with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent, 0 Abstain, 0 Vacant.

Harper went over the board of director requirements, trainings, and forms to be filed to serve on the RCD board.

#### CCRCD REPORTS:

- **UPDATED NRCS Cooperative Agreement 2021:** Bennett continues to go on field visits, contract maintenance and helping the Colusa Field Office with application deadlines.
- **Colusa Glenn Sub Watershed Program:** Staff attended Board meeting. Staff continue to help with reporting and notifying members of deadlines.
- **Healthy Soils Demonstration Site:** Closed
- **UPDATED 2019 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** We have continued to burn piles left from earlier treatments to help close out this grant. After reviewing what treatments have been closed out, Shapefiles we have for reporting to CalFire, and our budget, we met with our grant CalFire Forester (Dana) and have planned to meet with Gary to continue buttoning up verification maps, burn operations, and the completion of this grant in Spring of next year.
- **2021 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** After reviewing what treatments have been closed out, Shapefiles we have for reporting to CalFire, and our budget, we met with our grant CalFire Forester (Dana) and have planned to meet with Gary to continue buttoning up verification maps and to condense treatments to finish with spending the budget down as we're nearing the completion of acres needing to be treated.
- **Department of Conservation (DOC) RFFC:** We've completed reporting for Quarter #8 and Blancas has completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> course in the Technical Assistance program from CSU Chico – Soil Health Management. Blancas has attended a PG&E North Valley Webinar, a Defensible Space program and Wildland Urban Interface online seminar hosted by the Ventura County RCD and has started an annual Wildland Firefighter training to update qualifications including an S212 Chainsaw recertification course.
- **After the Fire RCPP:** RCPP continues to work on program implementation across partner organizations. Staff continue to stay up to date on how this program will fit into our RCD and NRCS services to producers. NRCS will be key to pointing applicants to this funding pool for projects not funded through EQIP.
- **TNC- Outreach and Education:** Nothing to report.
- **CARCD Monarch TA on Working:** Completed
- **CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for HSP:** Bennet continues helping producers with program information.
- **CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for SWEEP:** Bennett continues helping producers with program information.
- **NEW CDFA Pollinator Habitat Program:** Bennett is working with one producer on a habitat plan while conducting outreach to producers about this program.
- **NEW County of Colusa Fire Mitigation Coordinator:** Blancas and Harper have continued to work with the County on grant deliverables and continue to meet with planning partners. We have finished developing materials and our presentation for our Community Kickoff Meetings, and just finished our 3<sup>rd</sup> Kickoff Meeting up in Stonyford last week with a great turn out! Our next planning meeting with the Fire Chiefs Association and partners is planned for April to continue updating our stakeholder contact list, any worksheet/survey updates, and start developing our county-wide library of fire mitigation efforts and Fire Safe Council.
- **NEW CARCD/WCB Habitat Restoration:** Tucker finished the plant list for Davis Ranches. Continues to reach out to Vann Brothers.
- **Carbon Cycle Institute:** Flynn is applying for two grants to fund her position to aid Sutter, Yuba, and Yolo Counties in Carbon Farm Planning and to conduct market research on a biochar program in the Sac Valley Region. She continues to collect data for the Sac Region Carbon Assessment and meeting with RCDs

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 3pm at CCRCD Office at 100 Sunrise Blvd. Suite A-3, Colusa, CA 95932.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD