

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 14th, 2020
CCRCD Meeting Minutes

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: none

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jennifer Sanders

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT: George Green

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Harper-CCRCD Executive Director, John Loudon- Board of Supervisors, Anastacia Allan- Ag Commissioner, Kelly Evans- Director Sutter County RCD, Ted Kingsley- Kingsley Farms

Ben Felt, CCRCD President called the meeting to order at 3:03pm at 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa, CA; Conference Room at Colusa Industrial Properties

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:

No additions or revisions to the agenda.

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

John Loudon reported the County of Colusa received the preliminary Governor's budget which included more funds for homeless assistance. Director Nall asked if the Colusa County Fair Grounds was included in the Governor's use of state property to provide housing for homeless families and individuals. It is unknown if Colusa County Fairgrounds will be used for homeless housing. Loudon encouraged directors and staff to attend BOS Candidate nights on January 29th and 30th to get to know Supervisor candidates and their stance on issues. A big issue coming in the next 5 years will be FEMA's remapping of flood zones based on new climate modeling. This will likely change many residents need for flood insurance which could be an annual increase of housing-related expenses to \$3,000-5,000 annually. The population of Colusa County is aging, with many residents retired with fixed incomes, making it not only an emergency flood issue but a housing security issue.

Anastacia Allen, Assistant Ag Commissioner, update directors and staff on the new programs through her agency including Ag Plastics Recycling Day, surveying businesses related to Ag for the crop report, and Hemp registrations.

Harper reported for NRCS because Wendy Krehbiel was attending 15th Annual Rangeland Summit in Stockton. Krehbiel written summary of NRCS activities in the last month: practice reminder letters were sent out last week and planners are taking trainings in software formats designed to make the screening and ranking process more transparent and streamlined. In addition, possible batching period will be end of March.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Nall to approve the December 17th, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Garr and passed with 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 absent, 2 Vacant.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Directors received a balance sheet for the period December 17th, 2019 to January 10th, 2020. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: checking account \$1,400.00, petty cash account \$100.00; CCRCD General Fund (03200) \$42,348.08 sales tax (03201) \$0; CCRCD Misc. Projects (032025) \$4,460.14; DOC Fund (032027) has a balance of \$0; Fire Safe Fund (032028) \$5,332.50 and Clearing Account fund (032001) \$0.

The Board was presented with one (1) claim to be paid in January. CalCard in the amount of \$45.27. A motion was made by Gallagher and seconded by Hickok to approve January Financial Statement, the claim, and transferring a loan of \$5000 from General Fund to Misc. Project Fund to cover project expenses. The motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Kelly Evans, Director for Sutter County RCD, presented on a cooperative agreement their RCD had with Yuba-Sutter NRCS to perform National Air Quality Initiative (NAQI) program. Currently, the Sutter Co. RCD doesn't have staff to fulfill contractual agreement and want to partner with Colusa Co. RCD to staff NRCS NAQI support. Staff will receive training from Yuba-Sutter NRCS District Conservationist, work load will reflect number of NAQI contracts and field visits will be staff-coordinated around their own schedule. The flexibility and the income of this program could be an asset to the Colusa County RCD as two projects are coming to an end within the first quarter of the year/ third quarter of the fiscal year. Looking ahead the board decided to take on the staffing responsibilities of the Sutter County RCD's cooperative agreement with Yuba-Sutter NRCS. Felt introduced a motion to put an agreement together that would allow Colusa RCD to withdraw at any time and the opportunity to renew the contract if successful. The motion was seconded by Hickok. The motion passed 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

Harper presented the board with a draft FY 19/20 Budget Revision to be reviewed and approved next board meeting February 18th, 2020.

Harper presented a cost and service comparison between website provider/host/tech support. Streamline was \$50/month including support, hosting and maintenance. Sitehatchery was competitive for 59.50/month. The issue of compliance came up and the board was concerned about being out of compliance at the time of the meeting. Felt introduce a motion to switch to Streamline and get compliant ASAP with the bonus that directors and new staff would have an easier time using the platform. The motion was seconded by Garr. The motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent, and 2 vacant.

Harper presented the alternative costs for improving administrative capacity with WIFI internet, printer, computer set-up with a decrease cost of purchasing QuickBooks software compared to the monthly cost of \$70/month of QuickBooks Online. QuickBooks Online is still approved by the board as a month to month subscription and more discussion of office costs will occur at future meetings.

Farm Show 2020 from February 4th- February 6th. Sign-up sheet was circulated, and directors signed up to times to be in the RCD booth.

Harper updated the directors on where the resolution stands with Colusa County. The directors presented a resolution to the Board of Supervisors the power to appoint RCD directors in lieu of elections. Currently, the resolution is in place and the clerk to the Board of Supervisors is posting the director vacancies and will be accepting applications to fill the positions.

The CCRCD directors considered the nominations for office positions from the previous meeting. In the December meeting Hickok moved to nominate the current slate of officers. Gallagher moved to reinstate the current slate of officers being Felt as President, Nall as Vice President, Harper as Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Garr and was carried 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:** Continues to work in Glenn Co NRCS filling in for the Soil Conservationist and completes her Colusa County duties. Working with NRCS on a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA).
- **SWEEP Assistance:** Grant Solicitation closed December 16th, 2019. \$17,490 left in budget for outreach, education and technical assistance. Contracted with Kevin Greer of RCD of Tehama to assist landowners with the application and project design. RCD of TC and CCRCD assisted 25 producers, 6 submitted. CCRCD invoiced for \$7792.98 and will reimburse RCD of TC for \$5200 for providing TA.
- **Title III and CFSC:** Harper met with Chairman Charlie Wright, Klestel Dehe Wintun Nation, to present the CWPP draft and gain insight into fire protection measures and needs from the tribe. CWPP Community Meeting notes and meeting notes with Klestel Dehe was sent to Tom McCubbins to finish up CWPP community feedback. McCubbins is moving to AZ and will get around to it after he and his family are settled in (3 weeks).
- **Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program:** Working with members to complete reporting and training requirements.
- **Carbon Farm Planning:** NRCS is finishing up maps. Will be finished after map inputs and final edit.
- **Healthy Soils Demonstration Site:** Working with Allan Fulton, UC Irrigation Specialist and Sarah Light, Ag Advisor to make soil moisture probes for site monitoring. Met with them 1/13/2020 to build soil moisture probes.
- **Regional Carbon Farm Hub Planning Project:** Hub submitted 2nd draft proposal and received feedback from Carbon Cycle Institute. The final draft will be due January 31st

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 at 100 Sunrise Blvd, CIP Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD