

Colusa County
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
March 21st, 2023

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

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Allen Gobel, Walt Seaver, Beth Nall, Alex Struckmeyer

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Nas Chaudhary, Ben King, Tom Hickok

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS PRESENT:

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jennifer Sanders, Kim Gallagher

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Harper- CCRCD Executive Director, Owen Hemming- Natural Resource Conservation Service Acting District Conservationist, Melissa Ortiz-Activate HR Group

The meeting was called to order at 3:04pm.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Gobel moved to accept the agenda as presented. Nall seconded the motion and it passed with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent

PUBLIC/PARTNERS COMMUNICATIONS:

NRCS Acting District Conservationist Owen Hemming reported the Natural Resource Conservation Service will roll out a program that focuses on soil health practices. Also, the NRCS Colusa Field Office appointed himself as the new DC. There will be new positions being filled within the next year. There were 80 applications for EQIP and 40 of them were picked for contracting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the meeting on February 21st, 2023, were approved. Nall requested all inactive funds be removed from the financial report minutes. Nall motioned to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Gobel. The motion carried 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Directors present received balance sheets for the period of February 22nd, 2023- March 20th, 2023. The CCRCD's fund balances were as follows: Umpqua checking account \$v 1,195.00; petty cash account \$100.00; CCRCD General Fund (464) \$141,537.54; CCRCD Misc. Projects (473) \$2,552.75; CalFire fund (477) \$19,670.30; and Clearing Account fund (465) \$0.

The Board was presented with five (5) claims to be paid in March. Colusa County RCD- Elizabeth Harper in the amount of \$2,303.00; Legacy- Landscape Connection for \$1,980.00; Clyde Hladky for \$1,200.00; Petty Cash for \$8.46; and US Bank for \$2,026.45.

Struckmeyer moved to approve March claims and financial statement. The motion was seconded by Gobel and carried with were approved 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent.

CCRCD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Melissa Ortiz was present to review her consultation proposal with the board of directors. Nall asked that the HR Consultant focus on recruitment and to fill 2 openings at the RCD. The other directors mentioned their priorities for the consultant to include community engagement, employee happiness/retention, and a regional RCD assessment. Struckmeyer moved to approve the proposal on an hourly basis to not exceed \$10,000, the amount the grant has allotted for this consultation. The consultant will focus on job descriptions and recruitment and then move to other priorities directed by the board. The motion was seconded by Gobel, and the motion carried with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent.

Harper presented the board with the draft Mid-Year Budget Review. The fiscal year expenses and income need to be adjusted for approval before the fiscal year ends. Harper will adjust and have the board review next meeting with actuals through April. The FY 22/23 budget adjustment will need to be approved in May's meeting.

Harper presented the board with the new Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget. Gobel moved to approve the new fiscal year budget and the motion was seconded by Nall. The motion carried 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 3 Absent.

Discussion about a financial consultant will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

CCRCO REPORTS:

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

- **NRCS Cooperative Agreement 2021:** Harper met with NRCS and developed a budget to extend contract to 2025 with more funding for \$60,000
- **Colusa Glenn Sub Watershed Program:** Continued to aid with reporting over the phone and in-person
- **Healthy Soils Demonstration Site:** Supported UCCE at outreach event and Harper presented on financial help programs through NRCS and RCD. Harper met with Light to go over reporting requirements and to begin the final report on outreach and education over the last 4 years on the project.
- **2019 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** The Forest Health 2019 grant is slowing down. Harper contracted with GTS and Wycoff to burn mechanical and hand piles when possible. Harper created the budget and is still working with CalFire on formal budget amendment. Harper is meeting with CARCD's GIS mapper to review and finish maps for completed treatments.
- **NEW 2021 CalFire Forest Health Grant:** Harper continues to work with forester and project manager on planning next treatments. Invasive species contract was amended to finish out work on private lands removing knob cone. More pest killed trees and blow overs from wind events are creating more work along M5, access roads and private in-holders property.
- **New Department of Conservation (DOC) RFFCP:** Worked on budget for more funding through 2028 for RCD capacity. Began to develop job description and budget for staff and projects through this grant in the next two to three years.
- **NEW After the Fire RCPP:** Read the updated information, reviewed roles and responsibilities with Hemming. Emailed and discussed RCPP roll out and applications for this program with Hemming.
- **TNC- Outreach and Education:** Nothing to report.
- **CARCD Monarch TA on Working:** Harper followed up on final payment. The check will be signed at an upcoming meeting and mailed as soon as possible.
- **NEW CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for HSP:** Harper worked with Sutter RCD on quarterly report and invoicing and budget for upcoming solicitation
- **NEW CDFA Climate Smart Ag TA for SWEEP:** Harper worked with Sutter RCD on quarterly report and invoicing and budget for upcoming solicitation

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, at 3pm at the RCD office.

Respectfully Submitted,



Elizabeth Harper-Secretary/Treasurer-Colusa Co. RCD