



**BOARD MINUTES**

Nevada County Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting  
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945  
Tuesday October 10, 2023, at 6:00 pm

1. **Call to order and Roll Call:** at 5:58 by Jim Drew. Directors present: Jim Drew, Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman, and Linda Miller. Associates: Alana Fowler and Robert Ingram. Staff present: Briana Bacon, Emma DiClementi, and Anne Solik
2. **Introductions:** Pamela Hertzler, NRCS, and new RCD employee, Emma DiClementi, Program Manager, Andy Barhydt, Bear River High School teacher.
3. **Approval of Agenda or Correction of Agenda:** *Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Linda Miller; Approved 3-0.*

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

- A. Minutes from the September, 2023, Regular Board meeting
- B. Financial Statement for August/September 2023.

***Jo Ann Fites Kaufman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Linda Miller Approved 3-0.***

5. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** Andy Barhydt announced that the Ag Mechanic students from Bear River received a California State Award and were invited to attend an Ag Mechanics Rally in Indiana where they will compete against 30 other schools from all over the country. They are seeking funds to help facilitate their traveling expenses. They have raised \$8,500 while still trying to get support for the needed \$12,000.
6. **Correspondence:** Copies available on the table for the annual Audit letter, an MOU request letter to back Placer County with initial vetting of applications for assessment for their Healthy Soils 4 Million Dollar Grant including a commitment letter. Included in the copies – a projected Agreement with Riparian Studios to produce Working Lands 3.
7. **NRCS Director Report:** Pamela Hertzler reported that NRCS will officially enter the New Farm Bill on November 17, 2024, details of the program will be available at that time. She announced that there will be a workshop for public feedback for what people would like to see in the new program.
8. **NCRCD Director Reports:** Linda Miller announced the end of irrigation season, as well as having had a successful farm day even at her ranch. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman announced the hiring of a new Prescribed Fire Manager, and the progress of two upcoming events, both in Truckee. A tour of a prescribed burn (Oct. 21), and a zoom workshop to discuss burning in

the Truckee area (Oct 18). Robert Ingram commented that he heard from Dario Davidson that he was very impressed by Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman's progress on RCD prescribed burn curriculum. Tom talked about Farm Day, his presence was appreciated. Jim Drew talked about his sawmill presentation at Farm Day. Alana Fowler talked about her irrigation presentation at Farm Day and her role with the Ag Mechanics field trip to Indiana.

9. **NCRCD Staff Report:** Anne reported on office activities including preparing the COY dinner. Briana shared with the board information on the Conservationist of the Year award that will be presented to David Barhydt's Family. The engraved gift of a custom knife and sheath were passed around.

Briana reported on the multiple Grants and Revenue including:

- **Cal-Fire-CEQA grant**
  - Visited property with Peter Walden, who is doing our CEQA reporting in house. Updates:
    - Tree flagging for 5-acre conversion
    - Biologist visit
    - Grading permit through the county for Emergency Access Road
    - Develop Request for quotes
    - Begin Project Management
- **SALC Grant**
  - MOU and letter of support approved by Board of Supervisors
- **Roots-Point Blue Conservation Health Soils/Wildlife Management Grant-Proposal accepted**
  - Emma will take a position to manage the project and coordinate with the Cal Fire Grants and community projects and private landowner projects.
- **Climate Transformation Alliance Group with Truckee**
  - Reed Hamilton commented on the Climate Transformation Alliance Group that will be presented by NCRCD Friday, and he will be present.
- **Livestock Fire Mitigation Management Grant through Nevada County**
  - Proposal in process for management of livestock management contracts with local ranchers

Briana also talked Livestock Mitigation program in progress, AVP programs, Food Policy meetings, a successful Collaboration Day event, participation in the Sierra Harvest lunch fund raiser, new NCRCD programs for prescribed burns and programs through NCRCD. Progress with the Ranch School, and overview of the BYLT meetings.

10. **New Business:**

**A. Discussion and possible approval of Clear Creek School Micro-grant Request.**

Discussion about having a proposal and/or receipts for moving forward with payments.

**B. Discussion and possible approval of FFA Farm Day Bus support and National Ag Mechanics Finals trip.** Discussion about amounts to support. **Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman moved to approve \$2,750 to support the FFA National Ag Mechanics Finals Trip. Linda Miller second. Approved 3-0**

**Linda Miller moved to approve \$430 to support the FFA Farm Day Bus. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman second. Approved 3-0**

**D. Discussion and possible approval MOU for Placer/Nevada Grant MOU. Brief discussion about benefits. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman moved to approve the signing of the MOU for Placer/Nevada Grant. Linda Miller second. Approved 3-0**

**E. Discussion and possible approval to change the language of new Board positions qualifications. Brief discussion about benefits. Post phoned for November meeting.**

**11. Old Business:**

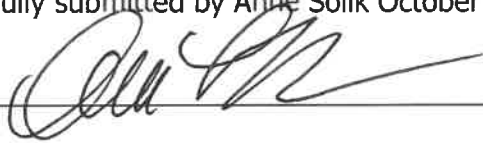
**Discussion and possible approval of new board positions. Post phoned.**

**12. Announcements:**

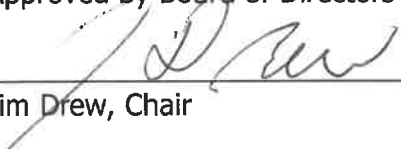
Next Regular Board meeting – November 14, 2023 at 4pm.

Regular Board meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Solik October 10, 2023.

  
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Approved by Board of Directors on 11-12-23

  
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Jim Drew, Chair

