



MINUTES

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 6:00 pm

1. **Meeting called to order:** at 6:02 pm by President Susan Hoek
Directors present: Jim Drew, David Barhydt, Robert Ingram, Patti Kiehl
Associate Directors present: Linda Miller
Staff present: Jan Blake, Sabrina Nicholson, Pamela Hertzler
Guest: Matthew Shapiro
2. **Introductions:** Matthew Shapiro with the Bear Yuba Land Trust
3. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** *Moved to approve Consent Agenda by Robert Ingram. Second by David Barhydt. Approved 5-0.*
4. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** Matthew Shapiro addressed the Board regarding ***Agenda Item 12a*** at this time. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) that earmarks funds for special regions. Bear Yuba Land Trust (BYLT) turned in a pre-application to NRCS two weeks ago hoping to be approved to apply for the longer application. There have been successful applications through the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). If the NCRCD contributes its name to their application, it shows that they have the cooperation and technical expertise on hand. They are requesting \$7 million from NRCS for this region - mostly Environmental Quality Incentives Program-type (EQIP) programs; it would be a 5 year program. Approximately \$1.1 million would be for EQIP programs and \$5.9 - \$6 million for RCPP. They should hear back by the end of summer if the pre-application was approved. If we decide to partner with them we could possibly sit on the project selection committee. Board verbally agreed to support this.
5. **Correspondence/Articles:** Comments on the new Weed Management newsletter.
6. **President's Report:** Susan enjoyed her vacation abroad, but was ready to come home. Roger Ingram did a really good job at the Pasture Irrigation Workshop held at Robinson Ranch. Rich Johansen, Matthew Shapiro, and Erin Tarr have been appointed to the Cannabis board. The Temporary Housing issue goes to the Board of Supervisor's for a vote on May 23rd.

7. **Education & Outreach Committee:** Committee did not meet. Staff sent letters to teachers regarding Farm Day. A second letter will be sent.

8. **Forestry Committee:** Robert reported that there are a lot of Ips beetles flying around. He will give another talk at this year's Ag Tour.

9. **Grassland Committee:** Grass (hay) is taller than a tractor! The Sierra Foothills Research and Extension Center (SFREC) cutting was huge. It's a good feed year.

10. **NCRC D Activity Report:** Jan Blake provided a full written report in the board packet.

- Health insurance issue: Nothing will change for now and probably not for a long time.
- Ag tour for June 14th: committee met and planned the following for Penn Valley area -
 - Pasture raised pigs - Spenceville Road - Cierra Fuller
 - Super Tuber potatoes - Spenceville Road - Jeremy Mineau
 - Heart & Soul Alpacas & Spinnery - Oak Meadow Road - Russell Ratti, Karen Ball
 - Sierra West Equine Therapy - Kneebone Court - Cathie & John Mayo
 - Miller Ranch - Bitney Springs Road – Linda
 - Farm raised direct sale lambs, sheep ranching history, timber harvesting, beetles
 - Manuel Vineyards and Winery - Barr Ranch Road - Matt Manuel
- Sabrina is designing another calendar for 2018
- Farm Day scheduled for September 21st. Kids' bags have been ordered
- Succession Planning very successful-planned an additional workshop with the attorney
- Possible new location for CIMIS weather station at Trabucco property on Bitney Springs
- Susan will be the Grand Marshall at the PV Rodeo this year

11. **NRCS Activity Report:** A written report was submitted by District Conservationist Pamela Hertzler.

12. **Old Business:**

- a. Discussion of the Bear Yuba Land Trust proposal (Matthew Shapiro)

13. **New Business:**

- a. **Board approval to buy tickets for NRCS, RCD staff, and Board members to attend the Ag Tour:** After discussion, *David Barhydt moved to reimburse NRCS employees, RCD staff, and Board members for Ag Tour tickets. Second by Robert Ingram. Approved 5-0.*
- b. **Annual Staff reviews:** *Closed Session*

14. **Announcements:** Patti Kiehl will not be able to attend the June or July Board Meetings due to a temporary conflict with her schedule.

Regular board meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm. Board member Patti Kiehl left at this time.

Beginning of Closed Session at 6:52 pm.

End of Closed Session at 7:35 pm.

Return to regular board meeting at 7:35 pm.

Robert Ingram moved to approve 2% Cost of Living salary increases for both Janet Blake and Sabrina Nicholson. Jan Blake to go from salary to hourly and to reduce hours to 30 per week. Jan to continue taking NCRCD vehicle home. Second by David Barhydt. Approved 4-0.

Board meeting ended at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sabrina Nicholson May 23, 2017.



Approved by Board of Directors on 6/13/17



Susan Hoek, President