



BOARD MINUTES

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tuesday September 10, 2019 at 6:00 pm

1. **Meeting called to order:** at 6:04 pm by Dave Barhydt

Directors present: Dave Barhydt, Patti Kiehl, Jim Drew, Linda Miller

Associate Directors present: Maddison Easley

Staff present: Anne Solik, Sabrina Nicholson, Pamela Hertzler

Guests present: Jason Jackson, Becky Newsome

2. **Introductions:** Becky Newsome of Becky's Bookkeeping was introduced. She is NCRCD's bookkeeper and visiting to clarify questions about monthly reports and to request an hourly pay rate increase.

3. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** *Jim Drew moved to approve Consent Agenda. Second by Patti Kiehl. Approved 4-0.*

Moved New Business items a, b, and c to beginning of meeting to accommodate guests' schedules.

13. **New Business:**

a. **Board discussion with Becky's Bookkeeping regarding understanding of financial reports and CalPERS:** Becky Newsome was requested to attend this board meeting to answer questions about how to interpret the monthly financial reports. Becky explained how to understand the financial reports, the timing of taxes and charges, and sales tax reporting.

b. **Board discussion and possible action regarding new rate for Becky's Bookkeeping (CalPERS):** Discussions about current local accounting rates and the added complexity of CalPERS (online and in-person training, separate reporting, and data input online). *Patti Kiehl moved to approve new bookkeeping rate to \$65 an hour. Second by Linda Miller. Approved 4-0.*

c. **Board discussion with Jason Jackson regarding future of the Advisory Visit Program and possible contract renewal:** Jason would like to stay on in his role of consultant for the Advisory Visit Program. He says he has increased the average of visits from 65 his first year to over 70 this current year with three months still to add. He estimated 70% to 75% of visits focus on Forestry (mostly defensible space and forest health with some bark beetle issues), 10% to 15% on ponds, and a few grazing and home-based farm businesses. Discussion with Pamela Hertzler about the possibility of having NRCS financially supplement the AVP program due to the number of referrals Jason sends in for EQIP (approximately one third of all visits). The

Board's main concern is that Jason will burn-out from so many calls to sites that should have gone directly to NRCS rather than through us and then to NRCS. We can keep track of the number of people he refers to EQIP through his reports. Pamela will report next month about her research. Board discussed moving all consultant contract deadlines to coincide with fiscal year-end and extending current contracts in the interim to end June 2020. ***Linda Miller moved to renew current contracts for Jason Jackson, Jan Blake, & Dave Barhydt until June 2020. Second by Jim Drew. Approved 4-0.***

4. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** No public comments.

5. **Correspondence/Articles:** No comments.

6. **President's Report:** No report.

7. **Education/Outreach/Scholarship Committee:** There is a new scholarship coordinator at NU – Linda Melugin. E/O/S Committee would like to meet this month to decide how many scholarships to fund and how to divide the funding. Committee agreed to meet Wednesday, October 2nd at 4pm.

8. **Forestry Committee:** Patti Kiehl attended Nevada County PBA's Prescribed Burn Tour in Alta Sierra. Discussed tradeoffs of burning versus mechanical methods versus invasive species. Medusahead now found above 7,000 ft. elevation. Patti would like to arrange a tour of the prescribed burns in Foresthill.

9. **Grassland Committee:** No report.

10. **NCRCD Activity Report:** A full written report was included in the Board packet.

11. **NRCS Activity Report:** A written report was supplied by Pamela Hertzler.

NRCS finishing up fiscal year 2019 and getting ready to go into fiscal year 2020. Finishing up last funding period with a total of \$648,207 in obligations. Got a last minute CSP contract for pollinators on Wolf Road for \$27,346. Total funding for fiscal year 2019 (only two funding periods) is \$920,302 with 1,368 acres.

All their software is changing to one new program. They will be in numerous trainings to learn new processes etc.

Pamela will be facilitating a local workgroup meeting to capture information that the RCD would like to see in NRCS's fiscal year 2020 program. She would like to discuss this with the RCD Board at next month's meeting along with showing a brief video on the use of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator).

12. **Old Business:**

- a. **Board discussion and possible action regarding support for Fire Safe Council's Red Zone fundraiser: *Jim Drew moved to support Fire Safe council's Red Zone fundraiser with \$250. Second by Linda Miller. Approved 3-1, (Dave Barhydt opposed).***

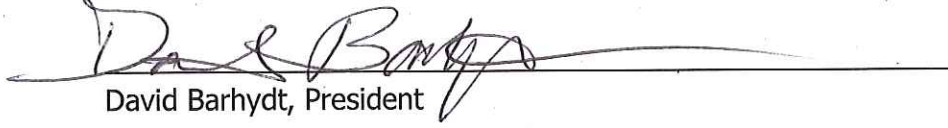
14. **Announcements:** Farm Day is September 18th. Jim Drew agreed to be the Opening Ceremony speaker. Next board meeting – October 8, 2019.

Regular board meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Solik, September 11, 2019.



Approved by Board of Directors on Oct 8-19



David Barhydt, President

