



## **MINUTES**

Nevada County Resource Conservation District  
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting  
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm

1. **Meeting called to order:** at 6:04 pm by President Susan Hoek  
Directors present: Susan Hoek, Robert Ingram, David Barhydt, Patti Kiehl, and Jim Drew  
Associate Directors present: Darlene Moberg, Linda Miller  
Staff present: Jan Blake, Sabrina Nicholson  
Guest: Maddison Easley
2. **Introductions:**
3. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** *Moved to approve Consent Agenda by Jim Drew. Second by David Barhydt. Approved 5-0.*
4. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** None.
5. **Correspondence:** Three Advisory Visit Evaluations returned; articles ranging in topic from fire history to gray wolves to the Oroville Dam.
6. **President's Report:** Committee members were chosen. Susan Hoek wrote a letter to the Lieutenant Governor regarding the Oroville Dam. There is a Placer-Nevada-South Sacramento-North Sutter (PNSSNS) Subwatershed Group meeting coming up. Discussion regarding PNSSNS forcing Nevada County to adhere to the state's Nitrogen plan. Fertilizer will have to be measured – both input and output. The University of Colorado wrote a paper about using "biologics" to control Cheat Grass and Medusahead.
7. **Education Committee:** Jim Drew will spearhead work on our own "Speak-Off" contest with our local high schools. Nevada County Rancher magazine should be out sometime this month with the possibility of it being quarterly. Susan Hoek would like The Union to allow interviewees to proof-read their stories to make sure the right information "gets out there".
8. **Forestry Committee:** Robert reported that there is a new Condon Park project in the works. Tim Kiser with the City of Grass Valley wants to fix the bark beetle issue at the arboretum and around the park. We would possibly conduct an inventory then work on thinning.

We've gone from drought to super saturation. Conifers are a "Determinant" species of tree (they grow by what happened to them the previous year). This weather will slow down the bark beetles, but it won't kill them. PG&E is trying to find a place to take all of the chips they're generating after cutting down dead trees. Wood chip fires are hard to put out.

9. **Grassland Committee**: There is a tremendous amount of grass, just need a little more warmth. It's growing like crazy for good, cheap, feed. The Sierra Foothills Research and Extension Center (SFREC) is working on a project entitled, "Effects of Medusahead on Beef Cattle Gains". So far, the results show every 1% increase in Medusahead equals a 3% loss in cattle weight.

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

- Working on projects from the documentary with the Union and the book by Maria Brower.
- Reordered the DVD. Part II is due by May.
- We had two very successful Bark Beetle Workshops.
- Jan participated in a Farm Bureau conference call on marijuana.
- The Documentary was shown as a part of the Bear Yuba Land Trust armchair series.
- Jan has been spreading the word about our upcoming Planning for Succession workshop.
- Jan attended the Food and Farm Conference. Not worth the time and effort.
- The book on our historical ranching families to be finished in March; publicist to approve by May; ready by Christmas 2017.
- Working on a "Know Where Your Water Comes From" tour with NID.
- Lots of speaking engagements at Penn Valley Rotary, Grass Valley Rotary's 1 & 2, Men's Welcome Club, and the Fishing Club.
- Jan volunteered to be on the 2017 California Farm Bureau's Issue Advisory Committee. Meeting in Sacramento March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Seminars are set and ready to go. Ads to appear in The Union a week prior to each seminar.
- Nevada County Rancher magazine to come out in February.
- Farm Day 2017 is in the planning stage.
- 242 Advisory Visit Program requests to date totaling 3,725 acres.
- The Min-Till Drill has received 27 requests totaling 186 acres.

11. **NRCS Activity Report**: Pamela Hertzler was out of town, but supplied a written report.

12. **Old Business:**

- a. No old business

13. **New Business:**

- a. **Discussion regarding the Min-Till Drill:** David Barhydt went to the "Ethics Training" and wanted verification regarding his participation in the Drill program. Susan confirmed that County Counsel had been contacted and the Drill rental fees go to the continued maintenance of the drill as David houses and maintains the drill.
- b. **Committee member assignments:** See President's report.

15. **Announcements:** Robert Ingram will not be here for the March board meeting and Susan Hoek will not be here for the April meeting.

Regular meeting ended at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sabrina Nicholson February 22, 2017.

  
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Approved by Board of Directors on 4/11/17

  
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David Barhydt, Vice President