



BOARD MINUTES

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors - Special Meeting
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tuesday July 14th, 2026, at 4:00 pm

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** at 4:04pm Jim Drew, President, Alana Fowler, Vice-President, Katie Alling, Linda Miller, Robert Ingram, Reed Hamilton joined via Zoom. Valerie Bullard from NRCS. NCRCD Staff present: Briana Bacon, Amanda Rodgers.
2. **Introductions:** Cindy Hintz from Nevada County Farm Bureau and Kat Soltanmorad from Tahoe Truckee School District
3. **Approval of Agenda:** *Alana Fowler moved to approve. Linda Miller seconded. Motion carried 4/0*
4. **Approval of Consent items:**
 - a. Minutes from Tuesday, June 9th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
Linda moved to approve. Alana seconded. Motion carried 4/0.
5. **Public Comment:**
 - a. Dane Wadle, Director of Field Operations from the California Special Districts Association gave an annual update.
 - b. Cindy Hintz from the Nevada County Farm Bureau gave an update about their Stop NID campaign and answered questions.
6. **Correspondence:** Thank you cards from Dakota Graham and Kale Turnage were distributed. Also a letter from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board was sent around the table as well.
7. **NRCS Report:** Valerie Bullard reported that they are moving along with their obligations and selections. They have preapproved Equip contracts obligated totaling \$2,214,000 so far. They have had challenges with getting paperwork through the process but she's hoping to have someone from the FSA Office in the offices here once every two weeks or once a month so that they have a liaison to help improve the process. They have 6 CSP total and obligated so far, equaling \$448,000 with a deadline of August 14th. Valerie and Diego are doing a targeted grazing short course through Amador RCD and Diego is attending an irrigated pasture course to increase range and pastureland skills. Valerie will be attending the fiscal year 2027 programs and planning state meetings in Davis. They will be able to talk about our issues and challenges and priorities for the coming year. Valerie has a questionnaire and would like to work with Charlie McIntosh to help create a complete survey to help determine the biggest need in the County. They will be sharing the booth at the Fair and will be participating at Farm Day.
8. **NCRCD Board Reports:** Alana Fowler reported that they had a litter of 7 piglets and she has been busy. Linda Miller reported that she is noting the encroachment of the scotch broom, blackberries and thistle and how it's taking over this year. Jennifer has been busy with her showmanship classes, kids getting ready for the Fair. Working on irrigation and looking to improve one of the fields to control the water better. Katie Alling reported that she went to the Ag Teacher's Conference as well as their ranch property in Lassen County and normally there are cows everywhere but there were none. The grass is growing but nothing is grazing. It was eerie to be there with no livestock. It could be a wolf issue, but she's not sure. She's also getting ready for the Fair and the start of school. Reed Hamilton reports that he was doing fire control before he left town. Jim Drew reported that his grandson's

first fair is this week and two of their lambs will be shown at the fair along with a goat. He has been irrigating at home.

9. **DISTRICT RANCH Report:** They have been irrigating at the ranch. The pond is full and working. The interns are learning about archaic methods of getting water into the fields. Jim asked if the NRCS could help with irrigation systems for the Ranch and Valerie said that she can look into it further. They have goats, and a guard that sits in the shade. They have a litter of 13 pigs out there. The big barn was emptied, and they found some great relics amongst the junk. The kids helped empty out the barn. They are running the mill with a shorter schedule because of the heat. The Nevada County Library Group came out for the 3rd time and did a tour and then had story time. Briana added that we have a little more money than we anticipated in the grant as we saved a bundle on the pond restoration so Charlie is going to talk with PointBlue to see if we can utilize those funds for wildlife restoration on the Ranch. Something like owl boxes and bat boxes, but Charlie and PointBlue can determine the best way to make use of those funds.
10. **NCRCD Director and Staff Report:** Briana Bacon reported that Haley got \$185k from the Watershed Institute to help with the PBA and as Charlie is overloaded with this work, Haley will help with his work. Haley did 16 fire workshops last year. Charlie has had to pause the AVP program because he is back-logged through October with over 60 people on the waiting list. Brie had to leave to take a call related to the Yuba fire that started at the beginning of the meeting. Amanda Rodgers continued: We're changing the process of how we fulfill the AVPs in the future. We're pausing the program until fall, so that Charlie can catch up. Now there will be a new way to vet people for the AVP program. Charlie is going to do 10 workshops per year, and he will choose the projects from the participants of the workshops. Katie asked if there is a plan to have the workshops videotaped. Briana said that CWDG is finished and the Prescribed Fire Field Guide and it's done and will be on the website. There are several grants that have moved from round one to round two. Brie asked Reed to consider joining her for the California Sustainability Summit including a workshop on NCRCD's. Nate is doing well on the PG&E grant. All the ROE have been received, they are going for the RFP and the bid walk will be on August 3rd. Award on Sept 1st and all work is to be done by December. Brie reported on the grants that are closing this year. Amanda reported on the rebranding is complete, and the Farm Trail map will be worked on this year for 27/28. Amanda suggested that we change the name of Working Lands III, to Working Lands III, The History of Forestry and Fire in the Northern Sierra. It was agreed that it was a good idea to change the name. Amanda is looking to have it aired on PBS but will put it up on our YouTube channel for now. Farm Day is going well. We are ready for the Fair and will be giving out cards, and posters. Sierra Harvest, NRCS, the Ag Commissioner's office and RCD will share a booth.

11. **New Business:**

- A. New Contracts Review – None
- A. Micro-Grant Review – None
- C. Scholarship Request Review - None
- D. Staff Requests – None
- E. Other Review

12. **Old Business:**

- A. ii. Executive Director Review – the financial committee to meet to review.

The financial committee needs to be determined. Jim Drew opened nominations.

Jim Drew nominated Reed Hamilton. **Katie Alling** nominated Jim Drew. **Katie Alling** nominated Alana Fowler.
Jim Drew made a motion to close nominations. **Linda Miller** moved to approve. **Motion carried 4/0**

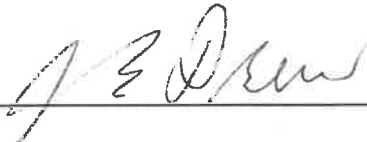
13. Announcements:

A. Next Regular Board meeting – ***Tuesday, September 8th, 2026 at 4PM***

Respectfully submitted by Amanda Rodgers September 1st, 2026.



Approved by Board of Directors on 9/8/26



Jim Drew, Chair

