



BOARD MINUTES

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tuesday July 12, 2022, at 4:00 pm

1. **Call to order:** at 4:00 pm by Jim Drew. Directors present: Jim Drew, Linda Miller, Reed Hamilton; Dave Barhydt – absent. Staff present: Sandy Jacobson, Anne Solik
2. **Introductions:** Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman, Forester Ph.D. Forest Resources, candidate for open NCRCD Board Seat, Madison Easley, Point Blue/NRCS Working Lands Partner Biologist, Diana Gamzon, director of the Nevada County Cannabis Alliance, Pamela Hertzler, NRCS District Conservationist. **See Attachment A**
3. **Approval of Agenda or Correction of Agenda:** *Miller moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Hamilton; Approved 3-0.*
4. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** *Miller moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Hamilton; Approved 3-0.*
5. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** Diana Gamzon from the Nevada County Cannabis Alliance talked about her organization and their outreach to promote accountability and land stewardship from the local cannabis crop producers. Gamzon attended to field any questions or issues. Hamilton questioned illegal growers the district has written filed letters to the county, Gamzon replied that they are willing to step in and help.
6. **Correspondence:** Jacobson announced that the County requested an update of the district's bi-annual compliance and ethics code resolution, updated resolutions are due by October 1, 2022.
8. **NCRCD President's Report:** No Report.
9. **Education/Scholarship Committee:** Linda Miller talked about needed to contact the High School to meet the new Scholarship Director, Anne mentioned she had already received contact from a student and will reach out to the school.
10. **NCRCD Staff Report:** A written report was included in the board package. Solik and Jacobson talked about contacts made at the recent Farm Bureau Picnic. Solik talked about new exhibitors and progress made for Farm Day. Jacobson talked about her first week of employment and tackling the larger tasks at hand.
11. **NRCS Activity Report:** Pamela Hertzler, District Conservationist – reported on the current project obligations with NRCS as well as outlining the New California Certified Organic Farmers certification programs offering an extra \$325 for NCRS referred applications. Hertzler

also shared a map of the new NRCS area boundaries for the state of California. The NRCS team is also planning to help on Farm Day by hosting a soil tunnel, a monarch display as well as operating the NCRCD water table. Hertzler also talked about the new conference room, saying that she had no intention of removing RCD from their current offices, but was appreciative for the conference room and was happy to have space to increase offices for future employees, and added that she has an open-door policy should anyone have concerns.

12. **Old Business:**

A. Review and consider draft fund Balance Policy. *No action taken.*

13. **New Business:**

A. Approve Executive Assistant position description and consider promotion of Admin Assistant. Discussion about Solik's current role, either leave the position as it is or 2. Wait and hold a closed session for discussion, or 3. Adopt the temporary Executive Assistant description as outlined with pay commensurate to temporary pay received over the past few months. ***Linda moved adopt the temporary job description and pay of Executive Assistant. Second by Hamilton; Approved 3-0***

B. Review and consider Grant opportunities.

1. Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman presented an outline of several available grants and a plan for two of them:

The COCO AIM Grant outlining the Grant Objective, the RCD Mission project objective to provide technical advice and project support (prescribed fire) to landowners. The benefit to citizens; Healthier forests, more resilient to insect, drought, and fire. Improved soil nutrient and water availability to trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Reduced erosion and ash into water from wildfire. Fuels mitigation, wildfire safety. The roles and partners (RCD/FSC/ OES), the budget (\$75K) and the timeline (late 2022).

The CA Strategic Growth Council Grant 1. RCD Mission Objective, the same benefits above to citizens but for low-income residents. The roles and partners (OES/RCD), the budget (\$0 currently), and timeline. ***Hamilton moved to approve the COCO Grant & CA Strategic Growth Council Grants. Second by Miller; Approved 3-0***

2. Maddison Easley (Nevada County) and Carrie Went (Butte County), Point Blue/NRCS Working Lands Partner Biologists presented RCD an opportunity to participate in a 26-million-dollar block **"Building Wildlife Friendly Resilience and Equity in California Working Landscape"** Grant - benefiting Wildlife Habitat Restoration, the main role of the NCRCD to file the CEQA documentation. ***Hamilton moved to approve "Building Wildlife Friendly Resilience and Equity in California Working Landscape" Grant. Second by Miller, Approved 3-0***

C. August Board meeting, consider cancellation It was agreed that the board would meet in September as regularly scheduled and if needed, a special meeting could be called in August.

D. Review and consider plans to relocate and checkout system for Min-Till-Drill. It was agreed that Reed could handle the location and move as needed, and staff would review lease form. ***No action taken.***

- E. Mission vision and goals.** Discussion mission goals of the RCD:
WHO we serve, Landowners/manager/with legal operations
WHAT we do, bigger than soil, water used for Ag and Non-Ag – See Attachment A, Para 3
WHEN to prevent degradation, to facilitate restoration/disaster
WHERE Nevada and South Sierra County conservation efforts, adjacent areas to Nevada County resources
WHY for long term sustainability

14. **Announcements:** Next board meeting – September 13, 2022, 4pm unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

Regular Board meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Solik July 12, 2022.



Approved by Board of Directors on 8-23-2022



Jim Drew, Vice-Chair

