



BOARD MINUTES

Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Board of Directors - Regular Meeting
113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, CA 95945
Tuesday November 14, 2023, at 4:00 pm

1. **Call to order and Roll Call:** at 4:01 by Jim Drew. Directors present: Jim Drew, Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman, and Reed Hamilton. Associates: Alana Fowler and Robert Ingram. Staff present: Briana Bacon and Anne Solik
2. **Introductions:** Pamela Hertzler, NRCS, Diana Gamzon, Executive Director of the Nevada County Cannabis Alliance
3. **Approval of Agenda or Correction of Agenda:** *Reed Hamilton moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Jo Ann Fites Kaufman; Approved 4-0.*

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- A. Minutes from the July 11, 2023, Regular Board meeting
- B. Financial Statement for July 2023.

Reed Hamilton moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Jo Ann Fites Kaufman Approved 3-0.

5. **Public Comment (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes):** Diana Gamzon introduced herself and talked about the upcoming CARCD Conference in December 2023, featuring a talk about Cannabis and Nevada County, encouraging NCRCD to attend.
6. **Correspondence:** News articles and announcements included in mailed board package.
7. **NRCS Director Report:** Pamela Hertzler reported that NRCS has moved into the new year of funding but is awaiting final numbers that will be announced after the Federal Budget has been approved. Pamela also announced that she will be leaving her position as of December 17, moving from District Conservationist to Area Conservationist serving NRCS Area 3. She will continue to live in Grass Valley and visit the office frequently. Pamela also announced a new EQIP program titled "Act Now" helping fund more applicants that have not yet been funded.
8. **NCRCD Director Reports:** Reed Hamilton announced that he is continuing to offer rental of the Min-Till Drill and so far, not too overwhelming. Jo Ann Fites Kaufman talked about being very busy preparing curriculum for several burn projects including the Truckee, You Bet area and San Juan Ridge. She reported good response from the community. The board entertained a quick Q&A about how the program is progressing. Jim Drew talked about the recent RCD and Farm Bureau events and sharing insight on public response. Alana Fowler talked about her recent AG-Mechanics Trip to Indiana, where besides chaperoning FFA kids, she was able to tour several Ag related sites.

9. **NCRCD Staff Report:** Anne reported on office activities including the COY event and the Farm Bureau Dinner event as well as ongoing support of NCRCD programs and on-going prescribed burn fliers, signs, and curriculum. Ramping up for 2024 programs. Briana announced an upcoming Board photoshoot to take place at the Ranch School. She also reported on the new employees and ramping up for new programs. Briana reported on the multiple Grants and Revenue including:

- **Cal-Fire-CEQA grant**
Next steps:
 - 3-acre conversion completed
 - Fish and Wildlife account established and in progress 90 day review
 - Vegetation removal complete
 - Waiting for compaction report
 - Sprint for pipe installation
 - Invoicing to date by 11/30/2023
- **SALC Grant**
 - MOU and letter of support created and presented to BOD
 - Grant feedback provided
 - Currently working on budget, scope of work and letters of support
- **Roots-Point Blue Conservation Health Soils/Wildlife Management Grant-Proposal accepted**
 - Working on budget
 - Primary budget will be for Conservation Program Manager
 - Community projects and private landowner projects includes Ranch School, Barhydt Ranch, Food Love Farm, Wildflower Ridge
- **Climate Transformation Alliance Group with Truckee**
 - Community grant in progress to help draw down funding for Forest Health Funding, amount and project for initial grant proposal assessed at \$212,000 for project management
 - Pitch Deck created and presented to CT committee
- **Livestock Fire Mitigation Management Grant through Nevada County-\$75,000 tbd**
 - Proposal in process for management of livestock management contracts with local ranchers
 - Met with OES, going to have Conservation Program Manger oversee this as part of AVP.

A full listing of current and future projects as well as status of on-going projects included in board package.

10. **New Business:**

A. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution addressing bidding protocols and prevailing wage. Tabled to address at December meeting to incorporate with updating bylaws.

B. Discussion about correspondence regarding the Idaho Maryland Mine. Jim talked about NCRCD having received a letter requesting any past material be sent to a legal firm. Anne sent a letter with a copy of 2003 material that was not signed by the board, but an overview of the subject matter.

11. **Old Business:**

A. Discussion and possible approval of new Board Director positions. Discussion and tabled for January meeting.

B. Discussion and possible approval of FFA Farm Day Bus Support. Tabled while we await corresponding invoice.

C. Discussion about scholarship software. Decided this was unnecessary as the new Grant tracking software can be utilized for this purpose.

D. Discussion and possible approval to change language of Bylaws. Tabled for December meeting to incorporate more changes.

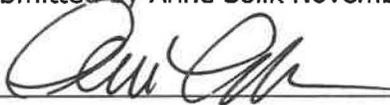
E. Discussion and possible approval to approve Clear Creek School Micro-grant request. Discussion about projection of expected applicants and setting limits. **Motion to approve payment to Clear Creek school not to exceed \$5,000 by Reed Hamilton. Second by Jo Ann Fites Kaufman. Approved 3-0**

12. **Announcements:**

Next Regular Board meeting – December 12, 2023 at 4pm.

Regular Board meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Solik November 14, 2023.



Approved by Board of Directors on 12-12-23


Jim Drew, Vice Chair

