



TEHAMA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2 Sutter Street, Suite D, Red Bluff, California 96080

Minutes of the
Regular Board Meeting
May 20, 2014
8:30 AM
USDA Service Center
2 Sutter St, Suite D, Red Bluff

Directors Present: Jack Bramhall, Walt Williams, Anne Read, and Ryan Sale

Directors Absent: None

Associate Directors Present: None

Staff Present: Vicky Dawley, Kris Lamkin, Tom McCubbins, Rob Rianda, Brin Greer, and Abigail Dan

Staff Absent: None

NRCS Staff Present: Larry Branham, Spring Groteguth, Moises Lozano, and Han Nguyen

Visitors Present: Adam Wyman, CAL FIRE, and Bill Belcher

I. Introductions - Opened Meeting: Vice President, J. Bramhall called meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

II. Public Communications: J. Bramhall shared the article on Ernie White posted in the Red Bluff Daily News on May 9th was a well composed narrative honoring his dedication to conservation.

III. Minutes: Approval of the April 15, 2014 Minutes.

Motion: A. Read

Second: W. Williams

Vote: Unanimous

IV. Action Items:

A. Resolution 14-3: Leininger Ranch Stock Pond and Spring Development Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.

T. McCubbins highlighted project expenses including staff time and permitting cost and discussed species surveys. A. Dan will be taking the lead as the project manager for the implementation phase of the project.

Motion: R. Sale

Second: W. Williams

Vote: Unanimous

B. Resolution 14-5: CAL FIRE Agreement for Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects.

A. Wyman discussed the proposed agreement between CAL FIRE and the District to advance the Ponderosa Sky Ranch Fuel Break project. The Scope of Work was also discussed with the District serving as the project consultant to develop a CEQA document and initiating landowner contacts. Due to the positive working relationship between the two entities, the agreement may be advanced to future fuel break projects. The board concluded the resolution and agreement should be two separate agenda items. R. Sale moved to add a new agenda item; in the event the Resolution 14-5 receives approval, then the CAL FIRE Agreement for Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects will be categorized as an urgency item and added to the agenda as topic B.i.

Motion: R. Sale

Second: W. Williams

Vote: Unanimous

R. Sale moved to approve Resolution 14-5 as modified

Motion: R. Sale

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous



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- i. R. Sale moved to approve the CAL FIRE Agreement for Hazardous Fuels Reduction Projects, as presented.

Motion: R. Sale

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous

- C. Participation in RCD Project Management Software with Agralogs.

V. Dawley shared information from the meeting with Agralogs and that nine other RCDs are considering their project management software. They will tailor the software to our specific needs at \$1,000/year, covering the rest of 2014 and all of 2015. The offer includes a 60 day free trial period after which the District can withdraw from the project. The Board would like consensus from the other nine RCDs considering the same offer. R. Sale moved to reconvene this item during the July meeting prior to committing to the service.

Motion: R. Sale as modified

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous

- D. Participation in Partnership with Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum and Sacramento River RCDs in River Restoration Project.

V. Dawley described the project and shared the Forum seeks a local connection to landowners through RCDs. Issues such as the Safe Harbor agreements for landowners who participate in habitat restoration, the unlikelihood of converting high value orchards to riparian habitat for a trivial incentive payment, and the succession of wildlife to new grounds were discussed. The Board welcomed a presentation from the Forum. R. Sale moved to table this item until the next board meeting.

Motion: R. Sale as modified

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous

- E. 2012 Ag Census Results

L. Bramhall highlighted facts from the May 9th Red Bluff Daily News article, *Tehama County Leads Northern California in Agricultural Sales*. He stated that the current NRCS staffing levels are sufficient to deal with the workload, but that future cooperative agreements with the RCD for technical assistance are a possibility if needed to provide more staffing for Farm Bill program implementation. L. Branham introduced his current staff as well as Han Nguyen, a NRCS regional BDI specialist. He concurred the NRCS/RCD partnership is important to connect local landowners to the programs.

V. Finance:

R. Sale reported the Finance Committee discussed the financial status of the District including assets, liabilities, revenue, expenditures, profit and loss, outstanding invoices with resolution and paid warrants without discrepancies.

- A. Approval of the Finance Reports, as presented.

Motion: R. Sale

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous

VI. Warrant Orders:

Approval of the Warrant orders to be paid in April, as presented.

Motion: R. Sale

Second: A. Read

Vote: Unanimous



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VII. Discussion/Report Items:

A. Soil Stability Demonstration

Spring Grotheguth, NRCS Soil Conservationist, gave a presentation regarding the importance of soil health for plant productivity and offered insight to soil conservation management practices.

B. NRCS Staff Report

L. Branham reported the article in honor of Ernie White was published and added he was a great ambassador of resource conservation.

C. District Manager Report

V. Dawley reported the RCD will submit a letter of support for AB 2465 in favor of prescribed burning in California's fire-adapted landscapes. She shared Brin and Abigail have taken on massive projects with success.

D. TCRCD Staff

B. Greer gave an update regarding the Forest and Water Resources Resilience Plan progress. R. Rianda shared insight from the fuel break projects and STWEC management. T. McCubbins spoke his work on the Leiningner Ranch project and A. Dan informed the Board of the Working Lands Conservation Partner project scope of work.

E. Land Use Reports

None.

F. Other Reports

It was suggested to consider the Red Bluff Garden Club to collaborate with outreach.

G. Board of Directors Comments

VIII. Correspondence:

There were no correspondence articles.

Closed Session: District Manager Quarterly Performance Evaluation

IX. Closed Session: District Manager Quarterly Performance Evaluation

Closed session began at 11:00 a.m.

X. Return to Open Session: Report on Closed Session

Returned to open session at 11:30 a.m. and reported that the Board delivered a written version of the District Manager's Quarterly Performance Evaluation from April 2014. The Annual District Manager Performance Evaluation will be conducted during the July board meeting.

XI. Next Meeting Dates:

Regular Meeting: June 17, 2014 8:30 a.m.

Finance Committee: June 17, 2014 7:45 a.m.

X. Adjourned meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brin Greer, Office Administration

Anne Read, Board Secretary