

"To protect, enhance, and support Butte County natural resources and agriculture by working with willing landowners and citizens through education, land management, and on-the-ground projects."

150 Chuck Yeager Way, Ste. A, Oroville, CA 95965 * (530) 693-3173 * bcrcd@carcd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023

Time: 8:00 AM

Location: Klamath Conference Room 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, CA 95965

Or Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88974119154?pwd=V01CaUpYVEw3VFpNQS84YkFSSmJkQT09

Meeting ID: 889 7411 9154

Passcode: 575904

Join via phone +1 408 638 0968

- 1. CALL TO ORDER Dave Lee, President 9:02 am
- WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS Chair Dave Lee, Treasurer Colleen Hatfield, Directors Andrew Sohnrey
 and John Christofferson, District Manager Thad Walker, Staff Wolfy Rougle
- 3. REVISIONS TO AGENDA (only emergency situations

requiring the need to take immediate actions may be added as action items pursuant to Gov. code 549954.2(b))

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (on non-action items)

(1) (3 min. limit per speaker/topic, 15 minutes/person/meeting total) (2) Public comment is encouraged. Any member of the public may address the Board with any comment related to the Resource Conservation District's areas of concern.

However, no action can be taken by the Board on such items at this current meeting. The Board may direct staff to agendize such items for consideration at a future meeting. (3) *Please note that all action items will have time set aside for public comment prior to the vote occurring. After a motion

is made and seconded by two BCRCD Directors, the Chair will first ask for any further discussion from the Directors and Associate Directors and then Chair will open up the item for brief public comment limited to 2 minutes/person. After the public

comment period closes a vote will be held.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

a) Review and approval of the minutes of the BOD meeting held on 10/26/2023 – Colleen moved, John seconded, motion passed unanimously

6. ACTION ITEMS - Dave Lee, President

a) Review and approval of Financials/ Accounts Payable- Colleen Hatfield – We have about \$1.4M in assets, \$924,000 and change in our liabilities, mostly in subcontractor invoices. The very large Summitt Forests invoice shouldn't be on the board reports btw, because it has been paid. Some late reimbursements from funders were discussed and will be followed up on. The vehicle committee was thanked for their successful work in getting the RCD its first truck <3

Next month: Let's talk about restoring a policy where we regularly add funds to a reserve account. A projected budget for the next 2-3 years (to the extent possible) will be presented at the next board meeting.

Audit update: Since the auditor finally turned her attention to our account a few days ago, we've received about 30 emails from the auditor. It's a 4-year budget review the auditor is dedicating just a week of their time to. If the auditor is not able to dedicate more time and doesn't get it done, Colleen will find a new auditor for us. John moved, Andy seconded, to approve the financials; motion passed unanimously.

- b) Consideration of establishing a line of credit with Pacific Pride for BCRCD fleet fueling -Thad Walker The new truck is being shared across all staff and all programs, and a vehicle log has been established to keep track of which project each trip should be billed to and whether that billing should be happening on a per-mile or per-day basis. The RCD would have 1 card but each individual would have a PIN code to make it work, and RCD would receive a monthly statement showing which individual filled the truck on which day.
 - John moved to apply for the card, Colleen seconded, motion passed unanimously. All board members seemed to have had good experience with Pacific Pride
- c) Revised Grant Agreement with Point Blue Conservation Science for Crane Valley Meadow Restoration Project -Thad Walker WCB required Point Blue to re-do all PB's grant agreements for some reason. All the new provisions, however, are things BCRCD's previous agreement with PB already complied with. Some language about prevailing wage has been added. However, this particular project will not require prevailing wage to be paid. John moved to accept the revised agreement, Andy seconded, motion passed unanimously. Where we'll need to watch out for prevailing wage is when we're writing grants and building budgets for fuels reduction next year, for projects over \$200,000. John suggested that if we have questions, we could ask Elizabeth in the county counsel's office.
- d) Agreement with Plumas Corp for Crane Valley Meadows Restoration Project -Thad Walker Plumas Corp replaces the former implementation partner, Forest Creek Restoration. John moved, Colleen seconded; motion to approve passed unanimously. Although the change in contractors has unfortunately prevented surveys from taking place this fall, work will resume next spring.
- e) Agreement with California Association of Resource Conservation District (CARCD) for Cal Fire Workforce Development Project- Thad Walker for Dallas Koller This grant will pay for a wide array of trainings for staff in both the forestry and prescribed fire fields. Could be used by existing staff or future staff and includes potentially funding an experienced forestry technician's advance to RPF certification. John moved to adopt the agreement, Colleen seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- f) CEQA Notice of Exemption for Č àkawì ódiknonà Spring Restoration and Blue Oak Enhancement -Point Blue Conservation Science and Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve -Wolfy Rougle – Colleen moved, John seconded, motion passed unanimously.

g) Next Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 9:00 AM, Location: Klamath Conference Room 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, CA. All 4 board members present confirmed their ability to attend.

7. RCD PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS -STAFF REPORTS

a) Project Updates - Colby Mtn Trails project is out to bid, with bid acceptance of course being totally contingent on the CEQA and NEPA being complete (they are close!). Bids are expected to come in around \$900,000. We'll try to have a pre-bid meeting in Jonesville before the snow flies.

Next month we will review our Allevity options/benefit plans, particularly with regard to health care, and see if we could get a more competitive package through a different organization such as SDRMA.

We provided a letter of support for a Friends of Butte Creek NOAA grant application to plan restoration and acquisition projects and would fund a 75% position at RCD as a Butte Creek watershed coordinator.

Sac Valley Durable Collaboration of RCDs: Last meeting went well. In the past, each RCD has always either sent its own representative to each CARCD meeting or not been represented at all. The new idea is to have an area representative who would attend each CARCD meeting on behalf of the 12 RCDs in the Sac valley area. Idea is that this would increase the funding and opportunities coming in to Sac Valley without costing us much or anything. The Butte County speak-off winner came in 2nd in the regional competition although Thad and Colleen testified they thought she did the best.;)

Through CARCD's RFFCP funding, we have the opportunity to get a strategic plan completed for our RCD for free. This is a great opportunity because having a strategic plan that's updated every 5 years is a DOC requirement for achieving "Tier I" RCD status, and such a planning process would normally cost about \$12,000. The process takes about 6 months to complete and takes about 30 hours of DM time and some Board member time (not all Board members *need* to participate, at least not all to the same extent, but the process is designed to include everyone's input and priorities nonetheless). The process focuses on concrete goals and results in a stable agreement about how the RCD's time and resources should be allocated in order to support all the programs/constituencies we want to sustain.

We've had 1 applicant for DM position so far, but not exceptionally well qualified. We've heard from several people that they've seen the Forestry Program Manager position and are thinking about whom in their networks would be suitable for the position.

8. PARTNERS' REPORTS (5-minute limit per group)

- a) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) none
- b) Butte County departments none
- c) Community groups none John asked that we reach out to Allen to give an update on Friends of Butte Creek activities next month.

9. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

a) Butte County RCD Directors and Associate Directors are welcome to report - none

10. ADJOURNMENT - 9:08 am

NOTE: The Butte County Resources Conservation District (BCRCD) distributes its Board meeting agendas electronically at least 24 hours in advance of meetings. If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the email list, please notify the Butte County RCD at (530) 534-0112, ext. 122 or by email to: bercd@carcd.org. The BCRCD also publicly posts notice and agenda of meetings 72 hours in advance of meetings at the Butte County RCD office located at 150 Chuck Yeager Way, Suite A, Oroville, CA. **Reasonable Accommodations:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Butte County RCD Manager at (530) 534-0112, ext. 122.

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