



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

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: 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, 9:05 am

- 2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Chair Dave Lee; Director Jeff Carter; Treasurer Colleen Hatfield; District Manager Thad Walker; Staff Wolfy Roulge; Guest Dave Brothers

- 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 agendaize 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 BCRC D 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 Regular Meeting held on 1/22/26
- b) Brown Act Government Code section 54952.7 requires local agencies to provide a copy of the Brown Act to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body for the agency.

Jeff moved, Colleen seconded to accept the consent agenda items; motion passed unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEMS – Dave Lee, President

- a) Review and approval of Financials/ Accounts Payable- Colleen Hatfield- Financials are much improved (our accounts receivable to payable balance was, at the end of December = - \$750,000; now = + \$110,000) because the final quarter 2025 expenses have now been invoiced for and reimbursed. Our cash reserves are up to \$74,000. Some accounts have been closed because the projects for which they were holding the advances have been closed out. Although we are losing some of the advances, the Forest Resiliency Bond (which will be on the BOD agenda next week) would somewhat replace them (at least for work in Upper Butte/Humbug Rd) in terms of cash flow speed. Colleen summarized that the organization is financially healthy right now and as long as we keep funding the cash reserves, we should stay ok. Thad remarked that a healthy percentage of the still-open invoices are to CARCD which is actually CAL FIRE funding; CAL FIRE has been a slow payer to many organizations across the board this year. Jeff moved, Colleen seconded to accept the financials; motion passed unanimously.
- b) Review of BCRC D Fee for Service Rates, 2026 Proposed updates -Thad Walker - Given the inflation and labor/health cost increases in the 2 years since our last update (which was 1/18/2024), staff suggested an updated index of fee-for-service rates for the Board to vote on. Some roles' rates (engineer, RPF, CARX) were still within a competitive range but most others required a slight increase. Colleen moved, Jeff seconded to accept the new fee-for-service rates as prepared by staff; motion passed unanimously.
- c) Authorization for approval to purchase a truck to support BCRC D operations -Thad Walker – We currently have a Ford F150 and a Chevy Colorado that we use for field operations, but we have 7 staff (soon to be 8 or 9 when seasonals come on board) who may be in the field in 4 different locations on a given day. \$30,000 was written into the 2025-26 budget with the expectation we might purchase a Subaru Forester, but on reflection we think another light truck (like a Ford Ranger, ~\$41K) or possibly a used F250 diesel 4WD (~\$45K) which could easily pull a full loaded water trailer, would be better options. Board's preference was for the latter. Colleen proposed raising the limit to \$50K. Colleen moved to authorize a diesel F250 or equivalent for up to \$50K, Jeff seconded, and motion passed unanimously.
- d) Agreement with Butte County Fire Safe Council for funding to support Prescribed Burn Association -Thad Walker – We are really grateful to BCFSC for this bridge funding, which should get us through the spring and a considerable amount of fall funding, while we continue to search for other funding to sustain the PBA. Although the PBA currently is hanging on by a shoestring, we're in better shape than many PBAs statewide. Good to have strong working relationships between BCRC D and BCFSC. Colleen moved, Jeff seconded to accept the agreement; motion passed unanimously.
- e) Agreement with Hedgerow Farms for Seed Growing and Storage Agreement for support of Concow planting -Wolfy Rouble - This would fund the farm to grow-out a quarter-acre plot of a locally adapted ecotype of a native grass that will be useful for replanting in Concow. Though there is no guarantee of how much seed will result from the year's grow-

out, farming being as uncertain as it is, Plumas NF has already agreed to fund the entire cost regardless of outcome. Jeff moved, Colleen seconded to accept the agreement; motion passed unanimously.

- f) Agreement with MTNCR to supply hydrological services for Willow Creek Meadow Restoration Project, Lassen National Forest - Wolfy Rouble - Colleen moved, Jeff seconded to accept the agreement; motion passed unanimously. On the topic of Willow Creek Restoration, Dave asked if staff was looking into the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation grant. Thad responded that the Humbug/Willow project now appears to be more on-budget than we had feared at one time, and also the timing of activities vs RMEF funding might not be a great fit, but staff is looking at the grant opportunity for PBA funding. Dave mentioned he might try to get the California program director to a BOD meeting soon to explain what RMEF is looking for.
- g) Agreement with Plumas Corporation for Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) services for Humbug Road Realignment and Willow Creek Meadow restoration project, Lassen National Forest -Wolfy Rouble – these are specialized professional services we need to hire out because we will be exposing more than an acre of soil during the road realignment. We got 3 quotes and Plumas Corp was not only the lowest, but also a firm we've worked with a lot before and a meadow restoration firm itself. Jeff moved, Colleen seconded to accept the agreement; motion passed unanimously.
- h) Governing Body Resolution to apply for California Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division G26 Ground Operations grant for High Lakes, Lassen National Forest -Thad Walker – The High Lakes project was budgeted at around \$300,000, but bids came in at over a million dollars. Lassen NF didn't have extra money, so we are approaching OHMVR to close the gap. Strong relationship with the OHV user group, Friends of the High Lakes, which will provide good match. Colleen moved, Jeff seconded to approve the resolution; motion passed unanimously.
- i) Next Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 9:00 AM, Location: Klamath Conference Room 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, CA

7. RCD PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS -STAFF REPORTS

- a) **Project Updates-** Upper Butte Creek NEPA was signed yesterday! FRB items will be before the Board next month. Julia Sidman was featured in a video, along with District Fire Management Officer James Lico, that was circulated on FS' national social media channels and viewed over 10 million times. WCB Board will vote on a Colby Mountain trails grant next month; County Supervisor Doug Teeter will accompany Thad to Sacramento to speak in favor of the grant. RCD has been meeting with Farm Bureau about upcoming Healthy Soils/SWEEP funding; RCD continues to be in touch with ranchers in South County about their riparian restoration projects but there's currently no funding and when it does come out (through Prop 4,) it's going to be very competitive. EFRP is active, assisting landowners who were affected by the Park and Thompson fires. Wolfy will present tonight to the Friends of the Ahart Herbarium on the Butte RCD and her experiences with the PBA that pertain to botany.

Dave asked that staff's new additions to the monthly project updates document be **highlighted** – this will help readers distinguish between context and updates.

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

- a) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) – none
- b) Butte County departments - none
- c) Community groups - none

9. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

a) Butte County RCD Directors and Associate Directors are welcome to report

10. ADJOURNMENT- 10:01 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: bcrd@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.*

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 the Chair will open up the item for brief public comment limited to 2 minutes per person. After the public comment period closes, a vote will be held