

Minutes of the Calaveras Resource Conservation District (RCD)

Regular Board Meeting

September 14, 2023

423 Saint Charles St, San Andreas, CA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by J. Marsili - President @ 6:00 pm

Board Members & Staff Present: M. Dvorak; S. Hodson; K. Lambert-V.P.; J. Marsili-President; J. Osbourn; Y. Tiscornia; B. Cook-Assoc. Director; M. Cole-IED & Admin; D. Simpson-Fiscal Director; K. Dillashaw, Project Mgr.; P. McGreevy, Project Mgr.

Board Members & Staff Absent: B. Dean; L. Plautz-Project Manager

Others Present: Jesse Fowler; Jennifer Wood; Mike DelOrto; Nate Berner; Matt Harrison

Public Comment: None

Order of Business:

1. Partner Comment: Jesse Fowler (Ag Dept) reported Sept. 28 is next Hardwood Advisory Board meeting, and Jennifer Wood (NRCS) supplied her report.

Consent Agenda Items:

1. Approval of 8/10/23 Minutes – **Y. Tiscornia made the motion to approve the minutes, second by J. Osbourn. On a 6-0-1 vote, minutes were approved.**

Consent Agenda Items Pulled for Discussion:

1. Approval of August 2023 Finance Reports – **M. Dvorak made the motion to approve the financial statements, second by J. Osbourn. On a 5-1-1 vote, financials were approved.**

Old Business:

1. Update on Current CalFire Grants:
 - Forest Meadows to Wylderidge – per RPF Bray: Activity paused per Fire Season (Private lands). The northeastern corner is the area remaining to be treated and once started, it will likely take 3-4 weeks for completion.
One issue arose based on a landowner complaint. Due to the Hurricane Hilary storm damage causing excessive erosion on and off site in the FMW locale, Foresters Bray and Brooks site-reviewed the property with the Landowner. Although the site had been previously approved as complete in July 2023 ("same as/better than pre-operations"), Contractor LCLC agreed to bring in a mini excavator and re-establish drainage ditches for the Landowner. This will occur upon LCLCs return to the project post Fire Season.
 - Murphys to Forest Meadows – Krisman will return right after completing another project to finish up the remaining ~ 200 acres.
 - Highway 108 – This is scheduled to start right after fire season. We are waiting for Laurie to return and conduct a site visit with the Contractor.
 - Fricot City – Forester Ed Struffenegger has the CEQA work completed. Waiting for final report. Request for Proposals for the fieldwork will go out as soon as we've hired a project manager.

- Moke Hill – Forester Ed Struffenegger has the CEQA work completed. Waiting for final report. Request for Proposals for the fieldwork will go out as soon as we've hired a project manager.
 - NW Calaveras Fuels Reduction Project – Waiting for final agreement from CalFire.
 - Calaveras Unified School District Fuels Reduction & Demonstration Forest Project – met with Kevin Hesser to review the project and create an action plan. Dana offered some valuable input regarding their budget and who best to manage each function.
2. Update on Current SNC Grants:
- Pine Ridge – per Jan Bray: Activity has continued during Fire Season with strict adherence to the Fire Plan and the USFS PALS restrictions (work occurring during Fire Season is on one large ranch ownership).
The project is a linear fuelbreak, making permanent a 2015 Butte Fire Contingency Line. Contractor is small and consequently isn't fast, but he's very consistent and makes steady progress. Operations are approximately 65% complete; he'll likely finalize the project by the end of October.
 - Bummerville/Blizzard Mine – Per Jan Bray: Activity paused per Fire Season (BLM lands). Operations are complete and look great in the Winton Unit (Contractor Markit), Jurs Units, and Barney Units (Contractor CFE). Operations have begun in Campo Flores Center but are not complete, and operations not begun in the other Campo Flores Units and Bald Mountain Units (Contractor Borges). The CalAmTeam is strongly pushing BLM to get the BuckBum Timber Sale advertised, sold and logged so that we can masticate post-logging; current BLM-estimate of Timber Sale advertisement is early October 2023. P. McGreevy reported BLM timber sales to start in October.
3. Ad Hoc Building Sale Committee– J. Marsili reported that she is dissolving the committee until after an Executive Director has been hired.
4. Ad Hoc Policy Committee – M. Cole and D. Simpson made edits, and have been sent to County Council for review.
5. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee – M. Cole edited and sent a consolidated Bylaws to the committee for review.

New Business:

1. Request to form and Executive Director Hiring Committee – J. Marsili reported receiving some good input on the job description and is ready to start recruitment. J. Marsili made a motion to form the ED Hiring Committee consisting of J. Marsili, K. Lambert, B. Cook, M. Cole, D. Simpson. Second by J. Osbourn. Motion passed on a 6/0/1 vote.
2. Update on Project Manager recruitment – J. Marsili reported that a few applications have been submitted and we are moving forward with interviews.
3. Building Updates – Remediation was completed, and HVAC issues were reviewed. M. Cole to resolve.
4. Attend Brown Act webinar – M. Cole to research having a facilitator do a Brown Act presentation and try to have it open to other organizations. J. Marsili made a motion to table a decision until further information is brought to the board. A second by J. Osbourn. Motion passed 6/0/1.

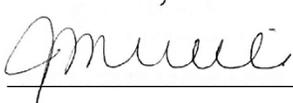
Reports:

1. Board Member announcements – J. Marsili will be attending the CARCD conference in Sacramento in December. Encourages others to attend.
M. Dvorak will be attending the upcoming Prescribed Burn Assn meeting. He has not yet received notice on his Community Grant application.
2. Staff announcements – M. Cole read from her attached Executive Director report. She also handed out a new Board Member Guidebook she just completed.
D. Simpson reviewed the Regional Conservation Partnership Program information.

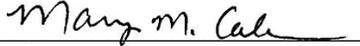
Adjournment of meeting. Meeting adjourned @ 7:36 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm**.

Attest:

President, Julia Marsili 

Date 10/12/2023

Secretary, Mary Cole 

Date 10/12/2023