



Lake County Resource Conservation District
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Harry Lyons
President

MINUTES

10AM December 10, 2019
3865 Main St. Kelseyville CA 95451

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Harry Lyons called the meeting to order at 10:03AM.

Directors present: Victoria Brandon, Jim Bridges, Harry Lyons, Shula Shoup, Merry Jo Velasquez, Ron Yoder

Directors absent: William Lincoln

Others present: Linda Juntunen, Greg Dills, Korinn Woodard, Steve Daus

1. INTRODUCTIONS. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC INPUT - Daus is a retired RPF now working for TSS Consultant group, which has put together a service package to benefit wildfire survivors. They work through RCDs as well as Calfire and fire safe councils. He's the project contact for Lake County, and can help us put together projects and approach funders.

3. SAFETY MEETING

"Bloodborne Pathogens: Don't Take the Risk!" conducted by Lyons

4. APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Bridges moved and Velasquez seconded to approve the minutes of the **November 12 2019** meeting as presented.

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: Yoder

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTION: Brandon moved and Yoder seconded to **accept the November financial report**

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

6. APPROVE & PAY BILLS

Invoices from Bouthillier Construction for \$30,000 and MBC for \$16,000 are pending in anticipation of reimbursement from the 319 grant, which is expected before the January meeting.

MOTION: Yoder moved and Shoup seconded to **approve and pay current bills, including the Boutillier and MBC invoices after reimbursement has been received.**

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

7. CORRESPONDENCE none needing attention

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new

8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship. McLaughlin intern Connor Fisher got his check, and is interested in another project when we need help

8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: nothing new

8.4 Field Days in the Creek: nothing new

8.5 Kids in the Creek: nothing new

8.6 Trout in the Classroom nothing new

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison by email.

- Attended Daniel Homsey workshop re: Neighborhood Empowerment Network programs; Attended Firescape Mendocino workshop in Williams.
- Letters of support for multiple groups in Lake Co seeking grant opportunities.
- Coordinated outreach efforts with local agencies for events.
- Outreach to public regarding PSPS event preparation, during outages and updates via social media.
- Working with Clearlake City Manager and Fire Chief, along with CalFire on a clearing project in Clearlake.
- Coordinating and meeting with multiple agencies discussing the possibility of bringing back prescribed burning to Lake Co.
- Discussing the next Lake Co Fuel Reduction/Post Fire Funding Opportunity meeting with USFS.
- Met with local Firewise Community members re: updates, ideas and community event planning; Participated in monthly agency meetings. Discussing grants and projects with various agencies. Assisting with creating new Firewise Communities.

9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard.

- Preparing projects for next year's funding but no deadline yet; funding will probably start in March. She expects to hear soon about Joint Chiefs project for fuels work and reforestation in partnership with USFS.
- Waiting till the next round to move forward on the joint project with Napa, since letters of match commitment were needed too soon.
- Mendocino RCD received a CDFA Healthy Soils grant that include some funding for LCRCO to help put on workshops to recruit farmers to the program.
- Velasquez: is there anything new about replanting at Tule Lake? No funding for it right now but maybe in 2020

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **adopt Resolution 2019.4** accepting and allocating unanticipated funds to extend the NRCS forester contract

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

9.3 Eightmile Valley Project - Greg Dills. He and Larry Ray seeded and harrowed the ground with a drag behind a quad. Bouthillier Construction then shot the disturbed areas with hay with tack sprayed to keep it on place during rain and windstorms. Larry went back up there to collect water samples and says seeds are sprouting and the area starting to green up.

Lawrence Ray Consulting has presented a \$40,000 contract to provide mitigation plants for the project, and there were also two higher bids.

MOTION: Yoder moved and Bridges seconded to **accept the LRC contract** and authorize the president to sign

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: Shoup

9.4 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills. no fieldwork this period

9.5 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills

Middletown project: No fieldwork this reporting period. Downloaded three price quotes for Tubex Tree Shelters and stakes, Forestry Suppliers came in with the lowest cost for 2,000 units.

Highway 53 project. Larry will start tomorrow on site preparation; has loader with auger. Tom Bendure put in acorns and tree shelters yesterday.

MOTION: Brandon moved and Yoder seconded to **adopt Resolution 2019.5** accepting and allocating unanticipated funds for the Highway 53 oak mitigation project

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln, Shoup

Abstained: none

9.6 Reforestation Project. Bridges: no seeds were collected in our zone this fall meaning yet another year's delay before the project can resume. El Dorado can get seedlings from USFS nursery which has 43,000 pounds of old seed from unknown zones that they need to dispose of. Brandon will check in with CalForest to make delivery arrangements for this year's seedlings. Lyons will confirm cold storage arrangements with Scully Packing.

9.7 Native Plant Project. The subcommittee met with Karen Sullivan who wants \$7/gallon plant; Velasquez also checked with the Mendocino College nursery; they have excess plants they would be happy to sell to us, but doesn't have a plant list. Karen offered to go to Ukiah and check out their stock. We can also buy some plants at CalFlora for spring sales. The Ely Stage Stop might be interested in buying some of our plants.

9.8 President/Director Reports

- Lyons: sent a condolence letter to Dwight Holford's widow on behalf of LCRCO, and plans to attend his memorial if possible. The Middle Creek Committee met with Army Corps staff on site: they are interested in moving forward but federal funding is unlikely since Army Corps is looking for shovel ready projects and the county still has 62 properties to purchase. The Blue Ribbon Committee for the Restoration of Clear Lake will meet Dec 11 at New Paradigm College, when they expect to approve their annual report to the Governor and a letter prioritizing the Middle Creek project.
- Shoup: attended the CARCO conference in Redding in November and made a number of contacts including Tim Bailey, an area coordinator with CA Climate Investments who would like to meet with us.
- Brandon: attended the Firescape Mendocino conference in Williams on Nov 19, and gave a brief presentation on RCO projects.
- Velasquez: the Lake County Land Trust is almost ready to close on the Wright property that they are purchasing with Wildlife Conservation Board funding. Caltrans is still debating which oak mitigation site they prefer.
- Yoder: attended the CARCO conference. CDFW has set up a "preapproved" streamlined permitting process through the Habitat Restoration Act; this is intended to provide quick approval for bank erosion repair for very small (up to about 100 feet) projects.

10. OLD BUSINESS: none

11. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Update Financial Policies

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **update the Financial Policies** to make them consistent with approved meal reimbursement rates in the Employee Handbook

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

10.3 Agreement with Hedgerow Farms. It's necessary to mitigate for *Layia septentrionalia*, a species of concern impacted by building senior housing in Lakeport. Dills has negotiated an agreement with Hedgerow Farms by which we will collect at least 25,000 seeds which Hedgerow will use to grow 5,000 plugs to transplant size which we will set out at the construction site in the fall of 2020. Total cost \$5000, Hedgerow to provide materials and transport.

MOTION: Velasquez moved to **approve the agreement with Hedgerow Farms** and authorize the President to sign.

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

10.4 Upgrading storage facilities. Both the office and our storage facility are very overcrowded with both files and equipment. It may be possible to obtain additional space at the Ag Center. We need to figure out just what dimensions are needed and get quotes on airconditioned storage.

12. CLOSED SESSION: Discuss and vote on New Year's Bonus for employees: no action taken.

13. GENERAL DISCUSSION . Juntunen: Monique was particularly helpful with this month's bills and deserves a thank you present.

13. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Bridges seconded to **adjourn the meeting** at 11:51AM

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez, Yoder

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none