



Lake County Resource Conservation District
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Harry Lyons
President

MINUTES
10AM February 9, 2021
via videoconference

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

Directors present: Victoria Brandon, Jim Bridges, Randy Krag, William Lincoln, Harry Lyons, Shula Shoup, Merry Jo Velasquez

Directors absent: none

Others present: Greg Dills, Laurie Hutchison, Linda Juntunen, Korinn Woodard, Julia Sullivan, Will Evans, Laurel Bard

1. INTRODUCTIONS: Julia Sullivan introduced herself. See item 9.3.

1.1 Consideration of extra Items not appearing on the posted agenda: none

2. PUBLIC INPUT: none

3. SAFETY MEETING: “Slips, Trips, and Falls” conducted by Lyons

4. APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Brandon seconded to **approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting**

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag, Lincoln, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Monthly Report: Juntunen is preparing for the annual audit, and will send files to Zach Pehling electronically

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

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag, Lincoln, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5.2 ACTION ITEM: adopt Resolution 2021-1

MOTION: Shoup moved and Lincoln seconded to **adopt Resolution 2021-1** accepting and allocating unanticipated revenue for Fire Safe Council outreach

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag, Lincoln, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5.3 ACTION ITEM: adopt Resolution 2021-2

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **adopt Resolution 2021-2** accepting and allocating unanticipated revenue for Goats Rue eradication

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag, Lincoln, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

6. APPROVE & PAY BILLS

MOTION: Shoup moved and Lincoln seconded to **approve and pay current bills**

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag Lincoln, Lyons, Shoup, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

7. CORRESPONDENCE nothing needing attention

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new

8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship: Lyons has contacted the five eligible schools and gotten some responses; we have funding for as many as three scholarships this year if there are qualified candidates

8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: will discuss at the March 16 WMA but it seems unlikely that the event can be held this year

8.4 Field Days in the Creek: unlikely to be held

8.5 Kids in the Creek: unlikely to be held

8.6 Trout in the Classroom (Brandon): Tony Blyleven has recruited an additional teacher and the program is in progress

8.7 CWPP update (Lyons): as detailed in Laurel Bard's report, Juntunen has connected with fire chiefs, and is getting information from them and USFS, as well as the municipal advisory areas and tribal land. Ch1 & Ch 8 have been sent to the editor. The core of the document is a list of projects.

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchisont

- Coordinating with grant partners on the CA FSC/Listos Outreach Toolkit Grant- planning outreach strategies, scheduled required training and sent info requested for branded outreach items we will be receiving. Additional funding available for preparedness events and video conference in collaboration with tribes
- Attended RRA and RRA Strategic Planning meetings, still working on related projects.
- Promoting new county wide Fire Safe Lake website (www.firesafelake.org). Public outreach via social media for updates and info on various local fires, Covid 19 and PSPS events in the area.
- Continued coordination with the RRA Standing Committee on CWPP update project.
- Continuing work with local groups on different potential upcoming events and opportunities adhering to Covid 19 restrictions.
- Gathering and compiling information on local resources and contact info for Firewise communities.

- 9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard: first funding deadline is March 5; she is getting projects into the system, mostly forestry related. Got new vehicle yesterday to replace aged out Ford Explorer.
- 9.3 North Coast Forest Health work - Julia Sullivan, Forest Health Watershed coordinator for North Coast Region. Hosted by Humboldt to serve the seven RCDs in region by facilitating collaboration and assisting mutual funding efforts. She has put together templates for landowner access agreements and worked on defensible space and home hardening for Marin. Both forest health and wildfire resilience projects are included. We should have a formal contract with CalFire, as Lucas Patzek from Napa RCD has been recommending.
- 9.3 Civic Spark Fellow report - Laurel Bard. She is helping with CWPP update, has updated the project list from 2009, broken it into smaller units, and created a prioritization scheme that includes vegetation type.
- 9.4 Eightmile Valley Project - Greg Dills. Neither water sampling nor revegetation is possible due to the drought. The current grant ends March 31, but during a February 5 call with the Water Board indicated that an extension might be possible; we are requesting an extension to February 28, 2022. There is still \$180,000 left in the 319 grant, plus another \$50,000 BLM funding for maintenance.
- 9.5 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills. No field activity. The county Ag Department funding is likely to roll over
- 9.6 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills. The well installation is complete and awaiting the PG&E connection, which is expected before there is a need for watering. Checking on plants periodically.
- 9.7 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project - Velasquez. Has been conferring with Woodard about funding possibilities. Most big grants are restricted to coastal projects or salmonid restoration but some small (up to \$150,000) grants may be available for wetland restoration and fencing to keep cattle away from the lake. EQIP funding may be possible since the land is used for grazing. Mike Thompson's office is trying to help. Woodard: the California Waterfowl Association was the funding source for Tule Lake.
- 9.8 President/Director Reports
- Lyons: has already reported on the Meisenbach scholarship and CWPP. Middle Creek: one property has been purchased and the owners relocated, and two others are in escrow; communication with Army Corps is ongoing.
 - Velasquez: Blue Ribbon Committee has approved projects to build a fish ladder at Kelsey Creek Main Street bridge and remove obstructions to hitch migration from Clover Creek, but both projects are on hold.
 - Brandon: on February 11 the Sierra Club is hosting a presentation by Mendocino NF District Ranger Frank Aebly about Ranch Fire recovery/restoration efforts.
 - Shoup: received links to two articles about trees and climate change through her connection with the Cool Davis initiative. Attended the recent Sacramento Valley collaboration virtual meeting, which focused on capacity, visibility, and shared resources.

10. OLD BUSINESS: none

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Renew NARCD/Napa grant for technical forestry assistance. This would be the third year for this grant, which supports Tom Bendure's work; new grant would start in January 2022. Volunteer hours and the Middletown project are eligible for match.

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **apply for NARCD grant renewal**

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

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

12. GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Lyons: as specified in the Employee Handbook, the Personnel Committee will conduct a performance review on Linda Juntunen preparatory to proposing a raise in pay.
- Will Evans: the new Governor's proposed budget includes money for forest health. Looking for Lake county capacity building.

13. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Brandon seconded to **adjourn the meeting** at 11:47AM

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

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none