



AGENDA
10AM March 8 2022
via videoconference

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Harry Lyons called the meeting to order at 10:04AM.

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

Directors absent: none

Others present: Greg Dills, Linda Juntunen, Korinn Woodard, Laurie Hutchison, Kristina Linder, Tracy Kline, Will Evans

1. INTRODUCTIONS: Tracy Kline started in January as CLERC's fire and forestry manager

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

2. PUBLIC INPUT: none

3. SAFETY MEETING: none

4. APPROVE MINUTES of February 8, 2022 MEETING

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Lincoln seconded to **approve the minutes of the February 8 2022 meeting** as presented.

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Monthly Report. The balance sheet still does not contain a line item to track tax revenue and qualifying expense, and the SDRMA form has still not been filed. Lyons is working with the bookkeeper to resolve these issues.

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

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: Lyons

6. APPROVE & PAY BILLS

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Brandon seconded to **approve and pay current bills.**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

7. CORRESPONDENCE: none needing attention except overdue report notices.

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new

8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship: application forms have been sent to counselors at all eligible schools

8.3 Invasive Weed Tour. Brandon: tour has been scheduled for May 25 at Anderson Marsh, and presenters have confirmed participation.

8.4 Field Days in the Creek. Lincoln: still hasn't been able to get permission from the (new) property owner and may have to look for another venue. Event scheduled for May 18

- 8.5 Kids in the Creek. Velasquez: event has been scheduled for Thursday March 10, at Middle Creek Campground. Brandon will assist, also Shoup and Krag if possible.
- 8.6 Trout in the Classroom. Brandon: Tony Blyleven has sent a report with photos and brief video. This year's program is in progress.
- 8.7 CWPP update. Juntunen: working with editor on revisions, not much input from fire chiefs so far. Hoping to present at next RRA meeting.
- 8.8 Staff hire. Lyons: so far there has been no response to ad for project manager; we need help reaching out into the community and may have to revise job requirements. We could also explore the possibility of contracting with a neighboring RCD to provide services rather than hiring our own staff. Admin Assistant: need to revise job description and authorize posting at the April meeting. Dills is also planning to retire at about the same time. Juntunen will work with personnel committee to revise job description to better match actual current duties. Tracy Kline: do we have other part time work that could be combined with the Project Manager to make a full time job? Main limitation is financial, but qualified person could get close to full time by getting and implementing grants.

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

- 9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison
- Continuing work with NCO/EPIC on outreach projects, on the Home Hardening Pilot Project, collaborating on grants. Working on creating new outreach material for the county.
 - Continuing to work with partners on Evacuation Route Grant and considering the next CalFire grants coming up. The county applied for the Evacuation Routes Grant and we are waiting to hear if it is awarded to us or not. Considering opportunities to partner with TERA (Tribal Eco Restoration Alliance) on an upcoming CalFire grant. Looking at several grants and partnership opportunities.
 - Attending various local group meetings. Looking for opportunities for events in the future.
 - Participating in TREX (prescribed burning) planning meetings and trainings. Looking for grant opportunities and partnerships, funding resources, etc..
 - Continuing to promote county wide Fire Safe Lake website (www.firesafelake.org) and conducting public outreach via social media.
- 9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard. EQIP funding selection in progress. This Thursday March 10 at 6PM the RRA is conducting a virtual town hall on tree mortality town hall. TERA's cultural burning workshop will be held March 14 and 15.
- 9.3 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills. TERA agreement not detailed enough and exceeds budget; he is checking with CCC.
- 9.4 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills. Still no contract on Upper Lake project so may need to call a special meeting to approve it.
- 9.5 Healthy Soils project - Greg Dills: nothing new
- 9.6 Civic Spark Fellow report - Kristina Linder. Engaging in community mapping project with Americorps. Anyone can contribute to community maps, which assemble a lot of information that is shared with first responders. Working with Citizens Caring 4 Clearlake to conduct a cleanup event at Redbud Park on April 2.
- 9.7 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project. Velasquez and Lincoln: presented a final project map to county; project moving along well. CDFW and Army Corps are both happy with plan. Have submitted a Wildlife Conservation Board grant for pre approval; if it gets by that hurdle LCLT will present full proposal. Decision likely in September or October.
- 9.8 Discussion with Will Evans about CLERC proposal for LCRCD to act as CEQA lead agency. CLERC has some big fire prevention/protection projects that don't require permits and are CEQA exempt, but need a responsible public agency to certify that exempt status is legal and appropriate. County CDD has been doing this but they are slow, understaffed, and cumbersome. In some other counties RCD manages contract and files notice of CEQA exemption: maybe one of them could supervise CLERC contracts in Lake County? CLERC is a nonprofit and certification needs a public agency. Initial Studies take at least six months and are functionally equivalent to a discretionary approval. Kline: risk to certifying agency is minimal if they document everything carefully and the projects qualify for exemption. Once they are posted to CEQAnet approval is subject to challenge for 35 days but after that

the project is approved. Anyone can make a Fair Argument objection but the response is to withdraw the approval and conduct an Initial Study. Napa RCD is talking about conducting a regional CEQA training workshop, and funding may be available.

9.8 President/Director Reports

- Lyons: attended workshop on AB 5121 which requires tribal consultation on CEQA. Wrote support grant for county water primrose grant. North Coast Consortium will meet in April, date TBD. Middle Creek Coalition reached out to Dharma Realm Buddhist Community to urge them to sell their property in the project area to the county so the project can move forward; they have expressed their intention to keep it as a wildlife refuge instead. Two other properties there are about to go into escrow, the Mountanos purchase has closed, and Ortega will close soon. Annual letter of intent to Army Corps has been sent.
- Shoup. Sacramento Valley RCD will hold a climate resilience partnership meeting on March 29, as a pilot program to bring stakeholders together; she plans to attend.
- Brandon: reminds all Directors that their annual Form 700s are due, and they all should have received a notice from the county
- Krag: attending North Coast Soil Hub monthly meetings and working with Lake County Land Trust on their WCB grant. Meeting coming up to discuss reauthorization of NACD grant funding that pays for Tom Bendure's services.

10. New Business

10.1 Revise Aging Summary

MOTION: Brandon moved and Krag seconded to authorize Administrative Assistant to **direct bookkeeper to remove outstanding \$184.51 for CDFA Goats Rue grant from aging summary**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

10.4 Extend CARCD agreement

MOTION: Krag moved and Brandon seconded to **approve extension of CARCD Technical Assistance agreement**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION: none

12. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Bridges seconded to **adjourn the meeting** at 12:09PM

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none