



Lake County Resource Conservation District
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Harry Lyons
President

MINUTES
10AM March 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, Linda Juntunen, Laurie Hutchison, Korinn Woodard, Terre Logsdon, Betsy Cawn

1. INTRODUCTIONS: none needed

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

2. PUBLIC INPUT - Logsdon reported on recent Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians activities. The Use Permit for their proposed biochar plant at Red Hills was approved but litigation has stalled the project. In the meantime Clean Carbon LLC will treat biochar with a water process to create activated charcoal at the old Record-Bee building. The SVBPI Energy Company got a grant to create a bioenergy feasibility toolkit to help other tribes decide if biochar is right for them, and has been getting a very positive response.

3. SAFETY MEETING “It’s about Respect: Recognizing Harassment in a Diverse Workplace” conducted by Lyons

4. APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Lincoln moved and Velasquez seconded to **approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 meeting**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Monthly Report

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

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

6. APPROVE & PAY BILLS

MOTION: Bridges 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: we have begun the process of requesting another EDD waiver from electronic filing; otherwise nothing needing attention.

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

- 8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new
- 8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship: Lyons has sent letters to guidance counselors inviting applications.
- 8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: a decision to cancel this year's event is expected at the WMA meeting March 16
- 8.4 Field Days in the Creek: an event won't be possible this spring: Lincoln will reach out to the teachers to let them know that we're hoping to resume the program in the spring of 2022
- 8.5 Kids in the Creek: Velasquez will reach out to the northshore teachers with the same message
- 8.6 Trout in the Classroom. Tony Blyleven has reported that seven teachers have engaged with the program this year, and sent some pictures.
- 8.7 CWPP update. Linda Juntunen is working on the document, and Lyons and Hutchison are attending RRA meetings. Lyons is also involved with a committee set up by Supervisor Jessica Pyska to evaluate Fire Safe Council structure.

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

- 9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison.
 - Working with grant partners on the upcoming Ready, Set, Film youth video contest that started March 1, 2021. Setting up all aspects of the contest and getting promotional posters and website ready with all pertinent information. This is funded by LISTOS grant.
 - Gathering information on neighboring FSCs and their structure. Meeting with Supervisor Pyska on future FSC opportunities and structure. Continuing to promote new county wide Fire Safe Lake website (www.firesafelake.org)
 - Continuing work with local groups on different potential local events and opportunities adhering to Covid 19 restrictions. Public outreach via social media for updates and info on various local fires, Covid 19 and events in the area.
 - Continued coordination with the RRA & RRA Standing Committee on projects including CWPP update project.
- 9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard. EQIP funding is moving forward, though a bit behind because of computer issues. Should know about grants by end of March. NRCS wants to help LCLT with Wright property wetland restoration, which may be EQIP eligible. A third year of NACD funding for Tom Bendure through Napa RCD is moving forward.
- 9.3 Civic Spark Fellow report - Laurel Bard (emailed) She is working on CWPP, including following up with tribal environmental directors and community advisory councils and mapping extensive data; also helping RRA determine 2021 goals.
- 9.4 Eightmile Valley Project - Greg Dills. Due to the current drought conditions, water quality sampling has still not been possible; still no response from Water Boards to extension request on their 319 grant. In the meantime, it is expected that all remaining deliverables will be met by the end of March. If the extension is granted there is still about \$160,000 in grant funding for planting natives. BLM is going to provide additional support for the project if necessary.
- 9.5 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills . No field activity. The CDFA grant runs out at the end of March but county Ag Dept funding will then kick in.
- 9.6 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills. Middletown: The well installation is complete and awaiting PG&E connection, which is expected before the end of the week. In the meantime Caltrans has contacted him about a revegetation project on Hwy 29 and Westlake Rd. just outside Upper Lake with an estimated budget of roughly \$100,000. Final scope of work and budget still to be determined; no action needed at this time.
- 9.7 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project: Velasquez: LCLT needs funding for wetland restoration, and is meeting with NRCS to explore EQIP eligibility. There may also be USFW and private foundation funding available. In the meantime they are organizing a plant survey (natives and invasives) on the property.
- 9.8 President/Director Reports
 - Lyons: as previously reported, attended RRA and FSC meetings. Also developed management narrative and analysis to assist Zach Pehling with financial comparison in the audit, and worked with the Personnel Committee to prepare Linda Juntunen's performance evaluation. He and Peter Windrem expect to meet with Supervisor Eddie Crandell soon to discuss Middle Creek property purchases ahead of a scheduled meeting with Army Corps

- Shoup: Sacramento Valley RCD has two virtual meetings coming up soon, but unfortunately she has conflicts with both dates so won't be able to attend.
- Krag: working on a plan to encourage chipping rather than burning walnut orchard prunings; a proposal to ban ag waste burning may be operative by 2025.
- Lincoln: has completed the As-Built for Eightmile Valley.
- Brandon: filed the annual SDRMA report which was much more of a chore than it should have been because of technical problems with the online system. Center for Biological Diversity has declared their intention to sue USFW over their decision not to list the hitch under ESA. At 6PM on April 8 Lake County Sierra Club is hosting a presentation by Lindsey Bailey about the Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance: it's free and the public is invited, but RSVPs are necessary. Register at <https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000001ko32AAA&mapLinkHref=>

10. OLD BUSINESS: none

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Review committee assignments: tabled until the April 13 board meeting

11.2 Authorize the President to sign NACD grant: no action necessary

11.3 CLOSED SESSION: Linda Juntunen performance evaluation

Return to open session: Lyons reported that in closed session

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Bridges seconded to **raise Juntunen's rate of pay from \$25 to \$30/hour**

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

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none

12. GENERAL DISCUSSION - no action will be taken by the board. All Directors who have not yet filed Form 700 are required to do so by the end of March.

13. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Brandon seconded to **adjourn the meeting at 11:37AM**

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

Noes: none

Absent: Lincoln

Abstained: none