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Harry Lyons
President

MINUTES
10AM August 13, 2019
3865 Main St. Kelseyville CA 95451

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Harry Lyons called the meeting to order at 10:01AM.

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

Others present: Linda Juntunen, Greg Dills, Tony Blyleven, Carolyn Ruttan, Ut Huynh, Megan McCluer, Carolyn Ruttan

1. INTRODUCTIONS: all attendees introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC INPUT

- Clear Lake Environmental Research Center Director Carolyn Ruttan provided an update on the organization's activities. She and Will Evans recently visited the Trinity County Watershed Research and Training Center, which was awarded a large DOC Forest & Fire Capacity grant to promote fire resiliency. Substantial funds are available for other counties through TCWRTC. CLERC is familiar with the process through assisting Harbin in getting a Forest Health grant and is applying for a grant to create a countywide fire resiliency project in partnership with Calfire that will provide services to 5 million acres of private landholdings all over the county. They request a letter of support from LCRCO. There was consensus to support the application; Lyons will review the draft support letter and sign.
- Megan McCluer from Mendocino RCD discussed a number of subjects:
 - They have obtained a three year Soil Health grant to provide technical assistance to landowners in obtaining their own grants for projects, and would consider partnering with us to extend this service to Lake County.
 - Goats Rue project: since the source of the infestation is in Mendocino county can they assist us with hand removal? LCRCO funding is limited to Lake County. Mendo RCD doesn't have permitting for herbicide use. Dills: suggests collaborating with the Ag Dept which has all necessary permitting. They could also help in obtaining access rights from landowners. Ongoing funding will depend on the next round of CDFA Weed Management Area grants.
 - North Coast Durable Collaboration agreement can provide a framework for sharing NRCS forestry support. In 2018 Mendo RCD got a \$1.6 million Climate Initiative grant for a fire resiliency project in the Redwood Fire footprint that includes the construction of ten biogasifiers, now under construction, with biochar production. They might be able to partner for a second phase in the Mendo Complex footprint in Lake County. This might conflict with a similar but smaller project the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians is working on.
 - Fire Safe Council: they are trying to reach more rural communities and tribes; it might help if the Fire Safe Council could act as a funding gatekeeper.
 - They may have 20,000 extra doug fir seedlings available for delivery next winter that they could pass along to us for sale to our own customers since we are already sold out.

3. SAFETY MEETING

"Ergonomics: Solving the Puzzle" conducted by Lyons.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Lincoln moved and Velasquez seconded to **approve the minutes of the July 9, 2019** meeting as presented.

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lincoln, Lyons, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: Shoup

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Monthly Report

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

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

5.2 Budget Hearing. Lyons conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2019-20 budget.

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Lincoln seconded to **approve the budget as presented**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

6. APPROVE & PAY BILLS.

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

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

7. CORRESPONDENCE: nothing needing action

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing to report

8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship

MOTION: Shoup moved and Lincoln seconded to **award a \$500 Meisenbach Scholarship to Amida Verhey**, a McLaughlin intern and UC Davis student.

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: nothing to report

8.4 Field Days in the Creek: nothing to report

8.5 Kids in the Creek: nothing to report

8.6 Trout in the Classroom. Blyleven: has recruited one new teacher for the coming year, Crystal Lee from Upper Lake, meaning that five teachers in total will be participating in the program. He proposes buying two new tanks @\$200, and reimbursing Lee's mileage to travel to Sausalito for training @ 58 cents/mile.

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **approve funding for the 2020 program not to exceed \$600.**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison: emailed.

- Organizing schedule for the Lake Co Fair booth and preparing educational materials to hand out.
- Continuing discussions with Butte Co FSC in regards to fire recovery. Also talking with a company that is doing work currently in Butte Co, discussing possible options for Lake Co.
- Coordinating with local Agencies in preparation for future major fire events, including PG&E planned power shut-off events.
- Discussing the next Lake Co Fuel Reduction/Post Fire Funding Opportunity meeting with USFS.
- Discussing vegetation clearing/maintenance options of local areas in coordination with CalFire.

- Preparation for upcoming educational opportunity events.
Met with local Firewise Community members re: updates, ideas and community event planning.
- Participated in monthly agency meetings. Continuing to seek homeowner insurance solutions for Lake County.
- Continuing work with local agencies to better coordinate and communicate emergency response in the community during large events.
- Discussing grants and projects with various agencies. Assisting with evaluation & determination of future projects with fire agencies. Assisting with creating new Firewise Communities.

9.2 NRCS Report - Thunhn for Korinn Woodard: Joint forestry grant with Napa has been received, for planning, and they are looking to expand to Mendocino. Yoder: the recently adopted North Coast MOU could facilitate collaboration.

9.3 Eightmile Valley Project - Greg Dills. BLM received the 401 water quality permit and the Army Corps. 404 permit is expected this month. MBC Construction has signed the agreement and construction is on schedule for the last two weeks on September and the first two weeks of October.

9.4 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills. In July Larry Ray pulled Goat's Rue below Eightmile Valley to the confluence of Willow Creek and Scotts Creek. Due to the heavy infestation in that reach, he was unable to survey the Scotts Creek canyon to the confluence with the South Fork, and will return later this summer to continue the survey/treatment. He also met with Mendocino County Agriculture Department staff and treated the seed source above Eightmile Valley on private property. The crew pulled mature plants and returned the next day to spray the smaller plants exposed by the pulling. It was discovered that much of the private parcel is infested with Goat's Rue and is the seed source for the infestation in Mendocino County as well.

9.5 CalTrans Revegetation Project - Greg Dills. The only potential issue is getting the initial \$50,000 to start the project, which will primarily consist of replanting oak trees in the riparian corridor.

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Yoder seconded to **approve the CalTrans grant for oak revegetation in Trailside Park** and authorize the president to sign.

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

MOTION: Yoder moved and Brandon seconded to **authorize the County of Lake to use LCRCD's CalTrans grant funding as match** for the Public Services Department Trailside Park project.

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

9.6 Biogasification Project - Greg Dills: nothing new.

9.7 Reforestation Project: nothing new except the possibility of obtaining additional DF seedlings from Mendocino RCD for next winter's planting season.

9.8 Native Plant Project. Velasquez: Karen Sullivan would like to continue but wants to see outcome of the fall sales before presenting a contract. We will have two fall sales in October at the Ag Center in collaboration with the Master Gardeners but the dates haven't been set yet and the plant list isn't finalized.

9.9 President/Director Reports

Lyons: has connected with Russ Cremer from LARCA who has promised to send a check for \$4800 to cover last year's refrigeration costs. He has also consulted with Mendocino, Napa, and CARCD to find out how they handle EDD electronic payments. Marlene Wentz is also looking into it.

Velasquez: the BOS has just (this morning) created a special ad hoc committee to facilitate the Middle Creek Wetlands Restoration Project, and appointed both Lyons and Peter Windrem from the MCR Coalition. Land Trust representatives met with Caltrans about a Blue Oak mitigation purchase near Cache Creek winery.

Yoder: the Sacramento Valley Durable Collaboration MOU distributed with the agenda contains a typographical error; he will send a corrected version.

10. OLD BUSINESS: none

11. NEW BUSINESS

The North Coast RCD is applying for a small (\$6000) NACD grant to help landowners prepare carbon farming plans, with Lucas Patzek from Napa RCD as lead. He is asking Lake, Mendocino, Napa & Sonoma to collaborate.

Yoder: Sacramento Valley's concept paper could be converted to a carbon farm plan. Consensus that Associate Director Randy Krag should be involved.

MOTION: Shoup moved and Lincoln seconded to **authorize participation in Napa RCD's carbon farming plan.**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **approve the Sacramento Valley RCD Durable Collaboration MOU**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

12. GENERAL DISCUSSION - no action will be taken by the board. McCluer: Mendocino has received funding from CARCD to provide technical assistance to small cannabis farmers, making use of the growing guide to environmentally sound practices they prepared a few years ago. Consensus that a lot of non-permitted growers continue to operate and many of them persist in extremely destructive practices.

13. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Lincoln seconded to **adjourn the meeting at 11:58AM**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none