



Lake County Resource Conservation District
889 Lakeport Blvd. – Lakeport, CA 95453
Phone (707) 263 4180
E-mail info@lakercd.org

Harry Lyons
President

BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF
JANUARY 10, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – President Harry Lyons calls the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
Alma de Paredes will take the Minutes

Directors Present: Randy Krag, Harry Lyons, Shula Shoup, Merry Jo Velasquez.

Directors Absent: Jim Bridges

Others Present: Alma de Paredes, Greg Dills, Will Evans, Laurie Hutchinson, Megan McCluer, Lawrence Ray, Kate Schmidt-Hopper, Korinn Woodward

1. **INTRODUCTIONS** and Consideration of extra Items not appearing on the posted agenda.

Megan McCluer of the JAIDE organization is introduced to the team as well as a discussion of her experience (Executive Director, Mendocino County RCD, worked with FEMA to assist with recovery after the 2017 Tubbs's fire, Project Manager, DOE, during the Obama administration, NASA Engineer, an active environmentalist).

No new agenda items.

2. **PUBLIC INPUT** - Anyone may speak for 3 minutes on a subject not on the agenda; no action will be taken by the Board – Kate Schmidt-Hopper announces the need for two science teachers for the Middletown school district.

3. **SAFETY MEETING** – Eye Protection – All have read the handout. Shula Shoup confirmed reading the Portable Heating Devices handout. Jim Bridges absent.

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR: ACTION** - APPROVE MINUTES of December 13, 2022 MEETING; APPROVE MINUTES of December 29, 2022 MEETING; ACCEPT MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT; APPROVE AND PAY BILLS. Note: any item may be pulled from the consent calendar if requested by a Director or member of the public.

Corrections to name.

Confirmation of vote to accept the JAIDE contract and Task Order.

Questions to Megan McCluer regarding hours and rate.

JAIDE and Task Order approved.

Motion to Approve: Randy Krag **Seconded:** Merry Jo Velasquez

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

Absent: Jim Bridges

Abstained: None

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 New Director at CARCD – A new CARCD director has been named and Megan McCluer will reach out to him and will get back to the team.

5.2 Calfire Forest Health Grant – Larry Ray has identified a CalFire Grant opportunity (carbon sequestration) that was announced in December 2022. There is still time to put together a proposal for their consideration. He plans on meeting with other forest agencies and RCDs regarding their proposals and structuring proposals. He is still working on other proposals for grant funding for Lake County. He will work with Megan McCluer to keep moving forward.

Will Evans of CLERQ said that CalFire has resources to assist and will work with other RCDs to create one all inclusive proposal as multi-county RCDs working together make for a stronger proposal.

Larry Ray to attend a January 30, 2023, meeting regarding cone/seed collections.

5.3 JAIDE Contract and Task Order have been signed. Please see Section 1 for Megan McClure's background.

5.4 SLC Grant – This grant is for the sustaining and preservation of agricultural land, carbon sequestration and land use. Complements urban conservation programs. Randy Krag will look into it.

5.3 CDFA Drought Relief Fund – Randy Krag will look into it.

5.4 Korinn Woodward Career Move – Is now the Area Resource Conservationist for Program Support/Guidance for Area.

6. ONGOING PROJECTS – Roll Call on Annual Projects and Board Hosts.

Recruiting (Harry Lyons) – Waiting for Board of Supervisor's approval of Kate Schmidt-Hopper's application.

Meisenbach Scholarship (Harry Lyons) – Applications have been sent to guidance counselors in both high school and colleges.

Invasive Weed Tour (Randy Krag) – Randy Krag will attend the committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2023, and will update the team at the next board meeting.

Field Days in the Creek (Harry Lyons & Kate Schmidt-Hopper) – Outreach to teacher and dates are in progress.

Kids in the Creek (Merry Jo Velasquez) – Outreach to teachers and dates are in progress. Merry Jo Velasquez, Harry Lyons, and Kate Schmidt-Hopper to meet with Victoria Brandon to discuss on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

Trout in the Classroom (Tony Blyleven) – Eight instructors and classroom have been identified.

7. REPORTS/UPDATES

7.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison – Will attend to LCFSC meetings, one regular meeting as well as a special meeting. Alerted team to a Board of Supervisors meeting on January 24, 2023, that will include in the agenda, a section regarding fire severity maps. Will send out an email with information regarding training on proscribed grazing and wildfire behavior

7.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard - The open Soil Conservationist position has been upgraded to assist in recruitment efforts. Program application is now closed for Forestry, post-fire, soil health projects and she will leave these projects with enough done for her successor. We will have two short term resources from Mendocino until her replacement is named.

7.3 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills/Larry Ray – Activity on hold due to weather.

7.4 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills/Larry Ray – All plant material was installed and weed mats placed. Will return once the weather clears. Scott McLean checked the site and the confirmed that the plants were doing well and weed mats and irrigation system were not disturbed by the heavy rains.

7.5 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project – Merry Jo Velasquez – Alerted the Board to listening sessions with the Big Valley tribe. Val Nixon, who is a park ranger, has been assisting with the coordinating these listening sessions. Larry Ray has experience with communicating with the different California tribe and has offered to assist with the tribal communications.

7.6 President/Director Reports – Will be attached to this report when final.

Kate Schmidt-Hopper plans to attend a Blue-Ribbon panel meeting at U.C. Davis regarding the inclusion of conservation science in schools. A curriculum meeting will be held in Middletown where a vote for new science books will be held.

Randy Krag will attend an Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting that has an agenda item for a Declaration of Emergency – “Hitch” in the Lake. Will continue to next Board meeting.

8. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.

9. **GENERAL DISCUSSION** - no action will be taken by the board.

10. **Motion to Adjourn:** Merry Jo Velasquez, **Seconded:** Randy Krag

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

Absent: Jim Bridges

Abstained: None

Board Meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.