



MINUTES
10AM January 11, 2022
via videoconference

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Harry Lyons called the meeting to order at 10:05AM.
Directors present: Victoria Brandon, Jim Bridges, Randy Krag, William Lincoln, Harry Lyons, Shula Shoup, Merry Jo Velasquez
Directors absent: none
Others present: Greg Dills, Korinn Woodard, Laurie Hutchison, Kristina Linder

1. INTRODUCTIONS: none needed

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

2. PUBLIC INPUT: none

3. SAFETY MEETING: Lincoln is investigating the process for obtaining online training materials

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting was tabled until February.

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Lincoln seconded to **approve the minutes of the December 30, 2021 special meeting** as presented.

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Lincoln, Lyons, Velasquez

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: Krag, Shoup

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

5.1 Monthly Report. Brandon: both the terms of the 2016 Consolidation and instructions from the auditor require us to track our tax revenues and eligible expenses, and we need to work with the bookkeeper to set this up. Also "County Treasury Reserved" category is no longer needed and should be consolidated with our general funds. The February agenda should include a Resolution authorizing this change.

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 Velasquez 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

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

- 8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new
- 8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship: Lyons will reach out to the schools this month, and change the application deadline from April 1 to May 1
- 8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: might be possible to hold it this year
- 8.4 Field Days in the Creek (Lincoln): teachers are excited about participating this year and have set a tentative date of Wed May 18. Lincoln will reach out to the fire dept and Brandon will contact other presenters.
- 8.5 Kids in the Creek (Velasquez). She has reached out to principals with no response, will try again.
- 8.6 Trout in the Classroom: nothing to report
- 8.7 CWPP update: the plan is nearly complete; Linda Juntunen intends to present it to the fire chiefs for review and comments on Jan 26. Then, Matthew Rothstein will post it for the prescribed period of public comment. After a briefing by Linda Juntunen, Lyons, Hutchison, and Linder will reach out to fire resilience organizations in the County.

9. REPORTS/UPDATES

- 9.1 Lake County Fire Safe Council Report - Laurie Hutchison
 - Continuing work with NCO/EPIC on the outreach project with the Americorps Team. They will arrive January 11th. They will be staying in Middletown and working various places around Lake County until the end of March with various organizations.
 - Still working with partners on Evacuation Route Grant and considering the next CalFire grants coming up. The county applied for the Evacuation Routes Grant and will be working with partners that include the FSC and Firewise Community groups to eliminate hazard trees along the Soda Bay Corridor. Considering opportunities to partner with TERA (Tribal Eco Restoration Alliance) on an upcoming CalFire grant.
 - Kristina and I are still working with someone in Scotts Valley area that is interested in possibly becoming a Firewise Community.
 - Attending various local group meetings (some bi-weekly, monthly).
 - Participating in TREX (prescribed burning) planning meetings for next year.
 - Looking for opportunities for partnerships, funding resources, etc. for grants. Continued coordination with the RRA, NCO, CMAT, CLERC and other local partners on projects.
 - Continuing to promote county wide Fire Safe Lake website (www.firesafelake.org), Public outreach via social media for updates on events in the area.
- 9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard. Worked with Linda to send out invoices for Napa RCD and CARCD grants, with payment expected soon. Working through EQIP applications; deadline has been extended to mid February. Working with county on agreement for national Water Quality Initiative funding application that will provide funding for various water quality projects. Work in the first year will consolidate existing watershed assessments and fill gaps. The annual CARCD conference started today and will offer various workshops over the next month.
- 9.4 Goats Rue Project - Greg Dills: no activity, BLM still waiting for herbicide permit
- 9.5 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills. No activity on Middletown project. Received notification that the Hwy 29 contract and budget are being processed, with expected April 5 start date. Due to inflation an additional 15% contingency line item has been added to the budget. He told CalTrans that we need a contract by the March board meeting, may have to schedule a special meeting to approve it.
- 9.6 Healthy Soils project - Greg Dills. No activity in the reporting period

9.7 Civic Spark Fellow report - Kristina Linder. Will meet with Americorps team on Wed Jan 12.

9.7 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project. Velasquez: asks for assistance figuring out budget numbers for excavation contractor and other expenses needed for the grant application budget. Match requirements unlikely to be a problem; in-kind is OK. Lincoln is working on a levee breach permit. The project will convert pastureland back to wetlands as they existed in 1958. Dills: report and invoicing frequency is key because the District has to front the money until reimbursed. He recommends working with Larry Ray on any replanting component.

MOTION: Krag moved and Brandon seconded **filing a pre-application for the Wright Property wetland restoration project grant** in partnership with the LCLT

Ayes: Brandon, Bridges, Krag, Lyons, Shoup

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

Recused: Lincoln, Velasquez

9.8 President/Director Reports

- Lyons: announced that Dills plans to retire soon but will be available for training and advice. The new Project Manager job opening has been advertised, and other RCDs are helping to spread the word. IRS mileage rate has changed. Middle Creek: Buddhists are no longer willing sellers, want to keep the property as a wildlife sanctuary. State Controller's office refuses to authorize state Dept of Water Resources check for more than \$1 million, for reasons unknown. County will lend money for purchase and get reimbursement from DWR later.
- Krag: he is working with Lucas Patzek from Napa RCD to reword NACD grant renewal to include some funding for ag projects, and cover some Project Manager, cover some bookkeeping and other admin costs. The bulk of the funding is to continue Tom Bendure's work. We are being included with Napa and Sonoma in grant application under the new California water efficiency technical assistance program. Miguel Garcia from Napa RCD will help train new Project Manager for Ag work.
- Brandon: Cong Garamendi's legislation adding Walker Ridge to BSNMN was announced just an hour ago. County DWR is holding a virtual webinar on the status of the Clear Lake hitch on Wednesday evening.

10. New Business

10.1 Changes to Aging Summary

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to authorize Administrative Assistant to direct bookkeeper to **remove outstanding \$2,283.79 from BLM Eightmile grant from aging summary.**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

10.2 Purchase computer

MOTION: Shoup moved and Lincoln seconded to **authorize purchase of laptop computer** for use by Administrative Assistant who succeeds Juntunen, with details to be determined later

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION: none

12. ADJOURN

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Lincoln seconded to **adjourn the meeting** at 11:51AM

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none