



MINUTES
10AM February 8 2022
via videoconference

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Harry Lyons called the meeting to order at 10:02AM.
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

1. INTRODUCTIONS: none needed

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

2. PUBLIC INPUT: none

3. SAFETY MEETING: online training materials not yet available.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

MOTION: Velasquez moved and Shoup seconded to **approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting** as amended.

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

MOTION: Lincoln moved and Bridges seconded to **approve the minutes of the January 11, 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. Dills: a balance due of \$184 remains on our old CDFA Goats Rue grant but apparently the agency isn't going to pay it, so an item to remove this sum from the Aging Summary should be added to the March 8 agenda.

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez 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: Brandon 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 received filing notices from SDRMA about the renewal questionnaire (due March 1) and from the State Controller about the annual report (due in April); Lyons will discuss these filings with the bookkeeper.

8. ONGOING PROJECTS

- 8.1 Recruiting of Directors and Associate Directors: nothing new
- 8.2 Meisenbach Scholarship: Lyons has sent forms to counselors at the four eligible high schools and Woodland College
- 8.3 Invasive Weed Tour: Brandon will discuss at the WMA meeting in March
- 8.4 Field Days in the Creek. Lincoln: event is set for May 18. Brandon will reach out to presenters; NRCS will staff a soils booth.
- 8.5 Kids in the Creek. Velasquez: contacted April Hargis at MNF, who is working on setting up the event for this year, though with no firm date or commitment from schools so far.
- 8.6 Trout in the Classroom: nothing new
- 8.7 CWPP update. Juntunen: presented the draft plan to the fire chiefs on January 26 when it was well received. The Chiefs will submit edits by February 20. She will meet with the editor after that date to make changes as needed. She consulted County Administration regarding next steps and was referred to an individual with the RRA. She is currently waiting to hear from that person. There will probably be at least one public meeting.

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. Planning various outreach projects with them, including creating new outreach material for the county.
- Collaborating with NCO/EPIC on the Home Hardening Pilot Project.
- 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 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.
- Participating in TREX (prescribed burning) planning meetings for next year.
- Assisting Kristina with Firewise Community mapping information.
- 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)
- State Board of Forestry has new fire risk reduction list that gives eligible counties priority on projects; applications due April 1.

9.2 NRCS Report - Korinn Woodard. A new regional conservationist is expected to be appointed soon. Applications for the next EQIP funding round are due February 23, and approvals expected by March 1. In the meantime she is finalizing a contract with the county to fund water quality projects. CARCD conference sessions made it clear that a lot of money is available. A Lake County tree mortality task force is being set up that will hold a virtual town hall to inform the public.

9.3 Goats Rue Project Greg Dills: no activity

9.4 CalTrans Revegetation Projects - Greg Dills: no recent activity but will visit the Middletown project site to evaluate next week.

9.5 Healthy Soils project - Greg Dills: no activity

9.6 Civic Spark Fellow report - Kristina Linder.

- Continued going on site visits to collect information for future fuels reduction projects and to assess current project progress.
- Organized a spreadsheet and files with willing landowner information to help with project efficiency in the future.
- Put together a Fuels Crew survey training for the NCCC AmeriCorps team.
- Found and organized a defensible space course for the NCCC AmeriCorps team.
- Continued to build maps that will eventually be available to the public to promote greater awareness of fuels reduction activities happening in the county.
- looking for communities that would be interested in defensible space assessment.

9.7 Lake County Land Trust Wright Project. Krag: Greg helped work out budget and brief project description in time for the January 21 pre-proposal submission deadline to CARCD, which is assembling a Wildlife Conservation Board block grant proposal. Applicants are asking for \$16 million total. Those that pass this pre-submission hurdle will be asked to submit a more formal proposal later. Hoping for a decision by June but it probably won't happen until fall. Biologist Rick Macedo helped devise a proposal that was simpler than originally planned but covers all the objectives. Still need to address ways the project benefits disadvantaged communities.

9.8 President/Director Reports

Lyons: meeting with Will Evans from CLERC on Thursday to discuss the best ways to utilize Tom Bendure's services. Will meet with the bookkeeper to set up Quickbook line items for receipts and disbursement of our tax revenue and discuss necessary filings. Distributed an invitation from Lindsay Dailey from TERA to attend a workshop about prescribed fire and cultural burning to be held on March 14-15. Larry Ray will be giving a presentation and Laurie will try to attend. Middle Creek wetlands restoration project: trying to persuade the Buddhists to become willing sellers again. Escrow has closed on the Mountanos and Ortega properties.

Krag: already discussed Land Trust grant. Still waiting for word on the NACD water efficiency technical assistance grant spearheaded by Napa RCD in which we are included. He reached out to Winegrape Commission ED Debra Somerfield and Farm Bureau ED Brenna Sullivan because ag should be involved. He has been appointed to the Organic Farmer seat on a BOS advisory committee on ag issues; will meet next Monday. Ag Commissioner Steve Hajik is retiring and Deputy Commissioner Katherine Vanderwall has been appointed. Lake County walnut acreage is expected to be reduced by half next year, largely because a severe frost in the fall of 2020 wiped out most of the 2021 crop. Ag in general is in trouble in Lake County: it doesn't bring in much tax revenue and cannabis producers caused a spike in the real estate market making it impossible for new farmers to compete.

10. New Business

10.1 Amend Quickbooks Asset List

MOTION: Brandon moved and Lincoln seconded to authorize Administrative Assistant to direct bookkeeper to **remove "County Treasury Reserved" category from Quickbooks Asset List and add the balance to the "County Treasury Spendable Gen" category.**

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

11. Old Business

11.1 Adopt Budget Resolution 2022-1

MOTION: Brandon moved and Velasquez seconded to **adopt Budget Resolution 2022-1** accepting and allocating funds from 2021 Napa RCD/NACD grant agreement

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION - no action will be taken by the board. Velasquez: the new Shannon Mercantile at the former Steele Winery site has some huge tables made from trees destroyed by bark beetles that illustrate the dramatic color changes seen in beetle-damaged lumber

12. ADJOURN

MOTION: Krag moved and Lincoln seconded to **adjourn the meeting** at 11:49 AM

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

Noes: none

Absent: none

Abstained: none