

**THE PLACER COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Meeting
January 28, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Placer County Resource Conservation District (District /RCD) Board was called to order by RCD Chair Claudia Smith at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room at 11661 Blocker Drive, Suite 115, in Auburn, California.

MEMBERS AND OTHERS PRESENT

Directors Present: Claudia Smith
Stephen (Steve) Jones
Patricia (Patti) Beard
Thomas (Tom) Wehri
Mica Heilmann

Absent Directors: Steven (Steve) Garcia
Christine Johnson

Others Present: Sarah Jones, RCD District Manager
Maddison Easley, RCD Employee
Kate Espinola, RCD Employee
George Alves, RCD Contractor
Walter Clevenger, RCD Contractor
Suzanna Gardetto, Placer High School Teacher
Amy, Student at Placer High School
Lelyn, Student at Placer High School
Rick, Student at Placer High School

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tom Wehri moved to approve the agenda, Steve Jones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Students from Placer High School gave a presentation about their experience at the Forestry Challenge as a thank you to the District for sponsoring their team.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Claudia Smith moved to amend the minutes for the meeting on December 3rd, 2019, by striking the word "Emergency" and replacing it with "Special". Steve Jones moved to approve the amended meeting minutes from the regular Board Meeting held on December 10th. Patti Beard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Sarah Jones reported the current balance in the bank at Placer County and that the District submitted a \$237,000.00 invoice to CAL FIRE. Staff is working on submitting an invoice for the Coordinated Watershed Grant and Auburn Shaded Fuel Break. Rosie Joe Herrnberger is currently reconciling the books.

BUSINESS

New Business:

a) Policy Review

Claudia Smith announced the cell phone policy will be reviewed with AB5. This item was postponed to the next Board meeting.

b) GASB 75 Financial Reporting

Sarah Jones reported that the last GASB 75 report was submitted in 2016. Sarah asked for approval to use the same consultant that submitted the report previously. Tom Wehri moved to spend \$4,000.00 to update the GASB 75 Report. Steve Jones seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

c) Firewise Partners Trailer

George Alves provided background information on the Firewise Trailer. Tom Wehri expressed support in having Placer RCD house the trailer and that it could be a useful addition to the Chipper Program. Claudia Smith requested information about insurance, liability and fees to be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.

d) Placer Sierra Fire Safe Council Outreach Grant

Sarah Jones reported meeting with Mark D'Ambrogi with the Placer Sierra Fire Safe Council. Mark asked the District to be the fiscal sponsor for a grant they received. George Alves had the same request for the Greater Lincoln Fire Safe Council grant. Claudia Smith suggested putting together an MOU with the administration fee details. Tom Wehri moved for the District to facilitate coordination as fiscal agent for grants awarded to the Placer Sierra Fire Safe Council and the Greater Lincoln Fire Safe Council and look into development of an MOU. Steve Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

e) Nomination/Election of Board Officers

Tom Wehri moved for Claudia Smith, Steve Jones and Christine Johnson to remain as officers. Mica Heilmann seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

f) North Fork American River Shaded Fuel Break

Sarah Jones shared that the North Fork American River Shaded Fuel Break is 75% completed. There is road work that needs to be done. CAL FIRE may ask to increase the Sac Headquarters contract by \$250,000 to support additional activities. Tom Wehri moved to approve this augmentation to the CAL FIRE Headquarters Contract. Patti Beard seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

b) Old Business:

a) No-Till Drill

Maddison Easley reported she is still receiving calls from landowners interested in use of a no-till drill and is looking for direction. Maddison suggested asking if we could use the NRCS Soils Health agreement for the purchase of the drill. Claudia Smith requested information on insurance, release of liability and fees to be reviewed at the next Board Meeting.

b) Credit Card Action

Sarah Jones stated she is waiting until the District has a positive balance before pursuing a District credit card.

c) Staff Reports

Sarah Jones reported Auburn Shaded Fuel Break Phase 1 is almost complete. Future Phases will be bid out. The District will submit a budget amendment to CAL FIRE. Sarah announced that she has had three positive meetings with the County regarding the Chipper Program. Sarah has submitted an application to Bear Corp for an intern.

Maddison Easley reported on a SLEWS event in Winters and a prescribed fire workshop.

Kate Espinola reported the FSTEP registration is open.

AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS REPORT

No report was given.

BOARD COMMITTEE/LIASON REPORTS

No report was given.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Tom Wehri reported that he met with the Deputy Director of the Forest Service while visiting Washington, D. C. with NACD. The USFS is emphasizing a watershed scale approach to land and natural resource management. The NACD Annual meeting is scheduled for February 7th in Las Vegas. Tom also mentioned decisions need to be made regarding SCRMC.

It was mentioned that the 700 Forms are due in April.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items to include: Cell Phone Policy, Firewise Partners Trailer, No-Till Drill Update, Update on Fire Safe Council Grants, and Staff Reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Steve Jones moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Tom Wehri seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:51 pm.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2020, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the RCD Conference room.