



"To protect, enhance, and support Butte County natural resources and agriculture by working with willing landowners and citizens through education, land management, and on-the-ground projects."

150 Chuck Yeager Way, Ste. A, Oroville, CA 95965 * (530) 693-3173 * bcrd@carcd.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Minutes

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: No physical location

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY PROCEDURES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: Pursuant to California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, **the Butte County Resource Conservation District will be closing the June 18, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting to members of the public and nonessential District staff.** Additionally, members of the Board of Directors are allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference and to the same extent as if they were present.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the Board meeting in the following ways :

1. Remote Viewing

<https://zoom.us/j/321411651> (Meeting ID: 321 411 651) OR use
One tap mobile: +16699006833, then enter 321411651#

2. Public Comment

Public Comment can also be submitted anytime via email at bcred@carcd.org . Every effort will be made to provide Board Members with your comments before the agenda item is heard. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** Dave Lee, President:
- 2) **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Directors **Dave Lee** (Chair), **Allen Harthorn** (Vice chair), **Colleen Hatfield**, **John Christofferson**; Associate Director **Mike Crump**; District Manager **Thad Walker**; Staff **Wolfy Rougle** and **Tim Keesey**
- 3) **REVISIONS TO AGENDA** (only emergency situations requiring the need to take immediate actions may be added as action items pursuant to Gov. code 549954.2(b))
- 4) **PUBLIC COMMENT** (on non-action items)
 - (1) (3 min. limit per speaker/topic, 15 minutes/person/meeting total)
 - (2) *Public comment is encouraged. Any member of the public may address the Board with any comment related to the Resource Conservation District's areas of concern. However, no action can be taken by the Board on such items at this current meeting. The Board may direct staff to agendaize such items for consideration at a future meeting.*
 - (3) **Please note that all action items will have time set aside for public comment prior to the vote occurring. After a motion is made and seconded by two BCRC D Directors, the Chair will first ask for any further discussion from the Directors and Associate Directors and then Chair will open up the item for brief public comment limited to 2 minutes/person. After the public comment period closes a vote will be held.*
- 5) **CONSENT AGENDA:** Project Updates (see board packet).
- 6) **ACTION ITEMS** –
Dave Lee, President
 - a) Review and approval of the minutes of the BOD meeting held 9/15/2020 – John moved,

Colleen seconded to approve; motion passed unanimously.

- b) Review and approval of the minutes of the Special BOD meeting held 9/24/20 John moved, Allen seconded to approve; motion passed unanimously.
- c) Review and approval of accounts payable and financials- Colleen Hatfield – John asked when the SWRCB invoice for \$166,000 might be approved; Thad said they usually pay within 60 days. On the Woody Nelson CFIP project, Board discussed paying RPF Phil Nemir's outstanding \$927 bill before final payment is received from CAL FIRE. Tim noted Phil will need to sign off on the final plan, and John noted the RCD needs to meet its obligations to contractors. This contract says payment within 30 days. John moved, Allen seconded to pay the outstanding bills including Phil Nemir's; motion passed unanimously.

Board discussed how Dixie Rd project is delayed because FRRD is still closed, even though Dixie Rd project is not in North Complex burn footprint.

For SDRMA insurance claim (due first week of Nov but Colleen will ask for grace period), Colleen needs to obtain all bank statements/records from 2017. She needs to create a crosswalk between the BOD meeting budget reports, USBank, and what was erroneously charged. RCD is still seeing erroneous charges on its USBank card but it is difficult to tell if RCD is truly responsible for these charges or if the former DM may have covered them on her own. Colleen asked Board for permission to spend some money on the bank records. Dave responded that this is an operating expense the RCD needs to incur. John moved, Allen seconded to have Colleen move forward with procuring the bank records as necessary. Motion passed unanimously. Tim wanted to add that Colleen may also want to get the records for the County Treasury acct that RCD had at the time.

Audit – Auditor's report should be received in the next couple of weeks and addressing it will need to be on agenda for Nov meeting. If timing works out, possibly will be an item on early Nov special meeting agenda instead (see project updates below).

- d) Resolution for BCRCB Representative Delegate for CARCD vote- Thad Walker/ Colleen Hatfield – Now that we are a full dues-paying member of CARCD, we have a vote at the business meeting, to be held virtually on Nov 12, 2020. Resolution is requested to specify a Director who can cast a vote on behalf of BCRCB. John moved, Allen seconded to approve and have Dave sign resolution 10202020 appointing Colleen as voting on BCRCB's behalf. Motion passed unanimously.
- e) Agreement with Chico Traditional Ecological Stewardship for BCFSC-funded Forest Health Handbook work - Wolfy Rougle – John moved, Allen seconded, to approve the agreement; motion passed unanimously.
- f) Agreement with AF (American Forests) for hardwood seedlings to give away to landowners - Wolfy Rougle. Colleen moved, Allen seconded that we sign the grant agreement with American Forests. Motion passed unanimously.
- g) Lone Tree Road Restoration Project- Bid Review/ Award - Thad Walker. This was the first CalRecycle grant we applied for, originated and managed by Shepard. We have received 2 bids but neither was contractor holds a B Contractors' license, which was the only acceptable license the bid packet had specified. Therefore, we have had no eligible bidders for the project at this time. We have the option to rebid the project with different language (no longer requiring a B license but possibly specifying some other required license). Dave said that either a B contractor or a licensed fencing contractor should be able to take on a project of this nature. Thad mentioned that several A contractors with hazardous waste disposal experience had also reached out about the package, but Dave was unsure most A contractors would likely have all the needed equipment for the job. John moved, Allen seconded to re-issue the bid package with acceptable licenses to be selected by Dave. Motion passed unanimously. Mike Crump recommended Dave restrict the bidding to 2 or 3 acceptable license types.
- h) DWR SWEEP Agreement Extension with CARCD- Thad Walker – Agreement will be extended for 1 year, however we have not received the updated agreement to sign yet; item tabled to next meeting.

- i) Review of BCRCO Conflict of Interest Code- Thad Walker – RCD is required to review (although not necessarily update) its conflict of interest code biannually. The relevant section of code is excerpted in this month’s board packet for Board review. John asked Thad to create an Appendix A (referenced in the code but missing) which lists current Directors; then the Board can approve the conflict of interest code at the November meeting. John also recommended the Board respond to Bruce Alpert’s letter dated June 12, 2020 explaining that the code is under review by the code reviewing body and will be finalized at the Nov 17 meeting.
- j) CARCO Virtual Conference, November 12th-24th, Staff and Director Attendance- Thad Walker. This year the conference is just \$95/person. Colleen moved that the Board fund each staff member as well as the AmeriCorps member to attend. Allen seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- k) Revised Independent Contractor Agreement Template - Thad Walker – This agreement, discussed at previous meetings, now incorporates all the changes made. DM requested Board adoption of this document as the RCD’s official independent contractor template. Board discussed some of the language about payment. Mike mentioned the agreement would be clearer if, in the section 17 (B) discussing termination by consultant, instead of referring to payment as set forth in Exhibit B, the language referred back to item 5 in the main contract. Item 5 itself allows for an exception to be stated in Exhibit B. Motion to adopt the agreement template (with that change) passed unanimously.
- l) Next Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday, November 17

7) RCD PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

a) Update – See staff updates in BOD packet. RiverPartners will finish **Brayton** tree removal by the end of this week, then burning can commence after a month; PWA has completed a good amount of work on the **North Complex BMPs** and culvert repairs; **City of Chico VFMP** will not receive an extension but BCRCO and City will try to negotiate for a scope change; **Dome Trail** area was heavily impacted by North Complex but we don’t know if the stairs burned. **Granite Basin:** To finish a CEQA document by the end of the year, the draft CEQA document needs to be finished and released for public comment by Nov 6th. Due to SHPO delays in providing needed tribal consultation info to RCD, without which Tim can’t complete the draft, Tim is requesting a special meeting to approve a draft CEQA document for Granite Basin in the last week of October or first week of November. Tim proposes a special meeting on November 4, 5 or 6. Dave requested Tim keep him in the loop and they can always schedule an evening meeting with 72 hours’ notice. **DOC-WC:** Grant timeline is likely to be extended 1 year. 2 of 3 WCB grants staff submitted in July were successful; staff also submitted a WCB grant for Butte Creek House and an SNC grant to complete NEPA specific to the Colby recreational project. **EFRP/AFF:** Archaeologist is working on the SHPO compliance portion. Some delays due to North Complex/air quality. AFF has provided a forester named Evan to expedite the project, and Tim, Ben and Evan have been going out as a team to do plots. There is some impetus to start doing outreach to North Complex affected landowners through AFF agreement, which goes through 2021. There is a big push to get EFRP plots done very quickly so we can do a lot of implementation (clearing, followed by planting) in late winter/early spring 2021. Therefore, AFF has been mostly on hold while we push through on EFRP. **Cottonwood:** Tim noted RCD may need to talk to Myron about signing up for EQIP and getting control of the increasing star thistle and goatgrass infestations. RCD is not really supposed to be doing the treatment, just the monitoring. Dave invited Tim to join him in contacting Myron and explaining the needs to him. The sooner the better, as the next EQIP batching period will be coming up soon.

8) PARTNERS’ REPORTS (5 minute limit per group)

- a) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- b) Butte County departments
- c) Community groups and agencies – Friends of Butte Creek is hosting its first ever *virtual* Wild and Scenic Film Festival, premiering on Nov 20. Once attendees buy their ticket, they can view the films anytime between Nov 20 and Nov 26th (which is Thanksgiving Day). Details are posted at buttecreek.org.

9) CLOSED SESSION – Directors only

a) Personnel Discussion

10) BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Butte County RCD Directors and Associate Directors are welcome to report. Dave reported that he will soon visit the Supervisor from District 4 about installing a fifth Director. Dave requested Colleen and/or Thad join him for that meeting to explain why the RCD is important and what it does.

Colleen reported that Regional Fall Meeting is this week and Colleen will send all Directors the Zoom link and agenda. Thad will attend as well.

11) **ADJOURNMENT** – John moved for adjournment at 10:31, Colleen seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 10:36.

***NOTE:** The Butte County Resources Conservation District (BCRCD) distributes its Board meeting agendas electronically at least 24 hours in advance of meetings. If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the email list, please notify the Butte County RCD at (530) 534-0112, ext. 122 or by email to: bcrd@carcd.org. The BCRCD also publicly posts notice and agenda of meetings 72 hours in advance of meetings at the Butte County RCD office located at 150 Chuck Yeager Way, Suite A, Oroville, CA. **Reasonable Accommodations:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Butte County RCD Manager at (530) 534-0112, ext. 122.*

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