



*"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."*

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Minutes

**Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022**

**Time: 9:00 AM**

**Location: Klamath Conference Room  
202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, CA 95965**

### Or Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85961204034?pwd=UjNORGpQMmRxTGJENetiV2Z4QzBPZz09>

**Meeting ID: 859 6120 4034**

**Passcode: 555329**

**Join via phone +1 408 638 0968**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Dave Lee, President – 9:05 am
2. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** Chair Dave Lee, Directors John Christofferson, Colleen Hatfield, Samantha Lewis; Associate Director Mike Crump; District Manager Thad Walker, staff Wolfy Rougle, Dallas Koller, Cameron Musser. Director Lewis introduced herself: She is a 6<sup>th</sup>-generation Butte County farmer, her family having planted almonds in 1867; Supervisor Kimmelshue asked her to serve on the BCRCB board to advance several conservation projects which are part of the groundwater sustainability plan she's been involved in developing, for the Vina Sub-basin, under SGMA.
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)) - **None**
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 BCRCB 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.*

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a) Teleconferencing Requirements of the Brown Act AB 361 BCRCB Resolution 01202022 Extension
- b) Review and approval of the minutes of the BOD meeting held 3/17/2022 – John moved, Colleen seconded; motion to approve minutes passed with all directors voting yes except Samantha Lewis abstaining, as this is her first meeting as a board member.

#### **5. ACTION ITEMS – Dave Lee, President**

- a) Review and approval of Financials/ Accounts Payable- Colleen Hatfield. 2<sup>nd</sup> page shows deposits that have come in since end of previous month; below that is expenses. Colleen commented that the increasing volume of pass-through now reflected in each monthly A/P is the reason our annual insurance premium has gone up. John moved to pay the A/P as written, Colleen seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- b) SDRMA Property/ Liability Early Budget Estimates- Colleen Hatfield – This year, our annual premium has increased again but not as much as last year. The increase is attributable to our growth (in pass-through; in complexity; in number of employees; etc.). We can shop around for new insurance if the Board wants but might not get a better deal; SDRMA has always been prompt and responsive and their premium is not really out of line with other Districts' experience. Informational item only.
- c) 401k application with TransAmerica update -Thad Walker – Last month, Board approved this option to satisfy the State's new 401(k) requirement, rather than going with the State option. Due to high volume of applications, TransAmerica is still processing ours but it should be finished by the June deadline.
- d) Review of Audit of Financial Statements: fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 - Colleen Hatfield – John moved to adopt the audit prepared by LSL with cover letter dated 2/27/2022; Colleen seconded; motion passed unanimously. Additionally, Colleen shared she is developing the RFP for our next audit (July 2019-June 2021, with the option to also contract for the following 2 years through 6/2023). She has been deliberating between 2 formats available to her. She has selected the simpler (less detailed) format. Mike agreed her choice could result in getting better information from firms as they are forced to submit proposals within a looser framework. The deadline for proposals will be June 1, 2022.
- e) Letter providing information to lawmakers re impacts of AB 1717 - Wolfy Rounge – John moved to have Dave sign the letter and send to James Gallagher;

Samantha seconded; motion passed unanimously.

- f) CARCD sign on letter for support of AB 1902, Capacity Building funds and revisions to Division 9- Colleen Hatfield – Division 9 of the CA Public Resources Code hasn't been updated in 50 years, and RCDs' work has grown exponentially since then. Some kind of update is critically needed. The proposed revisions (which were originally developed in 2020 but delayed due to COVID) would expand the language to cover the full scope of what RCDs can do; retains accountability to LAFCOs; and provides better flexibility to do work across county boundaries. Some RCDs have developed a "counter-proposal" critical of some aspects of the revision; for example, they argue it could give LAFCOs new and unreasonable power over RCDs, and creates an unfunded responsibility to develop a 5-year plan. Colleen requested all Board members read both the proposed revisions and the counterpoint and return to address this matter next month. Colleen moved to table until next month; John seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- g) Agreement with Plumas Corp for wetland delineation survey and report for Butte Creek House Meadow Restoration- Thad Walker - John made some global comments about all the contracts that are on the agenda right now. First, all contracts should specify a date of completion (using the language "work **shall** be completed by") and specify a consequence if that completion date is not reached. Second, mileage costs should always say "current IRS rate" to allow it to float at whatever the actual rate is when work is being done. Also, contractors should provide timesheets stating date of work done, hours, type of work done, and location (this stipulation might best be added to the standard contract template by expanding item 5). Board suggested these changes be made to each contract on the agenda today and each be tabled until a special meeting next week. Colleen moved to table the Plumas Corps item; John seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- h) Agreement with Alta Archaeological Consulting LLC for Phoenix VMP and Loafer Creek LLC -Dallas Koller – Alta's was the lowest bid for both projects and was approved by Alden Neel, resource manager at BLM, who spoke highly of Alta. John moved to table the item until exhibits A and B are amended. Samantha seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- i) Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) with Plumas National Forest for Concow Resilience Project - Wolfy Rougle and Cameron Musser. John moved to approve; Colleen seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- j) Agreement with Solano Archaeological Services LLC for Cultural Resource Survey/ Report for Upper Butte Creek Forest Health NEPA - Wolfy Rougle. Clarify that drive time rate applies the same regardless of staff qualification. State that mileage "will be paid at the standard IRS rate". Also, change language to emphasize that slopes over 35% will not be surveyed because they don't legally need to be surveyed, not exclusively because of safety concerns. RCD will add disclaimers to maps stating that data is approximate and field verification is the responsibility of the contractor. John moved to table, Colleen

seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- k) Agreements with Mathews & Associates and with Sequoia Ecological Services for Wildlife Survey/ Report for Upper Butte Creek Forest Health NEPA - Wolfy Rouble – Sequoia – Change should to shall; apply other global comments; move “no work can be billed after” should be moved closer to “shall be completed by”. Sequoia: John moved to table; Samantha seconded; motion passed unanimously. Mathews: John moved to table; Colleen seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- l) 2022 Agreement Extension and SPAs with CSU Enterprises for natural resources project assistance (botany and forest stand exams for Upper Butte Creek Forest Health NEPA) - Wolfy Rouble -- John moved to accept (noting that the extension has a “shall be completed” date, which he praised) with the modification that we should add mileage. Motion passed unanimously.
- m) Next Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, May 19th, 2022 at 9:00 AM, Location: Klamath Conference Room 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville, CA 95965

## **6. RCD PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS**

a) Staff Updates – Colleen asked that each project in Project Updates show date grant expires, total grant amt, amt and % expended to date. In the Upper Butte Creek project, forest stand exam sites will need to be accessed by re-using older skid roads that in many cases can only be access with a 4wd truck with good clearance – and a chainsaw. Staff discussed the benefits of purchasing (or leasing?) a bare-bones truck that can carry crews to the sites they need to access.

## **7. PARTNERS’ REPORTS ( 5 minute limit per group)**

a) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) – Dan Taverner – NRCS has a lot going on; new biologist Lilly Trejo; forestry intern will be starting June 3<sup>rd</sup>; a previous soil conservationist position will be backfilled; and a Healthy Soils position is likely to be filled soon too (hopefully). We will need to review our vehicle agreement, but Dan hopes we can do that in June.

b) Butte County departments

c) Community groups and agencies

## **8. CLOSED SESSION – Directors only**

a) Personnel Discussion -

## **9. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS**

a) Butte County RCD Directors and Associate Directors are welcome to report

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**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](mailto: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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