

Minutes of the Calaveras Resource Conservation District (RCD)
Board Meeting
August 10, 2017
Board of Supervisors Chambers
891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA

Call to Order: Meeting opened by R. Dean-President @ 6:13 pm

Board Members Present: R. Dean-President, T. Sullivan-Vice President, G. Long-Secretary, K. Hafley, F. Schabram, M. Robie

Board Members Absent: N. Valente

Others Present: Kevin Wright-Ag Commissioner, Jason Linderman-NRCS on behalf of Bobette Parsons, M. Cole-minute-taker

Pledge of Allegiance

General Public Comment: Jason Linderman reviewed Bobette Parsons' submitted USDA-NRCS Report of August 2017. B. Dean asked the board if they would like the NRCS to give a presentation of new programs available for next year. It was agreed the idea was good and asked Mr. Lindeman to pass the request on to Ms. Parsons. It was determined that the applicant would be an individual (rather than the RCD) that we can find and help through the work process. Kevin Wright spoke that the 2016 crop report is almost complete. Beef prices are down. Timber is up a little. It will include cannabis since the time it became a legal crop. After some discussion, it was determined that a full discussion needs to be added to an agenda regarding cannabis clean-up.

Regular Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Minutes. Board Action – T. Sullivan made motion to approve, F. Schabram second. On a 6-0-1 vote, minutes were approved.
2. Ad hoc committees.
 - a) Water and Soil - M. Robie reported the fish numbers are way down, specifically trout in the lower Calaveras. Information only.
 - b) Forestry & Habitat – T. Sullivan reported there is a CDF grant available in September for fuel break work in Murphys. He is still trying to contact Fire Safe Council. He will attend their meeting next week. Tim Tate of SPI would like to attend our meetings. G. Long added he has been approved for a grant from California Deer Association to do a study of how the cannabis growing has effected the deer herds. Information only.
 - c) Governance – B. Dean has switched insurance providers since the previous failed to produce needed documents for him. CSDA will be the new carrier.
3. Tier 1 Accreditation –This is on hold due to staff changes. Information only.
4. SNC Grant Writing Class – B. Dean and T. Sullivan participated and thought it was very useful. B. Dean is collecting names to sign-up for the next class, probably to be held in October.

5. Establishing a Water Quality Project – B. Dean is looking for board agreement on whether or not they would like to start a project on monitoring water quality of our waterways. If we do the testing, we will need to obtain a few supplies to add to what B. Dean already has available. It was noted that some of the waterways are already being tested by other agencies so we would just need to collect their data. K. Wright suggests we be careful to not alienate the cattle ranchers by suggesting they are the cause of any found pollution. But to do a thorough testing and research before making a determination. G. Long will ask his contact with the marijuana research to share their testing protocols with us. It was noted that Central Valley Salts has been looking at nitrate and salt levels in the rivers so we should check with them for their data. There was more discussion on a range of water quality issues. M. Robie would like to see some guidelines and parameters be written for us to follow. He agreed to work with B. Dean to write these.

Motion was made to start preparing a water quality program to be brought to another board meeting for a discussion and vote. Motion made by K. Hafley, T. Sullivan second. On a 6-0-1 vote, motion was approved.

6. Acquire CCWD Building: B. Dean read the CCRCDD resolution to buy the building from CCWD for \$1. (in part: . . . NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the CCRCDD Board of Directors hereby authorizes the purchase of the above named parcels (APNs 042-035-016-000, 042-035-012-000, 042,035-003-000) for the negotiated price of one (\$1.00) dollar in “as is” condition as stated in the CCWD Purchase Agreement. . .) K. Hafley suggests having a board meeting with Calaveras County CAO Tim Lutz to confirm what commitment the County will make to us with regard to needed building renovations. B. Dean agreed to setup this meeting. It was suggested we make a list of potential tenants and rent amounts we should charge each. Figures from \$0 to below market rate were suggested.

Motion was made to send resolution to CCWD as written. Motion made by K. Hafley, T. Sullivan second. On a 6-0-1 vote, motion was approved.

7. Board Member Reports: K. Hafley thanked B. Dean for his work on obtaining the CCWD building. A suggestion for a name is Calaveras Natural Resources Building. Information only.

Adjournment of meeting. Motion to close monthly meeting of the Calaveras RCD initiated by B. Dean, 2nd by T. Sullivan. Motion carries on a 6-0-1 vote. Meeting adjourned @ 7:30 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm, October 12, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Attest:

President Robert Dean _____

Secretary Gordon Long _____