

Fall River Resource Conservation District

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM

At the RCD Office Building in McArthur

Establish Quorum: Bill Buckman [X], Clay Jacobson [X], Chuck Macfarlane [X]
Don Martin [], Pat Oilar [], Dan Klatt [X] Chris Christofferson []

Staff: Sharmie Stevenson [X], Todd Sloat [], Garrett Costello [], Julie Allen [X]

Guest: None

Call Meeting to Order 7:32 PM

Public Comment –None

New Business

Strategic Planning & Project Prioritization – Tabled to next meeting, this is specific to grant funds and projects.

PG&E Water Agreement –Tabled to next meeting.

OPR Match Funding Request – Tabled to next meeting.

Personnel Evaluations – Tabled to next meeting.

Removal of old building next to office – There was discussion an Julie will contact Pat to see what his timeline is and talk to Seth Britten for a price if Pat cannot get to it.

Ag Unit Grazing Lease Proposal – Sharmie read Jim Rickert proposal and there was discussion. Jim will be invited to the August meeting for further discussion. No hunting/No trespassing signs were discussed and Julie will post some.

Ag Unit Farming Lease Proposal – Clay mentioned that Corder’s are interested in farming the property. There was discussion and they will be invited to the August meeting to present their proposal.

Fall River Lake Water Discussion – There was discussion on the possibility of using water from Fall River Lake but due to the fact that there are no water rights the possibility is not likely that PG&E will allow it. There was discussion on drilling a well on the Ag Unit. It will be placed on the August agenda.

Resolution 2021-03 for the CEQA NOE for the IMF project. M/S/C Clay/Chuck to sign the resolution. Roll Call Vote: Clay, yes, Chuck, yes, Dan, yes. Bill, yes. Sharmie will take it to Shasta County and file it.

Old Business

Office Remodel – Sharmie told the Board that she had contacted JJ Newton Engineering in Redding and they gave a bid of \$5,600 for the engineered plans. Shasta Co. is also requiring energy calcs and those will be done by a different firm at a cost of \$1,000. M/S/C Dan/Clay to proceed with both.

Ag Discussion – Farming Fields Future Plans –Julie told the board that she and Pat had been all over out at the Swamp and made some recommendations for where farming might be considered. She had the map marked and there was discussion of crops, pivots, flood irrigation, etc. Sharmie will contact Duane Conner to see if he might be able to attend a meeting soon and discussion locations for drilling. There was discussion on the 2 artesian wells and Clay will take a sample

to see what is in the water. Julie will contact the County and DWR to see if there are well logs or any information. Julie also told the board that according to the easement, we are allowed to farm 20% under Ag intensification which equates to 900 acres and grass hay does not count against that total. The only stipulation is that we have to make sure we improve the grazing so as not to lose any AUM's for the grazing license.

McArthur Bioenergy Facility location – Sharmie told the board that she, Todd, Julie, and an attorney we are working with discussed the facility location and Julie showed the board where it would be located on the map. The roughly 5-10 acres needed could be the ground that is mostly un-usable right off of Rat Farm Road where grazing is inefficient and no impact on the Swamp would occur. There is to be a follow up call with the team before the August 2nd call with DU to move forward on the request. Sharmie told the board the importance of securing the facility due to the fact that without the SC funds the RCD would be operating at a \$10,000 loss for last year's income to expense ratio and this year is worse.

SC Phase IV Funding – Sharmie told the Board that the Phase IV funding had been approved at the SC Board meeting and is as follows: \$597,750.00 total funding. Development of Water Delivery System (2 Ag Wells) \$400,000. Pivot System \$158,750. Cattle Exclusion Fencing \$34,000.

Consent Calendar

Minutes June 15, 2021 Regular Meeting

Expenditures 6/16/21 to 7/20/21 – Sharmie passed out the reports and bank statements - M/S/C Clay/Chuck to approve the consent calendar and financial reports as presented.

Executive Directors report:

Memorial Sign at Gun Club Property – Sharmie told the board that the sign has been ordered and she asked if a dedication ceremony could take place during the last few weeks of August when Mike's wife would be available to attend. The board agreed that a dedication would be good. Sharmie will make the arrangements.

IRWM – Inter. Mtn. Fair Project – Sharmie gave an update on status and the project. Mapping is being completed, banner sign is ordered, agreement was finally received, CEQA is completed, and the Engineer will begin to develop design in AutoCAD.

Sharmie gave an update on the Planning commission meeting regarding the windmill project. She phoned in 3 times and was not allowed to present, she was told that comments for would not be heard until approximately 9 pm. She contacted Mary Rickert to express her dis-pleasure with the process as it seemed very one sided.

SHARE Hunts – The contract has been received and Bill signed and returned it.

LAFCO – Pat had asked Sharmie to check in to the LAFCO bill. She contacted LAFCO and presented some information to the board, apparently they are allowed to charge all special districts that receive tax dollars and they charge the RCD 1% of the tax revenue annually. There was discussion and Bill asked Sharmie to find out if the RCD building could be annexed into the District and to find out why it is not in the District.

Gun Club Lawsuit – Sharmie met with John Funk to discuss the upcoming law suit. She reported to the Board what was discussed regarding mediation, court hearing, and claims.

Sharmie also told the board that she had contacted the insurance provider and they provided a written statement that horseback riding can occur on RCD property but it would be a good idea for waivers and signage notifying riders that they do so at their own risk. She also got an answer on CEQA and farming, no CEQA is required to farm.

Range Managers Report:

Hunting Blinds – Julie is still pursuing the blinds, many of them are over the budget. Dan told her that Hugh Williams has 2 steel 2-man blinds for sale.

Grazing Season – As of the meeting the RCD has revenue of \$26,000 but Julie is not certain that the feed will hold out until the end of the season.

DU Well – She updated the board on the PG&E engineering to determine the cost of the panel and DU is looking into costs for underground power.

Water Troughs – Julie showed the board a picture of one of the troughs that is nearing completion. Expected to have all completed by Sept 30th.

Corrals – She told the board the corrals are nearly complete with just a few issues that have been resolved.

M/S/C Clay/Chuck to Adjourn: 9:20 pm

Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday –August 17, 2021 --Beginning at 7:00 PM