

# Fall River Resource Conservation District

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 19, 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 [ X ]

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

Guest: John Funk and Dale Dunsweiler

**Call Meeting to Order 7:35 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.

Personnel Evaluations – Tabled to next meeting.

Gun Club lawsuit settlement, lease evaluation, red flag warnings, future road maint., other uses of property, communication – John told the board that the lawsuit has been settled out of court. There was discussion on red flag warning days and it was decided that if the HCRPC posts that their range is closed due to red flag warnings that no other events will occur on the property. There was discussion on the road maintenance John told the board that the HCRPC wants to retain rick of access but does not want to have any road maintenance due to the other uses on the property. The board agreed that they would not leave the HCRPC with all of the road maintenance responsibility but felt that other uses would be extremely minimal with the exception of the equipment that would be removing trees and brush for fire safety from the range itself. There was discussion that the tree removal could begin in a couple of weeks and the work is being done by BZB Logging. There was discussion about communication as the HCRPC was not informed about the Pit River Pioneers using the property for the Rendezvous.

Employee Benefits – Sharmie reported that the least expensive health insurance that she could find was through SDRMA which is where the RCD is insured for liability and worker's comp. The issue with the insurance is that you need two full time employees to qualify. There was discussion on the possibility of paying a stipend for insurance as well. The board requested that this item remain on the agenda for discussion next month.

Cash Reserve Policy – Sharmie told the board that she had some information from Butte Valley RCD regarding establishing a cash reserve policy to help with the justification of the indirect charges. Butte RCD send her their policy and the one they received from Yolo RCD. Sharmie will send the policy she created to the board for review prior to the next meeting and leave it on the agenda for future discussion and action.

Increase employee hours – Sharmie told the board that she had met with Don, Bill, Todd at Don's request to discuss the future of the RCD. At that meeting there was discussion regarding increasing Julie's hours to full time. Todd and Sharmie have discussed using Julie to help with some of the CCI tasks and can probably give her 10-15 hrs per week. Chris asked Sharmie to prepare something for next month's meeting to show what the financial obligation would be to increase Julie's hours. Item will be left on the agenda.

Hire WUI Coordinator – Sharmie presented the idea of hiring a coordinator under the Cal Fire grant. This person would be full time and would be under the direction of both Todd and Sharmie to perform tasks under the grant agreement. The board was hopeful to have Todd weigh in on the discussion before making a decision. This will be left on the agenda.

Snake Pond Project – Julie presented a potential walking trail project to the board that would border the piece of property along McArthur road. The trail would leave the fairgrounds and end at the pump house creating a 2.3 miles walk one way. Julie would find and write a grant to pay for the project. There was discussion and the board decided that the decision regarding farming i.e. where and what need to happen prior to this project. Julie will put this on hold for discussion at a later date. There was also discussion on ground leveling and Earth Imaging surveys to look for underground water. Julie will get more specific info and report back at the next meeting. M/S/C Dan/Clay to move forward with the discovery of information from the Earth Imaging.

### **Old Business**

McArthur Swamp Future Plans – Tabled to next meeting.

McArthur Bioenergy Facility location – Sharmie told the board that DU had sent a letter denying the request for the Bioenergy facility citing that they could not amend the easement for this sort of project. Sharmie presented an idea that she and Todd have discussed with regard to the visitor center. There is a grant opportunity for funding and the visitor center could be morphed into a wood utilization campus. Sharmie read the letter that she prepared for DU for approval to construct such a facility. The board agreed to investigate the possibilities and report back.

### **Consent Calendar**

Minutes September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting

Expenditures 9/22/21 to 10/19/21 – Sharmie passed out the reports and bank statements - M/S/C Chris/Clay to approve the consent calendar and financial reports as presented.

### **Executive Directors report:**

IRWM – Inter. Mtn. Fair Project – Sharmie gave an update on status and the well can be drilled at any time. Sharmie told the Board that the HVAC contractor and Aaron were in the office on the weekend of the 9<sup>th</sup> to get details of the system to the engineer for the county permit.

Sharmie told the board that there were 27 interested parties for the duck blind and that the RCD was paid \$4,000 for the seasonal blind lease. Julie commented that 25 were locals.

Sharmie relayed information about the upcoming Board of Supervisor’s meeting for the windmill project. ConnectGen had asked Sharmie to participate in a commercial and they are asking if any of the board members might call in and make a statement in support of the project. The director’s present declined, Sharmie will contact those that were absent and inquire.

### **Range Managers Report:**

Julie reported that the Water Troughs are 70% complete.

She also told the board that the corrals are finished.

Julie is anticipating that all cows will be off of the swamp on Nov 12<sup>th</sup> and income for this season will still be approximately \$35,000.

PG&E told Julie that they can’t get out to the swamp until sometime in Dec/Jan which is a 6 month delay for the power lines for the DU well. There was discussion on the DU project.

**M/S/C Clay/Chuck to Adjourn: 10:02 pm**

**Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday –November 16, 2021 --Beginning at 7:00 PM**