

WSRCD Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 27, 2017, 5:39 PM – 8:00 PM
6270 Parallel Road- Anderson, CA 96007-4833

Call to Order: 5:39 PM

Attendees:

WSRCD Board: Dennis Heiman (President), Ben Letton (Vice President), Elizabeth Betancourt (Director), Carl Weidert (Director), Phil Schoefer (Director), John Moore (Director), Alan Hill (Director)

WSRCD Staff: Chester Anderson (District Manager), Ali Warren (Fiscal Officer), Harmony Gugino (Project Manager), Sean Arnold (Clerk of the Board)

Other: Rob Rianda, Keith Hamblin

1. Additions/Changes to the Agenda: No changes to the agenda.

2. Public Comment Period: No members of the public addressed the board.

3. Review and approve minutes February Board Meeting

Betancourt (Motions) / Weidert (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

4. Correspondence: None presented.

5. SCF Update: None to report.

6. NRCS Report: No members present.

7. CARCD activities:

- (Schoefer) The CARCD Board will be meeting again in April.

8. District Manager's Report:

- (Gugino) N. Cypress restoration project held up will with high water. Seeing if river flushes out on its own or if they will need to get equipment in there. Bonnyview project is waiting on permits, so it will probably be in mid-April.
- (Letton) is very pleased with the website.
- (Anderson) had sent out an email about our workers availability and that is how Hat Creek folks learned about us.

9. Financials:

9.1 February & Year to Date Financials

- (Warren) Everything is in good shape but she and Susan Lloyd removed old bills from system that had doubtful accounts. A large gravel injection bill will be coming in next month. Budget adjustment to be approved next month.
- (Heiman) comments on how it is nice to see the RCD operating as a not-for-profit.
- (Warren) WSRCD endowment funds will be placed into Morgan Stanley.

Letton (Motions) / Hill (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

9.2 Endowments

- There is approximately a million dollars with Charles Schwab to be transferred to Morgan Stanley. A motion was made to place the financial committee and Anderson as signatories on the WSRCD Morgan Stanley account.

Betancourt (Motions) / Moore (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

10. Old Business:

10.1 Day in the District

- (Anderson) Day in the District to be held Wednesday, May 24th. He described plans and informed the Directors how a small grant through NRCS and CARCD had been received to help put this event on. It was suggested that we advertise the event to farmers and agency folks.
- (Letton) a lot of tours go out to Bar 11. It would be nice to have other tours.
- (Warren) a committee is of staff members are meeting regularly to develop the Day with one meeting scheduled for this Wednesday at 1 PM.

10.2 ILRP Discussion Update

- (Heiman) has had several meetings and has sent out emails on the Irrigated Land Regulatory Program.
- (Rianda) was brought in to help educate the board about the Irrigated Land Regulatory Program. He heads the Shasta-Tehama Watershed Education Coalition.
- (Schoefer) did not see any exemptions to the program.
- (Heiman) May be putting small operators out of business.
- (Rianda) If you file schedule F with the IRS, you must be part of the program.
- (Warren) Must also be commercial.
- (Betancourt) the issue is more about equity and clean water.
- (Heiman) They do not like the idea of being regulated.
- (Rianda/Hill) both point out how they do not want to deal with the paperwork.
- (Letton) Costs continue to rise and it has become something of principle. If your phone bill were to suddenly increase, you would look for a new carrier.
- (Rianda) goes over the basic requirements. They were originally looking for surface water, later went toward ground water, followed by nitrogen. After this, the summary reports then came. There is a lot of paperwork. The real coalition is all 13 watersheds in the Sac Valley. Shasta County primarily consists of range, pasture, and small hobby farmers. The responsibility falls to the landowner, even if they are leasing the property to another involved in commercial. But they can choose to designate the responsibility to the one running the operation.
- (Heiman) has anyone ever changed or improved management practices in response to this program? He cannot think of anyone.
- (Rianda) does not know how one would measure that, but believes it is making them think about what they are doing more.
- (Letton) It should be about water quality, but in a lot of cases is just about complying with the law.
- (Heiman) wants to make it clear that he recognizes there are still problems in this area however. He sees our role as being able to go to the agricultural community and offering an alternative. If they are doing great, then give them a seal of approval. But the feedback he has received is that would not be allowed.
- (Letton) This needs to go higher than the regional board.
- (Heiman) Recognizes that there is the state board and Brian Dahle, but wants to know whether or not they would have agricultural support first.
- (Betancourt/Letton) agree it would be best to contact Tam first, which is the liaison to the state board.
- (Heiman) plans to meet with Dan Marcum. He is reluctant to approach agricultural community until there is potential for something to happen.

- (Letton) shares enthusiasm for doing something, but wants to point out that we are not a big agricultural community.
- (Weidert) If you are going to go to legislation, pitch it as a pilot project.

11. New Business:

11.1 Resolution 17-03 Approve OHV Grant Application

- Two grant applications. One is for restoration planning and the other is for restoration work. This is the Bagley Butte area that had the fire and is within Forest Service area.

Betancourt (Motions) / Letton (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.2 Consent Agenda Policy

- It is determined that this will encompass the financials, district manager's report, correspondence, and planning referrals. They will need a more detailed DM report and a written financial report along with financials.

Moore (Motions) / Betancourt (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.3 Resolution 17-04 CARCD Capacity Building Grant, Relevant, Excellent, Visible (REV)

- (Warren) is ready to submit the DOC tonight. She presented the resolution to Directors. We are offering more match than is required. Match letter had to be changed and she read the new letter. Anything the board members engage in can be considered match and the DM sitting here speaking to them can also be applied as match.
- (Anderson) This is not a grant.
- (Rianda) his RCD is also applying for this funding.
- (Warren) any money we receive from them will be on a quarterly basis.

Schoefer (Motions) / Hill (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.4 Match Commitment Letter

- (Warren) reads updated copy.

Betancourt (Motions) / Moore (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.5 Public Records Request Policy

- (Warren) we are currently complying with our public records request, be we now have an actual policy.

Hill (Motions) / Letton (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.6 Volunteer Policy

- (Warren) We use volunteers on occasion, including interns and this covers them.

Letton (Motions) / Betancourt (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

11.7 Associate Director Policy

- This is an overview of requirements.
- If a vacancy opens on board, an associate director could fill position.
- Concerns were expressed on the 2 year limit, but it was noted that was not necessary.
- The board chooses to remove the limit and they choose to have associate directors receive all the same trainings as the directors.

Letton (Motions) / Schoefer (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

12. Set next meeting date

- Monday, April 24, 2017 / 5:30 PM

Adjourn: 8:00 PM

Schoefer (Motions) / Hill (2nd) / Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Arnold, Clerk of the Board