

Meeting Minutes for: Thursday, May 11 2023, from 4pm to 5:15pm
In Person Meeting

Raley's Conference Room: 40041 CA-49 #49, Oakhurst, CA 93644
Or join us via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86999943919?from=addon>

To receive documents provided to those in attendance at the board meeting, please email kayla.rohrbaugh@crccd.org with your request no later than 3pm the day before the meeting. Items provided to directors prior to the meeting will be emailed with the agenda to all recipients requesting to be on the distribution list.

4:00 Call to Order
4:01

Approval of the Agenda

Addition to agenda: board update under and savings account

Melissa and Lyndall approved agenda

Jay and Melissa and Lyndall approved Consent Agenda

Introductions

Online Attendees:

Melissa Disilva: Cheif of Staff Bobby McCauley

Mike Keyser – CalFire

Ashley Nebeker - FSC and CRCDD

Mira Dick - NRCS

Public Comment Please limit comments to 2 minutes

4:05

Consent Agenda

- Approval of the Minutes of April 13, 2023
- Financial report April 2023

4:10

Reports – Please limit to 5 minutes per organization

- NRCS – Mira Dick
 - Passed batching deadlines for this year, they are moving onto 2024 projects. Availability for us to join on projects. Money from tribal funds is coming through. Wondering what CRCDD wants from NRCS (does not want an official agreement) How can we team up? Jon said that this discussion would have to happen in depth later. Jon explained that we reached out to Dennis at NRCS about TA funds and Dennis said there wasn't a way to spend the funds. We need to figure out how to work on projects together on a larger scale. TA needs to be spent by June 2023, but we don't have a way to do that based on conversations between Jon and Dennis. Mira said that better outreach could be beneficial. CRCDD has been doing outreach but it's not funded through NRCS. Mira said that they are working with another crop field RCPP that do irrigation installation. It is difficult to get forestry projects done because we cannot have names of

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- property owners that need control burns. Jon asked if there is training available that would allow us to be more useful to NRCS (a topic for a later time).
- Result: Jon and Mira would like to meet up in the next week to discuss projects and partnerships further. Mira will send Jon an email to collaborate schedules.
 - *Julie asked if Aimee Cox would be a good person to bring into the conversation.
 - Madera Dept of Water Resources – Jeannie Habben
 - Madera County – Bobby Macauley
 - North Fork Rancheria - Mary Stalter
 - CALFIRE – Mike Keyser
 - Less money than expected, but all projects are funded.
 - Question from Jon: Confirmed that Mike got the correct CEQA documents on 5/10
 - CRCDD is Focusing on low-income homes for this project and offering free WFPA assessments
 - Erin is getting some funding for her project and CRCDD will be assisting her in her project and vice versa. Erins project is focusing on storm damage.
 - Mike cautioned about billing and invoicing and keeping track of contractors.
 - Question from Julie: When will CALFire call burn season end?
 - Depends on weather, a lot of CALFire burns will not happen due to ranchers not wanting them to burn the grass in cattle country.
 - HWY 41 burns will still be happening, but Mike doesn't know when.
 - Property owners still have some time to take care of burn piles – especially for properties above 3,000 ft
 - Mike recommended getting a residential burn permit and burning smaller piles.
 - Question from Ashley: Do people have to get the new permit if their permit is still valid? Can they burn through may with the paper permit?
 - CalFire is flexible and if the property owner is working within the parameters of one permit, they will be fine.
 - Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council – Ashley Nebeker
 - Working with the county on CAL OES hazard mitigation funds through FEMA. CAL OES wants FSC to work in disadvantaged areas. Working on creating fuel breaks (mostly above Oakhurst) and shaded fuel break from Road 619 to Road 628 & 620 over to 632 which is in vulnerable areas above Oakhurst.

- Creating shovel ready plans – will start breaking ground at the beginning of June.
- Education program: k-2 curriculum is complete, she reached out to MyClub and Ashley will be working with them to do a test run on curriculum.
 - Melissa said that NFS has 3 classes that could participate in the new curriculum, Kindergarten, K/1, and a ½
 - She led a table at Heritage games with Fire Safety information. She and Kayla led a game to teach kids the importance of being ready to go for fire season.
 - Will be creating swag bags for the program.
 - This program will be more in depth than other programs.
 - Will send K-2 curriculum to the CRCD board.
- Yosemite Sequoia RC & D – Erin Capuchino
- Firewise and Pollinator programs – Jon/Kelly (see attached documents)
 - Kelly approved 2 communities for FW titled Jean Road Loop and Meadow Springs which gives Coarsegold 800 acres of coverage. 3 more communities in the works. Chipping days are scheduled. Grant funds are being spent in FW communities. 5 community meetings in April and Kelly attended Earth Day. Will have 20 communities by next week. Title 3 Funds will be spent on existing projects. CRCD (Jon) Received a National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day proclamation on 5/6/23 issued by Madera County.
 - Takes 3-5 hours for an experienced person to complete an application and 3-year plan.
- Executive Director report – Jon (see attached Documents)
 - Everything is going well. C
 - CALFIRE: application was submitted and approved.
 - NACD: Quarterly reporting is complete; we will continue sharing EQIP program info at table events and to people that are interested or in need.
 - FW: Jon worked on outreach and worked with old communities that needed assistance.
 - Attended Legislative Walk to represent central valley – Jon spoke with 3 representatives.
 - Presented at Yosemite Democrats club and had a couple folks sign up
 - Attended Wasama and NF Earth Days
 - Jon and Kayla assessed a home in Bass Lake for WFPA
 - Working closely with Ashely on Kids Care Kids Can program
 - Working with YSRCD

- The plan to work around forest service land and FW communities were cut off on the Hazard Map
- Hosted Madera County Fire Prevention Meeting
 - We had 11 attendees including CALFire
- One Tree Planted: was a success – hosted tree planting event with 5th and 6th graders from NFS on J.B Thornberg’s property, Eric Palmer attended to speak on defensible space and helped plant trees. The trees were planted on a 5-acre section of the Thornberg property on the Fork Fire burn scar. We planted 450 trees that day and left Mr. Thornberg 225 more trees.
- Pollinator Block Grant: submitted report on 4/20/23
 - Xerces approved requested Kits and CRCDD will be working with YHS and NF private properties to receive kits and will be implementing them shortly.
 - A student from YHS has been working with Jon at NFS garden as a senior project.

4:55

Old Business

- Succession Planning and Personnel
 - Nancy McPherson has resigned from the board effective immediately.
 - Lyndall Erb is ready to join the board and complete necessary paperwork to officially join the board.
 - Will need a letter of recommendation from someone who does not live in a “donut hole” in our district.
 - Jon and Lyndall will communicate and find an individual that can write a letter of recommendation.
 - Board has approved Lyndall.
 - We will work on getting another board member to take Nancy’s spot.
- Payroll
 - Due to delays in response time from Teri, we are considering switching to Sierra Bookkeeping for payroll tasks. A meeting is scheduled with Teri next week to discuss options further.
- Kayla Rohrbaugh Evaluation
 - Jon and Julie have not scheduled an evaluation and will plan with the board to schedule an executive session to discuss the end of the probation period.
- Truck Financing
 - We are not able to finance the vehicle through this grant. We should have 30k in gen funds; we want to use 10-15k to purchase used vehicles. Jon, Kayla, and Melissa put together a list of used and new vehicles.
 - We will look at Costco to see if they have any deals on vehicles.

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- Board agreed to a 72-hour executive session in the event we find a truck.

5:10

New Business

- Correspondence and Bills
 - *No new correspondence*
 - Bills: paid OTP supplies/tools through OTP grant. Travel arrangements were reimbursed by CFSC, OTP and CFSC paid for shirts made by a local tee-shirt maker, and we ended up with more t-shirts and we got CRCD shirts.

5:15

Workshops / Events / Presentations

- Drought Workshop: May 19, 2023, 9:00am Zoom
 - May 21 there is a tour of the biomass facility in NF

Adjourn: Next Meeting June 8, 2023, 4:00pm in person and via Zoom

- **Adjourned at 5:32PM**