

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE YUBA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1:00 pm Wednesday August 7, 2019

To be held at the Sutter County Resource Conservation District Office
1511 Butte House Road, Suite C, Yuba City

A. ROLL CALL

Director Alyssa Lindman called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM at the Sutter County Resource Conservation District Office in Yuba City, CA.. Roll Call:

	Present	Absent	
Directors	Director Alyssa Lindman		
	Director Gary Fildes		
	Director Doug Neilson		

Others present: Charles Sharp (foothills resident), Stephanie Ratner (Sutter County RCD)

B. PUBLIC INPUT:

Stephanie Ratner clarified the purpose of the Sacramento Valley Region of RCD's MOU which sets forth how the regional RCDs can apply together for large grants. She provided copies of the MOU to the Board Members. YCRCD is currently not a signatory to that MOU but signing on is currently under discussion by YCRCD.

The annual meeting for the Sacramento Valley Region of RCDs will be held in the Fall timeframe. It is a one-day meeting and costs approximately \$20 to attend.

There was an extended discussion about which Regional RCD organization would be appropriate for YCRCD to be part of. Given the YCRCD's current emphasis on wildfire/fuels in the Yuba Foothills, the question was whether we would have more collaborative opportunities with a regional group of Sierra and Sierra Foothill RCDs instead of Valley RCDs. That said, we will continue discussing inclusion in the Sacramento Valley Region of RCD's MOU.

ACTION ITEMS

C. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Approval of **Minutes for Regular Board Meeting of July 11, 2019**

Director Fildes made a motion to approve the minutes. President Lindman seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

D. FINANCIAL REPORT:

1. Review of Cash on Hand for the period ending **July 31, 2019**

Director Fildes clarified that our Tier I requirement for an independent audit at the Federal level exempts us (<\$750K monies). We may still have a State requirement for an audit but Director Fildes has not heard back from the Controller's Office on that. Rather than trying to push the issue, he is giving the Controller whatever time they need to determine if we do indeed need an audit.

Director Neilson made a motion to approve the financial report. President Lindman seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION/REPORTS

E. SNC FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT PRE-PROPOSAL

There was a brief discussion of the pre-proposal created by Steve Andrews for us. He submitted it to SNC on August 5th. The pre-proposal asked for \$35K for Management and \$25K for admin in a total project cost of \$632K. We also briefly discussed what details would be needed if we are asked for a full proposal. A full proposal would be due in the October timeframe and we would work with Steve to hone in on detailed budget numbers that we are comfortable with. Any funded project wouldn't start until around June 2020 and run to 2024. We still need clarification on the long-term management of the project (extending past the end of the actual work), and whether we would be the responsible agency or not. At this point it appears we will be responsible for the financial aspects and not the long-term (10 years) monitoring to confirm that fuel reduction continues.

Another question concerns who checks that work being invoiced was actually performed. The implication is that each time we are invoiced by a landowner (every 2 months), we will need to visit the sight to confirm. Given the RCD's limited manpower, this would definitely be something we'd need to understand and plan for going into the project; and make sure our budget covers the actual costs.

F. RCD CAPACITY BUILDING – AUGUST 5th SNC CONFERENCE CALL

President Lindman and Director Fildes had a call with Alyssa Brown, Funding Development Coordinator at SNC. She is involved in capacity building, what the region was doing and what its needs are. YCRCD thought the call would be about the SNC fuels reduction proposal (Item E), but instead it was more focused on the capacity of our organization, our capacity dealing with other organizations, and building leadership. As she described it, she was interested in building capacity to implement forest health projects. There is an increasing interest by State agencies to build collaborative efforts with other agencies to tackle regional issues or issues involving specialized goals (e.g., forest health). Director Fildes was able to relay to her the special issues, and efforts currently going on in the foothills. It seemed that the phone call was a fact-finding effort to determine the issues and concerns of the foothills, what organizations/people were the key players, and whether and how much they were working together. Overall, they came away with a positive feeling about the call although, again, it wasn't the call they expected. A follow up phone call was promised by Alyssa.

G. AUDIT UPDATE

The audit update was covered in the Financial Report and nothing new was added.

H. DUES AND BILLS UPDATE

President Lindman said that she was having difficulty contacting some of the organizations that we need to pay dues to. She has been unable to contact the Sacramento Valley Region of RCDs, and she thought she had agreed with CARCD to waive our dues only to receive an invoice later. This is a work in progress. All the other organizations discussed in previous meetings have been taken care of.

I. REVIEW/STATUS OF TIER 1 SPECIAL DISTRICT REQUIREMENTS.

The only things left outstanding are the non-federal annual audit, and the BOE reporting requirements. The budget could also be an issue once we have an income/expense stream. Stephanie Ratner stated that Sutter County told the Sutter County RCD that they only need to do an audit once every three years because they handle less than \$100K yearly. We are waiting for the Yuba County Controller to get back to us on this. If we are awarded any of the grants we are applying (and then have a budget), we'll revisit this issue.

Director Neilson contacted the BOE but have not heard back.

Possible approval of our long-range plan will be taken up at next month's board meeting.

J. DIRECTOR'S INPUT

1. Consideration of agenda items for the next meeting.

Director Neilson talked to the IT Department and we are not considered to be a County organization, so access to the County web server is problematic. We are not part of the County's Enterprise organization either, so they would not be able to populate any new computer with County software. The IT representative will get back to him. Sutter RCD uses website.com for their website. Their domain cost \$49 and the website is about \$109 per year.

K. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business in front of the Board, President Lindman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Fildes seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.