

**PLACER COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Regular Meeting
November 17, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) Board was called to order by RCD Board Chair Tom Wehri at 4:02 p.m.

MEMBERS AND OTHERS PRESENT

Directors Present: Thomas (Tom) Wehri
Claudia Smith
Robert (Bob) Wiswell, Jr.
Steven (Steve) Garcia
Andrew (Dave) Funk
Robin Mahoney
Stanley MacDonald, Associate Director

Directors Absent: Scott Harvey

Others Present: Richard Gresham, District Manager
Mike Brenner, NRCS District Conservationist
Mark White, RCD Resources Management Planner
Katie Maloney, RCD Programs Manager

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Claudia Smith moved to approve the agenda as presented. Dave Funk seconded; motion carried unanimously.

GUESTS

Rui Cunha, Placer County Office of Emergency Services Program Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Bob Wiswell moved to approve the minutes of the RCD Board Meeting of October 27, 2009 as presented. Robin Mahoney seconded; motion carried with Claudia Smith abstaining as she was unable to review the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Katie Maloney presented the October 2009 financial reports. Robin Mahoney moved to approve the financial reports as presented. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

New Business:

a) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: New Zealand Mud Snail Proposal:*

Tom Wehri reviewed the Tahoe RCD's request to partner with the District in a funding proposal related to the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail by setting up a water craft inspection program in the Placer County project area and participating in the project planning group.

Dave Funk requested information regarding the snail.

Rich Gresham indicated that part of this effort will be to gather additional information about the invasive species.

Robin Mahoney asked if the District will be incurring any financial obligation in terms of match, etc.

Rich reported the District will receive \$10K to set up the inspection program in Placer County Lakes and would not incur any match obligation.

Tom recommended the Board approve participation in the proposed project as indicated.

Dave Funk moved to participate as requested. Bob Wiswell seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

b) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: Fee for Service Chipper Program:*

Rich Gresham briefly reviewed the draft business plan and explained the assumptions made in the process of determining the proposed hourly rate of \$70 per hour for chipping services. This rate assumes 100% payment by landowners for services received with a half an hour minimum fee. After the fee for service program has been active for a period of time the hourly rate can be re-evaluated to take into account any non-payment factor and adjust the rate as appropriate.

Board discussion revolved around non-payment and program process options. The awarded grant funding will provide a safety net during the Fee for Service Chipper Program start up period and allow for reassessment and refinement of program procedures.

Dave Funk brought up the need for a separate CalFire/RCD agreement to document CalFire's partnership role in the program.

Rich indicated CalFire's Jeff Brand is exploring the option of entering into a local agreement with the RCD.

Rui Cunha indicated the Placer County Board of Supervisors is slated to review the proposed Placer County/RCD Agreement for approval on December 8th and indicated there is a plan to begin addressing local Municipal Advisory Councils about the new program in December with the hope that the program can re-start in early January.

Tom Wehri asked the Board to allow staff to continue moving forward with the development of the Fee for Service Chipper Program including the pursuit of a CalFire/RCD Agreement.

The Board voiced no objections and the final County/RCD Agreement will be on next month's agenda for RCD Board approval.

- c) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: Retired Annuitants Rates:*
Tom Wehri recommended the Board refer the proposed Retired Annuitant rates for Rich Gresham and Mark White to the Operations Committee for review and recommendation.

The Board concurred.

- d) *Discussion to Consider and Possible Action Re: Review of District Manager Candidate Applications and Formation of RCD Selection Committee:*
Tom Wehri reported Rich followed up on fifty-five inquiries regarding the District Manager position and the District has received nine completed application packages for Board review.

Tom recommended Directors use the ranking spreadsheet he has prepared to review and rank the applicants and provide the results to the Operations Committee for review and determination of the top three to five candidates for oral interviews. Jeff Calvert, Christine Turner, and Mike Brenner were all identified as prospective advisors to be included in the ranking and interview process. The following timeline was established for the selection process:

11/17: Deadline for submitting rankings to Operations Committee Chair

12/3: Operations Committee and Advisors review rankings and determine top three to five candidates for oral interviews

12/ 10-15: Conduct interviews and determine recommendation to Board

12/15: RCD Board Closed Session to select candidate and determine compensation to be offered.

RCD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports were deferred to next month.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Reports were deferred to next month.

RCD STAFF REPORTS

Written activity reports for the month of October were submitted in the Board Package for review.

AGENCY REPORTS

Written activity reports for October-November were included in the Board Package for review.

COMMUNICATIONS

- RCD Letter of Support faxed to Mr. Dave Sutton, Sierra Program Director for The Trust for Public Land for Placer Land Trust acquisition of and protection of the Bruin Ranch property located in Placer County.
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy Amended Service Request to Extend Time and Shift Task Budget Amounts for Technical Assistance to Implement SNC's Working Landscapes/Healthy Forest/Healthy Watershed Conservation and Enhancement Program.
- RCD response to SNC Amended Service Request as requested
- CalPERS Memo re: New my/CalPERS launch date
- National Association of Resource Conservation Districts (NACD) publications, *Forestry Notes*, for November 2009

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The December RCD Board Meeting Agenda may include the following items:

- District Manager Candidate Selection – Closed Session
- RCD/Placer County Fee for Service Chipper Program Agreement Approval
- Retired Annuitant Rates and Personnel Action Form Approval
- Bark Beetle Grant Amendment Approval

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to conduct, Robin Mahoney moved for adjournment. Claudia Smith seconded; motion carried unanimously. Tom Wehri adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for December 15th at 4 p.m.