

# Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

## REGULAR BOARD

### MEETING

August 10, 2021 at 6:00pm  
305 Lincoln St.  
Sierraville, CA

### TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

**Note: this is audio ONLY**

Phone Dial-in: (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 947 7463 8576

**Approved**

### MINUTES

**1. Meeting called to order at 6:11pm.**

- 2. Roll call** – Directors present: Rick Roberti, Annie Tipton, Chad Smith, Bryan Griffin, Dave Goicoechea

**Others in Attendance:** Victoria Fisher, Tracy Schohr, Kristi Jamason

**Attendance via Teleconference:** Supervisor Paul Roen, Ben McNally

**3. Approval of Agenda**

*\*Director Goicoechea motioned to approve the agenda. Director Tipton seconded the motion. Motion passed.*

**4. Public Comment**

*\*None.*

**5. Approval of April 12, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

*\*Director Tipton motioned to approve the April 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes. Director Goicoechea seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.*

**6. Announcements**

*\*Victoria Fisher announced the upcoming memorial service for John Genasci to be held at the Sierra Valley Grange Hall on Friday August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.*

**7. Discussion/Action: Financial Report & Executive Director's Update**

**\*Financial Review:** Director Tipton reviewed the Plumas Bank records fiscal year to date and signed off on the statements. Victoria Fisher reported that there is \$4,986.25 in the bank account. Victoria also reported that the SAM registration for the SVRCD is current through November but will need to have some updates made, including annual verification.

**\*Indirect Cost Plan:** An Indirect Cost Plan was handed out to the board. Victoria explained that the RCD needs to have one approved and on file in order to be eligible to receive administrative/indirect costs associated with grant funding. A discussion was held between the board on what this document is and how it would be used. Victoria said that she would like to research this topic further through CARCD or the Sacramento Region to get some more information on this topic and how to create it.

*Director Tipton motioned to approve 10 additional hours for Victoria to research this topic through CARCD and/or Sacramento Region. Director Goicoechea seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.*

**8. Discussion/Action: Lacey Meadows Restoration Project Update**

\*Victoria updated that she spoke with Beth Christensen through email and she mentioned that they are still working on the contingency plan and performance measures. She will get back to the board as soon as they have this in place.

**9. Discussion/Action: Legacy Restoration Project**

\*Director Roberti made a request to strike this from the agenda.

**10. Future Project and Workshop Items**

**A) Forage & Water Enhancement Options:** Tracy Schohr reported that their first grant was denied but they are working on a new submission. She is also looking at a potential solar project that would benefit the producers, especially during fire season.

**B) Cattlemen's Update:** Nothing new to report. Tracy is going to see if Nevada is coming back to present in person or if they will be sticking with an online update due to COVID restrictions.

**C) Weed Treatments:** Jennifer with the Plumas-Sierra Ag Department has been spraying around the valley for noxious weeds.

**11. Discussion/Action: Committee/Agency Reports**

**A) NRCS, Ben McNally:** Ben updated that he came into this job around April. Since then, they have had two rounds of funding come through. The first was EQUIP and they did not receive any applications. The second of the two may produce two new projects for NRCS. CIC Equip had about 5 people apply and they are in the ranking process now. Due to the fires, they now have people calling in to ask questions in relation to fire destruction. Several agencies are working on rollouts for after-fire programs. Also, in September the EQUIP program will be rolling out again for new applications. Director Roberti noted that it is important to see the relationship between NRCS and the private landowners repaired and he encouraged Ben to hold a public outreach meeting, potentially with the RCD, to discuss what his office is working on and what services can be accessed through NRCS. Specifically, Director Roberti would like to see more projects offered to the ranchers and farmers within Sierra Valley. Director Tipton made a request for Ben to see if there would be a timeframe to host a local outreach event for producers in the valley. Ben responded that he would be interested in this and will look into it so that we can get it moving forward.

**B) UCCE, Tracy Schohr:** Tracy reported that with the Dixie and Beckworth Complex fires taking place, she has been very busy. Marti Roberts at USFS has been incredibly responsive and helpful and the Plumas County Sheriff has been very easy to work with on the ag passes. With new people recently being placed into command it has been a little harder but there have been a lot of great relationships coming out of this situation.

**C) Sierra County, Supervisor Paul Roen:** Supervisor Paul Roen updated that Sierra County has applied for grant funding for technical assistance and if awarded, will be able to have a

contractor work with local agencies for technical assistance. He also mentioned that the local Cattlemen's Association is holding a dinner Saturday 5-7pm and will be raising money for those affected by the fire. Tracy said that Butte County has a 501c3 that is also working to help raise funding for those affected and the Sierra Valley Feed Store has been working on donations for feed and supplies.

**D) Open Floor for All Agency Reports:** Kristi Jamason reported that she has been busy working on documenting information to report back to FSA on losses from the fires.

**\*Cattlemen's Update:** Director Roberti said that the Cattlemen's Association is working on some new bills to put forward. Their next meeting will most likely be around the middle of September. They also have a new branding inspector.

**\*Goose Lake:** Goose Lake has been removed from the irrigated lands regulatory program. Additionally, Tracy Schohr reported that there has been 100% participation on the Feather River Watershed Agency and they also have surveyed some ground water wells that showed low nitrogen levels and high arsenic levels. In one well this appears to be naturally occurring.

## **12. Discussion/Action: Smithneck WUI Forest Health & Fuels Reduction Project**

\*Victoria reported that she met with Quentin to get an update on the land tenure agreement with CDFW. Stacy has been out of the office but should be getting back to Victoria soon regarding the agreement for CDFW. Director Roberti requested that the Board hold a meeting with all parties involved to discuss some of the issues identified as soon as possible.

## **13. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7pm

**NEXT MEETING: September 13, 2021 at 7:48pm, Location TBD**