



TRINITY COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

June 21, 2023 * 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: (In Person) Mike Rourke, Mary Ellen Grigsby, Kent Collard, Josh Brown and John Ritz

(Zoom/Call-in): None

Board Members Absent: None

Associate Board Members Present: None

District Staff: Kelly Sheen, Joan Caldwell, and Rebekah Wolfinbarger

Other District Staff: (Attended through Zoom) None

Other Agency Staff: (Attended through Zoom) None

Guests: Chris Cole

1.0 Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM by Mike Rourke.

2.0 Discuss and Approve Agenda

MSC –Ritz/Grigsby to approve the June 21, 2023 Agenda.

3.0 Discuss and Approve Meeting Minutes

3.1 Discuss and Approve Minutes for May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting

MSC -Grigsby/Collard to approve Minutes from the May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting.

4.0 Financial Reports

4.1 Discuss Updated April Monthly Financial Report

Caldwell noted April showed a huge improvement, but is still showing a negative for this month.

4.2 Discuss May Monthly Financial Report

Caldwell said May invoicing is looking good. It is only showing a negative of \$24,000. Tarwater is back to work so our overhead is larger, as the projects are larger. May is showing a positive for the end of the FY. We are hoping to have a surplus. We don't want to put it in the bank; we can open an online savings account with a higher interest rate. Sheen noted that the first year will not have deficit spending. Caldwell pointed out that we still have five loans for trucks to



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pay off. We can pay them off and save on the interest. Last was 6.9% interest on a loan for the truck. Can look at facility purchase. We should be even when the month is complete. There were a lot of 8000000 expenses that are non-billable.

4.3 Discuss and Approve List of Warrants for May, 2023

MSC –Grigsby/Collard to approve the list of warrants for May in the amount of \$278,825.12.

5.0 Projects Report

Grigsby inquired about the America the Beautiful grant status. Caldwell and Sheen believe we are still waiting. Brown mentioned that he had heard great things about the chipping program. Sheen mentioned that this chipping program was the biggest round we have yet done; he was glad everyone was happy. Grigsby asked if more chipping would be done in the fall; Sheen was not sure due to funding. Rourke asked about the chipper naming contest. Sheen said the contest closes July 14. Grigsby said she went by the Farmers' Market and "go bags" are still being handed out and kids were being signed up for WSDC.

6.0 NRCS Report

Cole discussed deadlines for implementations. He is working with Llewellyn to set up and strengthen projects. Also, he has reached out to Fleitz about applying for a new round of NACD funding. This pays for Tye, Johnson, and Meyer. This will be a competitive application.

7.0 Trinity Collaborative Report

Sheen reported that field tours are coming up. There will be a Big Ranch tour to look at the various treatments for different areas. There should not be any surprises. Rec and TCCG meetings are in July. Third-party NEPA is going well. The WRTC has a learning curve on how to process and interact with USFS Staff. They want to increase field tours.

8.0 Discuss and Take Action on accepting staff recommendation of the California Environmental Quality Act Exemption for the Southern Trinity Resilience 2023 project under Section 15304; Minor Alterations to Land

We had a similar project awarded in 2020 but when the August Complex happened, we had to divert to a different project area. This will be significant for Mad River. It will be two full months for two crews, for any private property served with electricity within 1000 feet. We normally identify a larger area than what we will treat as we don't know exactly where we will be implementing. The area is 2300 acres but this will only be to treat a small portion, 30 acres. There is a big expense for lodging and per diem for the crews. Doing NEPA allows us to strategize funding



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and area flexibility to mix with other projects. We do not have any other work in the area currently.

MSC -Grigsby/Ritz to adopt recommendations for the PG&E project.

9.0 Public Comment

None.

10.0 Board Reports

Grigsby announced that she had attended the Northwest California RC&D Council meeting. Mark announced he is not retiring at the end of the year; he is still looking for a replacement. There are two different councils: Shasta-Trinity and Humboldt. They have 'ologists but no money. Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma have money but no 'ologists. They are looking to combine councils and optimize resources. Their next meeting is in Crescent City on August 16th (the same night as ours). Brown reported that he will not be here for the July board meeting.

11.0 District Manager's Report

We will be having July and August staff evaluations. We need a special meeting for the DM. This needs to be done by August 15. Last year's evaluation, this year's, and the survey will be provided to the Board the Friday before with the agenda. 24 hours before Tuesday, July 8, need a budget. Sheen said we need to change the policy for the budget to be due in August, so that everything will be entered and correct with invoicing wrapped for the previous year. Some projects carry over; we would need to make adjustments to the numbers presented. July would be way off as invoicing for June cannot be estimated. Grigsby asked for a list of projects in July. That could be the Chart of Accounts, dated July 1.

Rourke asked about the Auditor's opinion of delaying for two months. Caldwell said this has not been an issue. They get a copy of all minutes and budget.

DOC funding fell through for capacity building and Strategic Plan update. A draft is forthcoming; we will get public and partner input. We will gather information and a final draft will be available in November.

Regarding the Steel Bridge house, \$5000 has been spent on its water issues. Water is now running at 1 gal/minute, but it needs to be 3 gal/minute in order to qualify for FHA loans. A person in Santa Cruz is interested, but the water situation has caused a holdup. The Broker recommends getting a quote for two 1500-gallon storage tanks.



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Regarding Covid relief funding, the County has appropriated \$3.8 million so far. There is still another million left of the Tribal Resilience Funding and there may be another chunk of similar funding coming. We will try again for additional funding.

The audit for 2021 – 2022 FY primary is completed. The single audit is in process. We can go ahead with our NICRA application at the end of June or the beginning of July. We want to have a number before July invoicing. We will start the next audit this fall.

The Fourth of July parade this year will feature a truck and chipper.

At the YFR, the Moon Lee Ditch piping project has been moving forward. The pipe will run from the pump house by the upper tanks and down along northern cemetery fence line for the YFR. Everyone is happy. We will not have to pay \$20K. EQUIP will reimburse up to \$12,000.

15.0 Adjourn

Adjourned at 7:22 PM

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2023. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the Minutes of June 21, 2023 were duly adopted by the following vote of the Board of Directors.

(Secretary Signature)