

MODOC RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
USDA Conference Room
Alturas, CA 96101
Minutes
June 20, 2023

Directors Present: Erika Forest, Jess Dancer, Pearce Flournoy, Stacey Hafen, Dick MacKey and Jason Diven

Directors Absent: Chico Pedotti (Associate)

Staff Present: Lani Estill, Elyse Blaker,

Guests Present: Bryon Hadwick, Representing NRCS

Erika Forest called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. A quorum was met.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The May 16, 2023 minutes were accepted as corrected. Moved by Jess Dancer, seconded by Pearce Flournoy; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The June 20, 2023 Treasurer's Report was accepted for audit. Moved by Jess Dancer, seconded by Dick Mackey, motion carried.

Audit Report – Stacey contacted Clay Singleton out of Susanville. Their quote is \$32,500 for a 5 year audit. They do have the time to do it. The County wants an audit for 5 years which would cover FY 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023. Scheduled for August 1-4.

Devil's Garden Account – Pay \$5,000 now and offer to pay the balance when we get our grant funding. A check was written to Modoc Steel to pay their In-kind expenses.

Correspondence: Sign onto letter to Governor – Stacey moved, Jess seconded regarding Goat herder wages.

Old Business:

- Budget & Work Plan – The Work Plan is finished, and the Board is considering it a Living Document. They want it updated every 6 months. We will add the Budget to the document and present it in July.
- Director's Handbook. Residency requirements were discussed, and Jess is no longer residing in the District but can be sponsored by Jay Younger as a landowner. Jess is still a Modoc Resident, just not in the District.
- Board Appointment procedure was discussed. Chaelene Timms was appointed as a Board Member representing Surprise Valley.
- Myles Flournoy – Water Improvements, Bryon & Elyse will tour the sites and report back to the Board.
- CDFA Healthy Soils Block Grant. Will be in partnership with Carbon Cycle Institute. \$200,000 Grant.
- SWEEP Grant will be a joint project with Honey Lake Valley RCD, Lassen Cooperative Extension, and Pit RCD. Honey Lake will take the lead and Lassen County RCD will take the lead. State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program. Purpose is to help farmers switch to more efficient irrigation systems.
- Richard Westman – Board would like to bring him back as a contractor. Staff will draw up a contractor agreement.

- Jared McGarva has a project to take before the Board, but he was not able to make it to the meeting. The project was tabled until he could be here to explain the project proposal. West side of West Valley – clear the Juniper and keep going.
- CDFA Healthy Soils Demonstration Project Field Day or Day in the District was discussed, and we will do something this fall.
- High School Associate Board Position was discussed. Bryon contacted the school and we have been put on a list as an internship position. 25 hours minimum for credit through the school.

New Business:

- Goose Lake RCD – still inactive. Invite Brian to our meeting and see if they want to merge with us.
- Payroll Service Proposal – Jess Dancer moved to switch to Patriot Software and the motion was seconded by Stacey Hafen.

Director’s Hours:

Jess Dancer	4	Lorissa Soriano (Assoc.)	0
Pearce Flournoy	4	Chico Pedotti (Assoc)	0
Erika Forrest	4	Richard Mackey	4
Stacey Hafen	10	Jason Diven	4
Chaelene Timms	4		

Reports:

Staff Report – Elyse reported. 942 Grant is close to expiring – Michelle Ray may be a great person to do the GIS work for the county – we could apply for an extension with a plan in place.

New computers are here.

Cal-Fire we have a potential contractor for Forester Work including the SEQA.

Lassen Fire-Safe Council – ready to accept the Sub-Grant.

Juniper Acres – Richard and the Engineer went to look at the project.

NRCS: Bryon Hadwick reported. They are working on current projects. New applications are always accepted, ranking will be in March.

Upper Pit River IRWM Report: May be some funding coming for the program. Water Funds.

Coordinator Reports: See attached.

Items for next meeting – Budget and Annual Plan of Work. Outreach photos from the Educational Sessions, Jared McGarva,

Closed Session – None

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. Next meeting will be held July 18, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Lani Estill, Business Manager

Jason Diven, Secretary