



Board Meeting Minutes

Location: MRCD Conference Room, 114 E. North St., Alturas, CA 96101
Date: March 17, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm

Attendance

Name	Title	Attendance	Participation
Erika Forrest	Chairman	Present	In Person
Jess Dancer	Vice Chair	Present	Remote
Stacey Hafen	Treasurer	Absent	—
Pearce Flournoy	Secretary	Present	In Person
Shaelene Tims	Director	Absent	—
Jason Diven	Director	Absent	—
Tiffany Martinez	Director	Present	In Person

Staff Present	Guests Present
Lani Cockrell	Julie Gardner
Mike Colbert	Simarjeet Singh
Michelle Radtke	

Remote Participation

Vice Chair Dancer announced to the Board his just cause for remote participation pursuant to Government Code §§54953(f)(3)(C)(vi) (SB 707). Director Martinez made a motion to approve the emergency remote participation of Vice Chair Dancer; Secretary Flournoy seconded. Motion carried.

Introduction

1. Erika Forrest, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
 - a. A quorum was established.

Reports

1. Edward Jones – Julie Gardner
 - a. The District's Edward Jones investment account has a portfolio objective of Income Focus. As of March 16, 2026, the account ending value is \$27,459.13, up from a beginning value of \$26,757.32 since May 30, 2025. No funds were added or withdrawn during the period. The personal rate of return is 1.98%, with an annualized return of 0.90%.



- b. The portfolio consists entirely of a cash and cash equivalent holding (DWS Government & Agency Money Market), with a projected annual income of \$1,081.90, all of which is subject to federal tax. Projected monthly income ranges from approximately \$74 to \$96 through early 2027.
- c. The report was presented for informational purposes. No action was required.
- 2. District Manager – Lani Cockrell
 - a. River Center is up to date besides the SAMS registration. The district has new insurance.
- 3. Project Report – Mike Colbert
 - a. Mike presented the Grants and Projects Report. SNC Grant 954 and SNC Grant 959 are both complete; final closeout documents have been submitted on Grant 959 with \$42,100 in retention funds outstanding. SNC Grant 1124 (Dry Creek Ecological Site Watershed Plan) is in progress, with all 25 site assessments completed, four proposed projects identified, and an agreement with CDA executed on February 27, 2026.
 - b. The CAL FIRE North Overland Roadside Shaded Fuels Reduction Project is nearing closeout, with a final report in progress due April 15, 2026. Treatment was completed on 70.4 acres across 76 parcels. The USFS RAC Grant is active, with funds being directed toward a Children's Forest event this spring. The Fibershed HSP Grant remains in progress, with a potential new project in Fort Bidwell under consideration.
 - c. For the Modoc County Stream Gage Improvement Program (CalSIP), Balance Hydrologics was selected following a competitive RFQ process and is being asked to revise their fee proposal to include equipment costs and follow-up training. The Lassen/Modoc Agricultural Well Metering Project and BLM GNA Grant are both progressing as expected. The Wildlife Conservation Network grant position has been offered to a qualified candidate with local ties.
 - d. Pending grant applications include the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire & Forest Resilience Grant and the upcoming CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant, for which MRCD will serve as an environmental partner.
- 4. Modoc Fire Safe Council - Michelle Radtke
 - a. Michelle reported that MFSC will submit a concept proposal for the CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant on March 27, 2026. The project, the Lake City Fuel Reduction and Watershed Restoration Project, encompasses approximately 1,572 acres across 26 parcels and 14 landowners. MRCD will serve as the CEQA lead. An invitation to submit a full proposal is anticipated around April 16, 2026, with a full application deadline of June 8, 2026.
- 5. NRCS - Bryon Hadwick
 - a. Absent
- 6. Farm Advisor Office – Simarjeet Singh
 - a. Simarjeet provided information on the research on tracking the alfalfa water use, looking at how much water was getting lost from crop surface to account for the whole irrigation water budget.
- 7. BLM – Kevin Kunkle
 - a. Absent

Agenda

- 2. Approval of Agenda



- a. Secretary Flournoy made a motion to approve the agenda; Vice Chair Dancer seconded. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. January 20, 2026
 - i. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Vice Chair Dancer and seconded by Director Martinez. Treasurer Hafen abstained as she was not present. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. A motion to approve the February Financial Report as presented for audit was made by Secretary Flournoy and seconded by Director Martinez. Motion carried.
5. Public Comment
 - a. None.
6. Correspondence
 - a. Modoc Ag Expo on March 20. Lani encouraged board members to attend representing Modoc RCD.
 - b. Modoc County Ag Pass Training on April 22
 - c. Flyer was created to start receiving interested landowners to build a list for the CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant program for Modoc RCD for future funding.
 - d. District Manager Lani Cockrell requested Board approval to increase her and Mike Colbert's weekly hours from 25 hours to 30 hours per week through July 2026. Secretary Flournoy made a motion to approve the increased hours; Vice Chair Dancer seconded. Motion carried.
7. Old Business
 - a. None.
8. New Business
 - a. Priority Project Planning
 - i. Lani presented the project priority ranking that was surveyed at the Modoc Ag Expo last year 2025 and the survey that was completed by the board members. Top two projects identified were Watershed Restoration projects and Health Soils/Agriculture projects.
 - b. Ethics Training and Form 700 Compliance
 - i. Reminder to the Directors that the ethics training and Form 700 are due.
 - c. Dry Creek Ecological Site Watershed Restoration Plan CDA Contract No.:26-05
 - i. Director Martinez made a motion effective to the date which the contract was signed. Vice Chair Dancer seconded. Motion carried.

Items for the Next Meeting

9. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

Closed Session: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Prepared by,
Michelle Radtke

