

Fall River Resource Conservation District

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Regular Meeting Minutes Fall River RCD, April 16th, 2024
M.C.T.O. at 7:08 pm

Board Members Present: Bill Buckman [X], Clay Jacobson [], Chuck Macfarlane [X]
Don Martin [X], Chris Christofferson [X], Pat Oilar [X] Chris Camarata [X]

Staff: Sharmie Stevenson [X], Julie Allen [X]

Public Comment: None

Guests in attendance: None
Via phone: None

New Business

McArthur Swamp Pheasant Hunt: Discussion on putting on pheasant hunt again on the Swamp, will need to sign contract for birds sometime in May. Julie would like to do a two-day hunt and include either a hunters breakfast or dinner. M/S Pat Oilar/Chris Christofferson for to Julie to acquire CDFW permit if necessary and acquire enough birds for 40 hunters per day (2 days). Motion Passed.

Lease Agreement IMFHR/FRRCD: Reviewed and discussed lease. M/S Chris Christofferson/Chris Camarata to adopt lease as presented. Motion passed.

Fall River Lake Potential Grants: Julie would like to look into grants for the Lake property for further enhancement/restoration projects.

Employee Evaluations: Directors will take home evaluation forms and bring filled out for a closed discussion at the next meeting.

Consent Calendar:

Minutes March 19th, 2024 Regular Meeting

Expenditures 03/20/2024 – 04/16/2024

M/S Pat Oilar/Chris Camarata to approve consent calendar as presented. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Office Open House: NRCS getting new desks, no word on when their phone lines will be installed. Sharmie instructed to send NRCS electricity bill for months office was empty but still running NRCS Equipment, as well as send a follow up letter. Sharmie would like to purchase a tv screen for the conference room M/S Pat Oilar/Chris Christofferson spend up to \$1,500 on new tv screen. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report:

Insurance Playbook: Webinar on playbook and what it means, etc.

IMF Project pipe bids/project update: Received 4 bids, Copps irrigation was the winning bid.

Form 700: Directors signed completed 700 forms

Ethics/Sexual Harassment/Conflict of Interest: An email has been sent out to all the directors and employees with link to complete the necessary trainings.

NRCS DC Position: NRCS may be offering DC position in our area.

SDRMA Update: Sharmie reported on Initiative 1935 and HR 7525. HR 7525 would define what a special district is at the Federal level, it was requested that the RCD write a letter in support for defining a special district. M/S Don Martin/Chriss Christofferson Sharmie to write letter of support. Motion passed. Sharmie also reported that neither Cal Fire Grants (Wildfire Resiliency and Forest Health) were awarded, a consultation for reasons why was requested. Locations for a sort yard facility are actively being researched as part of the OPR project. The Grant Status report was reviewed and discussed. Discussion around Backbone project concerns – retention of funds effecting competitiveness for future grants, wildfire concerns, timeline to expend money coming to a close

Range Manager's Report:

Grazing Seasons – Swamp and FRPU: Julie reported that cattle will be going onto the lake property this week, Swamp needs to dry out some more before cattle can be turned out. Plan to go with full numbers.

2023-2024 Hunting Season: Total permit sale fore McArthur Swamp was \$1,270

Lake Property Easement Amendment Update: The easement amendment request was submitted to the state attorney general, approval could take a couple of months. Once approval is received Shasta Land Trust proceed with the process to record the amendment.

Partners Project Updates: Working on obtaining the permits. The tribe was notified of the project on April 7th, they have one month to respond – after the 30 day window, the Appendix A Consultation for the cultural permitting will be issued. Still looking into requirements for Small Habitat Restoration permitting.

FRPU Bees: Julie contacted Adam Suhre in regards to placing bee hives on the Lake Property, Suhre was interested in doing so, will work up a contract.

Artesian Well: Byron Conner inspected the well and notified Julie that the standpipe was full of rock most likely due to being filled in. Only feasible way forward would be to drill a new well in its place.

Equipment Storage Area/Equipment Purchases: Discussion on slat fencing that is for sale through BidCal Auction. M/S Pat Oilar/Chris Christofferson to bid on the fencing on behalf of the RCD. Julie plans to pick up the skid steer auger and attachments later in the week.

Old Office Supplies/Furniture: Julie reported that there is still some office furniture remaining in the Pump House that needs to be removed to free up space, if no need for any of the furniture it will be donated to thrift store and/or library.

Don Martin commented that he would like to see the garage behind the office fixed up. He also commented that he would like to see an area of the Swamp identified where grazers who would like to turn their cattle out earlier may do so.

Regular meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. by Chairman Buckman

Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday May 21st, 2024 at 7:00 PM