



**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**February 9, 2010**

**Directors Present:** Larry Desmond; Jerome Dix; Geri Hulse-Stephens; Tyler Nelson @ 9:12am; Craig Blencowe @ 9:14am

**Directors Absent:** None

**Associate Directors Present:** Peter Braudrick departed @ 10:18am

**Associate Directors Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jan Olave; Nicole Porter; Ursula Butler; Patty Madigan

**NRCS Staff Present:** Carol Mandel

**Other:** Ann Cole; Holly Madrigal; Craig Martz & Scott Koller of DFG

206 Mason Street  
Suite F



Ukiah, CA 95482



(707) 462-3664



www.mcrccd.org

**1. Call to Order – 9:05 am.**

**2. Consent Calendar –** Larry motioned to approve the consent calendar; Jerome seconded. 3 ayes, 0 nays.

**3. Administration**

- a. Approve PTO policy – Jerome wants to hold vote to review the previous policy and compare the changes. Nicole provided copies to point out the differences. The change was approved in July, and the auditor pointed out to us we needed the written policy representing the changes. It was decided to table the discussion until the next meeting.
- b. Review of Acquisition Policy changes and reconsideration for approval – Steve Anderson reviewed the draft policy, Ann Cole incorporated the recommended changes. The RCD will not provide tax advice regarding donation of land and/or monies provided for land evaluation. The addition of CEQA is a procedural item. Tyler motioned to approve the updated policy; Larry seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays.
- c. Review and comment on Mitigation Acquisition Policy – The policy was taken in large part from the Solano document. Jan stated that some mitigation projects end after five years of monitoring. Ann feels that in the future the RCD will be sought after for mitigation from private entities. Tyler is concerned about effects on neighboring properties. Ann stated that there will be a legal defense fund. Tyler was more concerned about protecting neighbors and not defending the RCD. Ann would like the board to consider being firm about taking ownership of property until after construction is complete. Geri would like the RCD to be in a position to be able to have some influence on the work being done on the land. Ann asked the board for further feedback on the policy before taking it to legal counsel for review.
- d. RVOEP request for program sponsorship – The sponsorship is for the International Wildlife Films. Patty is personally donating and invites all to personally contribute. Tyler was concerned about the

- RCD's ability to contribute funds. Larry motioned to support the program with a \$100.00 donation; Geri seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays.
- e. NCCARCD meeting - Jan asked the board for any issues to bring to the meeting and invited the board to attend. Larry suggested mitigation issues. Patty feels coordinated permitting or regional general permit. Tyler feels that permits should be free for restoration work.
  - f. The PWA video of Navarro Vineyards culvert work was reviewed and seemed to be enjoyed by all.

#### 4. New Business

- g. Discussion with DFG representatives Craig Martz & Scott Koller regarding DFG holding easements on Willits mitigation properties – Currently DFG in District 1 has conservation easements that protect wetlands, old growth forests, endangered species and deer winter range. The Willits property has significant resources and is a migratory corridor. DFG and the RCD have similar goals. RCD's and DFG have a long history of working well together. DFG will not be looking over the RCD's shoulder and currently do annual inspections of the CE properties. There will need to be an endowment to cover the costs of the inspections.

DFG is the state's trustee for fish and wildlife. They would have to approve the easement and holder for this project. They are allowed to hold both the easement and the endowment funds. DFG feels agreements will happen at the same time as the permit development. The easements could be assigned to either the wildlife or lands DFG departments.

A huge challenge with the mitigation property is the effect it will have on hydrology and DFG feels that Caltrans is very concerned about impacting adjoining properties. Craig Blencowe feels that DFG approach is adaptive and that they want to be involved.

DFG will discuss with Sacramento office on how best to proceed. They will provide a list of contact names and numbers for references. Craig wants staff to create a table of pros and cons on potential easement holders and to make inquiries of references. Jan suggested that board members speak with those they may know personally.

#### 6. Project and Partner Reports

- h. Patty reports that an additional \$2,000.00 in funding for the Robinson Creek Trail has been secured. This funding will pay for signage. On February 10<sup>th</sup> a site visit to Robinson Creek with Caltrans and RWQCB is planned.
- i. Carol and the NRCS staff are in a planning marathon. EQIP funds are less than expected. There may be additional dollars available for those applications that meet with state priorities. Carol would

like to begin work with Patty and Jan on a CCPI concept paper. AWEF is currently stalled.

**7. Public Comment**

Holly Madrigal introduced herself as member of the Willits City Council, and a candidate for Board of Supervisors.

**8. Director Items**

- j.** North Coast RC&D meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> at the county offices at 10:00 am. Jan will be attending.
- k.** Outlet Creek Watershed Group is getting larger. Hosted a workshop on stream restoration. Caltrans will be meeting with the group on April 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss creek impacts and native plant collection & cultivation during construction. Dennis Slota wants to see more monitoring of creeks.
- l.** The Biomass group may not need to spend the \$3,000.00 funding that was approved at the January board meeting. Karen Gaffney is working on other funding sources through the NCIRWMP group.

**10. Adjourn – 12:42 pm.**

---

**Craig Blencowe**  
**Board Chair**