



TRINITY COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

March 15, 2023 \* 5:30 PM

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

(Zoom/Call-in): Kent Collard

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) Jason Linderman

Guests: None

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**1.0 Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM by Mike Rourke.

**2.0 Discuss and Approve Agenda**

Add Emergency Item 2.1 Resolution 23-02 AB361: Authorization to continue remote teleconference meetings.

Director Grigsby will recuse herself from Item 10.0 Discuss/Take Action on Fleming property, as one of the comps is her property currently on the market.

MSC –Brown/Ritz to approve the Agenda with the Emergency Amendment.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Brown, Aye

Ayes: 4, Noes: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0

**2.1 Discuss and Take Action on Resolution 23-02 for a State of Emergency and Adherence to: AB 361 Authorization for Remote Teleconference Meetings**

Sheen stated the County and Governor declared a State of Emergency due to the severe winter storms. Collard was unable to attend the meeting in person. We are covered under AB 361 with the new state of emergency.

MSC -Grigsby/Brown to Approve Resolution 23-02: To Authorize the use of remote teleconference meetings.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye



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Ayes: 4, Noes: 0, Absent: 1, Abstain: 0

**3.0 Discuss and Approve Meeting Minutes**

**3.1 Discuss and Approve Minutes for January 18, 2023 Regular Meeting**

Director Grigsby found her name to be misspelled in the minutes.

MSC -Grigsby/Collard to approve Minutes from the February 15, 2023 Regular Meeting with the corrections to the spelling of her name.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 5, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0

**3.2 Discuss and Approve Minutes for March 09, 2023 Special Meeting**

Director Grigsby found her name misspelled and asked for a correction.

MSC -Ritz/Brown to approve Minutes from March 09, 2023 Special Meeting with corrections.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 5, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0

**4.0 Financial Reports**

**4.1 Discuss Updated January Monthly Financial Report**

Caldwell stated it looks like they are going in the wrong direction but \$90,000 is being billed out to Vesta. They just sent out an invoice for \$227,000.

**4.2 Discuss February Monthly Financial Report**

Caldwell said the \$200,00 from the County for the Covid Relief Funds was included. There is still a lot of invoicing to do.

**4.3 Discuss and Approve List of Warrants for February, 2023**

MSC –Grigsby/Ritz to approve the list of warrants for February in the amount of \$383,635.21.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 5, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0



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### 5.0 Projects Report

Director Brown asked if the new Weaver Basin Trail Maps are up online. Sheen responded, yes. The kiosk maps have also been printed, they are just waiting for lamination. They will use heat-resistant metal backing for the kiosk at the Highland art meadow. The bandanas are being printed.

### 6.0 NRCS Report

Jason Linderman is the acting District Conservationist with the NRCS. They have hired a permanent District Conservationist, Chris Cole from the RCD. He will start in May. The NRCS was selected to receive Joint Chiefs' money from last year's application. They will work on private lands that share a boundary with Federal project lands. They will also receive \$6.3 million from IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) over three years. All contracts must be funded by 2025. They are able to request an additional \$189,000 a year for three years. They currently have \$350,000 in applications.

### 7.0 Trinity Collaborative Report

Sheen reported they attended a field trip on the 17<sup>th</sup>. They looked at Browns Phase I and Brown Phase III. They concluded on Oregon Mountain at the BLM Timber Sale. They identified 102 acres. There is not a lot of board footage. They all came to the conclusion they will mark trees to take not leave as all the trees that were left previously are currently marked.

### 8.0 Discuss and Take Action on the Notice of Intent to Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation/Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Vestra did the work. They will now start a 30-day scoping period. Rourke stated he would like to see the areas highlighted that are to be mitigated.

MSC -Grigsby/Brown to Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation/Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project and agree with Vestra's recommendations to continue on the scoping with a 30-day public comment period.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 5, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0

### 9.0 Discuss and Take Action on the Adoption of the California Environmental Quality Act Exemption for the Trinity County Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase 2, Little Browns Area under Section 15304; Minor Alterations to Land.

The Board would like to see a new procedure in place for CEQA with a standard form to sign like a resolution. The total project acres are 7,000.

MSC -Brown/Ritz to authorize Sheen to sign the NOE for Phase II.





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Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Aye; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 5, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 0

### 10.0 Discuss and Take Action on the Fleming Property

Sheen stated he received legal counsel and direction from the title company. There is no contesting of the will. All the paperwork has been completed and the title has been transferred, TCRCD now owns the property. Sheen recommended selling the property. The Directors agreed.

MSC – Brown/Ritz to authorize the sale of the Fleming property at 278 Steele Bridge Road in Douglas City and to put the money in a special reserves account with Sheen as the Manager.

Roll Call Vote: Rourke, Aye; Brown, Aye; Grigsby, Abstain; Ritz, Aye; Collard, Aye  
Ayes: 4, Noes: 0, Absent: 0, Abstain: 1

### 11.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

### 12.0 Board Reports and Correspondence

Director Rourke said TPUD has been busy and working with WAPA on the power outage issues. Director Collard will be hosting a Trex Training at his property that will be done in Spanish. They will work with the Watershed Center and will host 25-30 people next fall.

### 13.0 District Manager's Report

Sheen reported Chris Cole will be leaving. They will be flying the position soon and already have one candidate to interview. They have hired a new Conservation Planner, she was previously the DM/ED of Honeywell Lake. They should have a Firesafe Council Coordinator hired by the end of the month. Recruitment has been better, with a higher quality of candidates since the Pay Scale was updated.

Sheen also reported they are entering into a Stewardship Agreement with Forest Service with a 10-year window. As tasks become available they will be able to modify it with the scope of work and amount of money. It would cover all Forest Service area in Trinity County, for both Six Rivers and the Shasta-Trinity.

### 14.0 Closed Session: Government Code § 54957(b): District Manager Report

MSC -Grisby/Brown to move into Closed Session at 7:58 PM.



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Nothing to report.

MSC -Grigsby/Brown to Move out of Closed Session at 8:37 PM.

**15.0 Adjourn**

Adjourned at 8:38 PM

Approved and adopted the day of April 19, 2023, I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the Minutes March 15, 2023 was duly adopted by the following vote of the Board of Directors.

  
(Secretary Signature)