

**HONEY LAKE VALLEY**  
**RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**March 23, 2016**

EMailed 40  
BOS & GD  
5/26/16

**Date:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016

**Location:** USDA Service Center, 170 Russell Avenue, Suite C, Susanville, CA 96130

**Present:**

Board:	Jesse Claypool	Shaun Giese	Wayne Langston
	Larry Cabodi	Laurie Tippin	
Staff:	Tim Keesey	Merry Wheeler	
	Eric Peitz		
Public Attendees:	None		

**I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jesse Claypool at 3:35 pm, pledge of allegiance was completed and quorum was noted.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Wayne made a motion to approve the agenda, Laurie seconded and the motion passed. All.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**IV. CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Approval of 2/24/16 regular meeting minutes and 3/1/16 special meeting minutes (closed session).
- B. Approval of January/February 2016 Treasurer's Report.
- C. Approval of February/March 2016 Treasurer's Report.

Shaun made a motion to approve the 2/24/16 regular meeting minutes, the 3/1/16 special meeting minutes (closed session), the January/February 2016 Treasurer's Report and the February/March 2016 Treasurer's Report, Laurie seconded and the motion passed. All.

**V. REPORTS**

**A. District Manager – Keesey.**

Jesse asked when the watermaster information postcards would be sent out. I responded they would be mailed early the following week.

Tim presented his report. He attended the CARCD Leadership Academy in Ukiah on March 3rd-5<sup>th</sup>. He stated he is developing an Action Plan focused on improving relationships with agencies that provide funding for agricultural water delivery and management.

He also worked with Dyer Engineering and the LBIRWMP RWMG to submit DWR Storm Water Management Planning grant for \$392,500 to develop Lahontan Basins Storm Water Management Plan.

He also distributed and discussed a fact sheet covering emergency regulations for measuring and reporting on water diversions

**B. Correspondence – Wheeler.**

I distributed the cover letter and Resolutions 2016-01 and 2015-06 amending the Susan River Watermaster Rule and Regs to add LIC as a user area and member of the WAC to the court, as well as the letter requesting that Than be lodged with the Superior Court of Lassen County as the Deputy Watermaster, and in his absence, that Tim be lodged as well. It was noted that Judge Verderosa is disqualified from hearing any watermaster issues and that those matters now go to Judge Holmer, a visiting judge. No reason was given for her disqualification.

I also discussed the phone and visitor logs and noted that most visitors to the RCD office are board members.

**C. NRCS Agency Reports – Peitz.**

Eric presented his report and said that to date seven apps have been selected for funding at the Service Center for FY 2016. He also said he had spoken with Tim and Laurie about the LWG meeting which has been proposed to solicit feedback for FY2017 NRCS Modoc Regional Fund Pools on 7/13/16 at the Susanville Service Center. Laurie asked if Tim could be directed to contact someone at the Lava Beds RCD. Tim was so directed.

**D. Lassen SWAT – Tippin.**

Laurie said she had nothing to report. She did speak about weed fund availability while working with Lassen County. Tim will check with Craig Hemphill.

**E. Buffalo Skedaddle Sage Grouse Working Group – Keesey for Cabodi.**

Tim said the group has been looking at the Chalk Bluff lek. Tim has been working on treating juniper at Horse Lake.

**F. WAC Report – Langston.**

Wayne said that all WAC members attended the March meeting. They discussed water measuring devices that have been installed. Tim is looking for grants to improve the system. Wayne said the WAC appeared to be enthusiastic about how things are progressing. No public in attendance.

**G. Modoc Regional RCD/CARCD Report – Tippin.**

Nothing to report.

**H. Unagendized Reports by Board Members.**

Larry would like to add the Rules and Regs to the board member binders.

I expressed an interest in restarting the seedling tree program. I told the board I'd look into it when I had the time.

**VI. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION AND/OR DISCUSSION - RCD**

**A. Discussion of disposition of RCD equipment currently in use by the County Ag Commissioner's office – Langston.**

The RCD owns all the equipment currently being stored at the county yard. There was discussion on the RCD renting the truck that Than is currently using as the watermaster vehicle to the watermaster service and having the water users pay for it. Wayne would like to know what exactly Than needs in a vehicle. He would also like to know if RCD equipment can be stored at the county yard during the winter.

**B. Approve Honey Lake Valley RCD Strategic Plan (2016-2020) – Keesey.**

Larry made a motion to approve the Honey Lake Valley RCD Strategic Plan (2016-2020), Shaun seconded and the motion passed. All. Laurie asked Jesse if he would write a "From Where I Stand" article for the local paper. Jesse said that he would.

**C. Discuss draft 2016 Honey Lake Valley RCD Annual Work Plan – Keesey.**

Tim will send the completed draft to the board for their comments.

**D. Update and discussion on new or upcoming grants for which Tim has applied and discussion of non-grant revenue streams available to the RCD – Giese.**

Tim's District Manager Report included a list of the various grants he has been working on. There are too many to list in the minutes, but some of them are: DWR Storm Water Management Plan, Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program, NRCS EQIP Project Assistance, and CEQA for Mountain Meadows. The CARCD is applying for the CDFA State Water Efficiency Project. Tim noted that the BLM Coop Agreement and the Trout Unlimited grant are non-grant revenue streams. Shaun and Jesse both said the list looks good.

**E. Approve Service Agreement No. CRMP-HLVRCD-01 between Trout Unlimited and the HLVRCD to carry out the facilitation of the Pine Creek Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) Group – Keesey.**

Tim noted that he will be the coordinator for this project. He also mentioned there is a change in Exhibit A that states "tasks to be completed by HLVRCD". Laurie made a motion to approve Service Agreement No. CRMP-HLVRCD-01 between Trout Unlimited and the HLVRCD to carry out the facilitation of the Pine Creek Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) Group with the noted changes to Exhibit A, Larry seconded and the motion passed. All.

**F. Discuss draft FY2016/2017 RCD and Watermaster budgets – Keesey.**

Tim presented two budgets, Option A and Option B. He described Option A as the Cadillac version and Option B as the Chevrolet version. The board agreed we need to provide a quality watermaster service program, which would be Option A.

Shaun feels that the fuel and legal line items need to be increased. The watermaster budget in Option A is about \$200k now; Shaun feels it is fiscally responsible to have the ability to cover possible lawsuits.

Tim will contact Shawn Pike at DWR to see what the costs would be if DWR were providing the watermaster service so we have a better idea of what to charge the water users. Tim will also add the cost of various annual conference fees.

Tim will revise Budget Option A and bring it back to the April RCD meeting as a draft. The WAC will review it at their 4/14/16 meeting.

**G. Discussion/approval of updated document that describes committee purpose, need, membership and meeting schedule for the newly formed Policy and Finance Committees – Giese/Tippin.**

Shaun would like to remove the WAC, members of the public, the deputy watermaster and the district manager from the Policy and Finance Committees membership rosters. Laurie would like to have them included in the committees.

Shaun made a motion to approve the updated "Proposed New Honey Lake Valley RCD Committees" document with the removal of the WAC, members of the public, the deputy watermaster and the district manager from the Policy and Finance Committees membership rosters, Wayne seconded (with changes), Jesse voted yes and Laurie and Larry voted no. The motion passed.

**H. Discussion of board member self-evaluation forms – Claypool.**

All board members submitted their completed forms. The forms will be discussed at the April meeting.

**VII. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION AND/OR DISCUSSION - WATERMASTER**

**A. Appoint Brad Hanson to the Watermaster Advisory Committee (WAC) as the Farm Bureau Representative – Cabodi/Keesey.**

Larry made a motion to appoint Brad Hanson to the Watermaster Advisory Committee (WAC) as the Farm Bureau Representative, Wayne seconded and the motion passed. All.

**B. Discussion/approval of contract with Ira Alexander to provide technical support for watermaster service – Keesey.**

We have not yet received a contract from Ira Alexander, who is the DWR watermaster. Than would like to ask Ira's advice about the placement of water measuring devices. The item was tabled while Tim researches it further.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Shaun made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Larry seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm. The next regularly scheduled Honey Lake Valley RCD meeting is **Wednesday, April 27, 2016** at **3:30 pm** at the USDA Service Center, 170 Russell Avenue, Suite C, Susanville, CA 96130.

Respectfully submitted,

Merry Wheeler  
Executive Secretary

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Jesse Claypool, RCD Board Chairperson

DATE: April 27, 2016