

Minutes
Meeting of the
GOLD RIDGE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
PHONE: 707.874-2907 FAX: 707.874-9607
Revised Date: Monday, November 15, 2010

Location: Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District
14775 'B 'Third Street
Occidental, CA 95465

Time: 6:00 pm- 8:39pm

I. Open Meeting (Introductions)

II. Call to Order (Roll Call of Directors)

a) **Directors Present:** Joe Dutton, Don Peterson, Barry Fisher, Ann Cassidy

b) **Directors Absent:** Martin Albini

c) **Staff Present:** Lisa Hulette (left after the strategic planning section), Brittany Heck, Michele Rocha, John Green, Joe Pozzi, Sierra Cantor

d) **Others Present:** Brooke Cole (NRCS), Al Gerhardt, Claudia Haskel-Seidner (left after the strategic planning section)

III. Public Comment- Al G. commented that since the county roads are not being maintained, the poor road conditions and lack of pavement could affect the watershed. He suggested we stay informed about this.

IV. Informational Items:

a. Correspondence and Notices - none

b. GRRCD Grant Status Updates – *Brittany Heck*

- Staff reviewed the status of current grants.
- SCWA Rapid Response program is almost done.
- Gorse removal project is almost done.
- Sediment control project started.
- NaCo Fish Passage project is done.
- Coho water resources enhancement is almost done (Year 1a). For Year 1b, we are working with El Molino for a catchment water project and are in the early phases with Westminster Woods.
- Purrington Creek restoration project is almost done.
- EA Sediment reduction is looking for new designers.
- Green Valley HEP is underway.
- Insectaries for Pollinators will be doing plantings this fall, winter and spring.
- SC Coho Monitoring project is done.
- TEAM has completed 3 of 10 classes at the Bianchi Dairy for the SCAPOSD environmental education grant.

c. Strategic Planning Project – *Claudia Haskel-Seidner & Lisa Hulette (This was done between 6:10-7:10 pm, prior to grant status update item.)*

- i. Project planning timeline: We are on step 1 of the project timeline. The board received the status report on Steps 1 and 2. Claudia has done the research part of Step 1. The mission and vision statements have been reviewed by a committee.
- ii. Questionnaires/planning issues and outcomes: The key objectives are to create a clear vision and mission statement, values and case statement. Create a three year strategic plan, development plan, marketing piece, and a way of evaluating and improving programs and reporting. The plan will also be used as an internal guide for defining organizational roles and relationships between roles.
- iii. Roundtable discussion with board, staff and Claudia: *What would success look like at the end of the planning process?* The board wanted direction for staff and the district around what we're

representing to the community; to have a chance to refocus and look ahead; to increase our financial stability and security; diversify funding sources; create a year-round funding stream; research what other RCD's are doing and investigate other kinds of funding besides grants, like owning land, facilitating permit process for landowners, creating a 501 (c)(3) to accept charitable contributions and other gifts; create a charitable foundation; increase networking with other land-based agencies; enhancing the value of agricultural lands; matching organizational capacity to vision; have the final plan be more usable by including a structure for review and implementation process; be clear about how to best allocate staff resources. At the end of the discussion, Claudia handed out the compiled report of answers from the questionnaire that had already been completed for everyone's review as well as the strategic plan project outline, Steps 1 and 2: Status Report to Bard, a handout on Writing Your Mission Statement with some sample mission statements from other California RCDs, and a handout on strategic plan definitions and formulas.

- iv. Schedule & Plan for Board Retreat: Board retreat will be on 12/14 from 11-2 with Claudia at the Union Hotel/Pizzeria. Claudia welcomes calls at: 824-8448.
- v. Appoint Board & Staff Sub-Committee to work with Claudia: Tabled
- d. Update on SOS Program – *John Green*. John reported that the construction work is being done with five more rainwater projects in the works. The Gilardi tank is done and the distribution system is the next phase of the project. He said there were two 35,000 gallon tank projects starting this week and 15 165,000 gallon tank projects coming up.
- e. Update on Christmas Party & Barry's Retirement Party – *Brittany Heck*. Brittany reported that we will combine holiday and Barry's retirement parties and they will be on 12/15 at 5:30 at The Casino in Bodega. There will be an abbreviated board meeting at 5:30 and dinner and party at approximately 6:00.

V. Action Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2010; approved with edits submitted by Bob Burke.
1st Ann Cassidy 2nd Barry Fisher
- b. Approval of FY 2010/2011 Employee Roster & Organization Chart for inclusion into Personnel Policy
1st Barry Fisher 2nd Ann Cassidy
- c. Selection and Approval of GRRCD Award Recipients. *This was discussed and tabled until next month. One request regarding awards is that we don't give out plaques!*
 - i. *Ambassador of the Year: potential nominee is Paul Bianchi*
 - ii. *Conservationist of the Year: potential nominee is ? Gilardi*
 - iii. *Volunteer of the Year: potential nominee is Irna Andre.*
- d. Approval of Staff Report: No staff report to approve.
- e. Approval of Bookkeepers Report
1st Ann Cassidy 2nd Joe Dutton
- f. Approval of Warrant Requests
1st Barry Fisher 2nd Ann Cassidy
- g. Agenda items for December 2010 Meeting : None
- h. Personnel: None
- i. **NRCS Report: Brooke presented the minutes from the Sonoma-Marín EQUIP Program, EQUIP Summary report, and the EQUIP-WHIP totals for all programs with percentages.**
1st Joe Dutton 2nd Ann Cassidy

VI. Closed Session: None

VII. Adjournment at 8:39 pm