



Tehachapi Resource Conservation District

Conserving and Enhancing Our Natural Resources and Environment

(661) 825-5400

TehachapiRCD@gmail.com

Draft Minutes SPECIAL MEETING

June 23, 2022

10:00 am

1. **Call to Order at 10:07 a.m.**
2. **Roll Call :** Director Duggan, Barraclough and Casdorff present. Director Guiffre and staff absent. Public: Claudia Elliott, Tehachapi News.
3. **Changes to Agenda.** Adjourn meeting until 12:30 p.m. Adjourn 10:12 a.m.
4. Readjourn at 12:52.
5. **Public Comment.** Claudia Elliott expressed concern that we must be careful not to have communications between all board members. This could be a Brown Act violation.
6. **Old Business: .**
 - A. **Fire Grant:** The Grant Application and pertinent ancillary information were not submitted to the Board by Director Guiffre or the TRCD staff member as requested. Directors Barraclough and Casdorff researched on the web and located the correct agency, the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) . They contacted the CFSC for information. CFSC indicated through email communication with Director Guiffre, that the Board would have a final decision on June 9, 2022. Director Guiffre did not present the Board with any documentation and was absent from the June 9th meeting. CFSC indicated that Director Guiffre communicated back to them that TRCD would have a decision at the June 23rd meeting. Director Guiffre was not present at that meeting either, however some information was shared by CFSC and the Board went forward with a review of the grant. The Board had to provide a response by the next day the 24th of June to CFSC. Any edits to the grant could only be completed after the grant was accepted. The Board reviewed the grant application and lots of questions arose but no one was present to answer them. The TRCD Board did not get to review the application or letter to the County Board of Supervisors requesting support. A consultant was to help TRCD implement this grant. They were not present at the meeting and no contact information or name had been presented. There was no way the Board could contact this consultant. There was no information forthcoming and a copy of the grant application was received the day before the meeting, leaving insufficient time for the Board to review it adequately. With no discussion of expected administrative requirements or budgets, the Board felt it was imprudent to accept the grant. Director Casdorff made a motion to draft a letter of to CFSC that due to unforeseen circumstances, the TRCD Board will not be able to accept the grant. All ayes. Directors Duggan and Barraclough to meet with the Supervisor to explain our decision.

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- B. Employee Contract:** Adjourn to close session: Ms. Foster was not in attendance to discuss her employment contract for the TA Grant 2021. Adjourn to open session. Report on closed session. Postponed discussion of employment agreement until employee is present to review and sign.
7. **New Business:**
- A. 2022/23 TRCD Operating Budget.** Director Casdorff made a motion to approve the operating budget for the TRCS for 2022/23. Postpone grant budget unless it impacts the operating budget in a material manner which would then be brought back. All Ayes.
 - B. NACD money for employee training:** Director Barraclough made a motion to table this item. All ayes.
 - C. Mountain Festival Booth.** Director Casdorff made a motion to table this item also. All Ayes.
8. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Director Duggan is disappointed that the Board did not have proper notification and review of the fire grant so the Board could have approved it. Directors Barraclough and Casdorff agreed.
8. **Adjourn:** Director Duggan made a motion to adjourn at 1:40 p.m. All Ayes.
Next meeting August 11, 2022

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