

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
YUBA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**9:00 am Friday November 22, 2019**

**To be held at the Yuba County Resource Conservation District Office  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 129, Marysville**

**A. ROLL CALL**

**President Alyssa Lindman called the meeting to order at 9:14 AM at the Yuba County Resource Conservation District Office conference room in Marysville, CA.**

Roll Call:

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	
<b>Directors</b>	Director Alyssa Lindman		
	Director Gary Fildes		
	Director Doug Neilson		

**Others present:**

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**ACTION ITEMS**

**President Lindman made a motion to approve both Resolution #19-5 (Item B) and Resolution #19-6 (Item C) as written. Director Neilson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

President Lindman signed the Resolutions and their respective letters (2 copies of each). 1 copy went into the YCRCD files, and President Lindman took the other copies for delivery to the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council.

**B. RESOLUTION #19-5. APPROVING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE YUBA WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FIRE SAFE COUNCIL'S CAL FIRE CCI FIRE PREVENTION GRANT APPLICATION**

**C. RESOLUTION #19-6. APPROVING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE YUBA WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FIRE SAFE COUNCIL'S CAL FIRE CCI FOREST HEALTH GRANT APPLICATION**

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**DISCUSSION/REPORTS**

## **D. DIRECTOR'S INPUT**

There were a number of topics discussed during Director's Input:

### **1. Development of a YCRCD webpage and associated costs.**

Director Neilson was looking into options for hosting a webpage and was concentrating on services that didn't cost much. There would be a charge for reserving the domain name and that would probably be yearly, and then there was a cost for hosting the webpage. Hosting would be on a monthly rate, but we might have to pay it in yearly amounts. He was planning around the idea of having about a 4-page site to begin with. One page for introduction, one for contact info, one for our long-range plan, and one to post minutes, agendas, and resolutions.

The domain will be yubarcd.org. Eventually, we will need to reserve yubarcd.com. Assuming the domain name is case sensitive, the domain will be in all lower case.

**2. Yuba County Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council.** They are pursuing becoming a 501(c)(3). The major obstacle appears to be the lack of an income stream. The FSC is going to the YWA with the idea that they'll fund Steve Andrew's position for several years. This would provide an income stream and allow the FSC to qualify for 501(c)(3) status.

501(c)(3) is also something that Director Neilson feels would be a useful designation for the YCRCD. Although we are a Special District which provides some advantages, a 501(c)(3) provides tax benefits for donors. Director Neilson will pursue getting a 501(c)(3) designation for the YCRCD, if possible.

There was also some concern of finding our role in Yuba County's resource efforts. It seems that the FSC is already doing things that would also be appropriate for us to do. Also, it seems that efforts to find funding or support for an organization to fill these roles is being focused on the FSC. Given the fact that we are brand new, and the FSC has been around for a while and steeped in a major concern of the region – fire protection and prevention - we are very much a tag along. We need to figure out how we can exist with the FSC and compliment its efforts instead of overlapping. Director Fildes felt that a possible direction for us is to work with the smaller landowners and homeowners to evaluate what they need to make their land more fire resilient.

**3. Our consensus is that we should work to have an outside bank account and try to become more independent of the County agencies.** Director Neilson will ask Supervisor Fletcher about establishing our own account and acquiring a 501(c)(3) status. With our own taxpayer ID number, bank account (and accounting), and the ability to provide a tax write-off for potential donors, we would come a long way towards being our own, independent entities with the ability to raise funds and direct them where needed. Director Fildes will check with his tax preparer about what they feel is needed for the YCRCD.

**4. Director Fildes also suggested that we might be able to take over homeowner defensible space evaluations for Yuba County.** The FSC will be sending some people to Nevada County for Defensible Space Advisor training with the idea of starting up an effort here to advise our homeowners. He thought advising people would be a good role for our organization. Nevada County training is the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of December.

**5. Kate Wilkins is leaving her position at UC Extension.** Given the role she plays in Forest Health in the area the transition to someone, as yet unnamed, should be watched closely by us.

Director Fildes suggested we write a letter to the UC urging them to fill the position as quickly as possible.

The above discussions will be continued at next month's Regular Meeting.

**E. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no other business in front of the Board, Director Fildes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. President Fildes seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 PM.**