

**Grizzly Flats Community Services District  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board  
January 10, 2014**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Grizzly Flats CSD Board of Directors was called to order at 9:02 AM by Director Legrand.

**ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD**

Present: Directors Ball, Davidson, Legrand, Sullivan and Updike

Absent: None

Others: Mark Almer, Nick Chapman, Rich Englefield, Kim Gustafson, Tim Howard, Steve Hupner, Mel Kelley, Jodi Lauther, Duane Nelson and Leo Rainwater.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG** was led by Director Legrand.

**B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA- Director Ball made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed with all Directors present voting aye.**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT** - There was no public comment.

**D. PRESENTATION – United States Forest Service (USFS) - Duane Nelson & Tim Howard will discuss the Trestle Forest Health Project. The Board will review the proposed work, the time frame of the project and how it may affect the District's watershed –** Duane Nelson mentioned that the purpose of the project is commercial thinning and fuel reduction work, which will drape over the District's watershed to make it more resistant to wildfires.

Tim Howard presented the District with maps for project alternative 2, project alternative 3, project alternative 4, a Wildland Urban Intermix Zone map (which displays the threat and defense zones as well as the Strategically Placed Land Area Treatment Areas (SPLATs)), and a map from the Grizzly Flats Community Services District which shows the location of our diversion dams.

Tim began to discuss the status of the project, and where they are in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) timeline. Currently, they are writing a draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the Trestle Forest Health Project. They expect to get the draft EIS published for public review and comment sometime in February. As citizens, the District will receive a copy of the document and notification so that we can provide our comments. Tim is getting all of the specialist effects analysis reports in now. Each resource area has to analyze the effects on their particular resource for the proposed activities. Alternative 2 is the preferred option, wherein they would do over 4,000 acres of commercial thinning and natural stands, treating around 500 acres of plantations. The other activities are going to vary somewhat in detail, hand thinning and pruning within 500 feet of the property line in the red area around the Grizzly Flats private property. They would also do lots of hand thinning and commercial harvesting, restoration activities, enhancing, cleaning and restoration for all of the water holes, reconstruction for about 53 miles of roads, brushing and cleaning of the culverts, drainage ditches, and brushing down the main roads. Tim then mentioned that part of the proposed actions is mitigation measures or design criteria, which is what they use to mitigate harmful things that can affect particular activities such as limited operating periods for spotted owls, and for archaeological void sites which they flag and avoid. They will have the same design criteria set-up for the diversion dams, which will be input into the NEPA documents. Once Tim gets it typed up, he will send a copy to the District for review.

Tim then mentioned that Lawrence Crabtree is the new Forest Supervisor, who will be the deciding official on this project. This project will have a big impact on the rural infrastructure and maintaining the local logging industry at the same time of achieving the defensive threat zone, as they plan to log 25-27 million board feet (20,000 acre analysis area.) The entire project is within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), so their treatments will follow the direction as described in the 2004 Sierra Nevada Land Management Plan amendment which means that they can do more intensive treatments (more thinning of larger trees, opening up the canopies more often), particularly in the areas around the red zones. The purpose of this is to be better able to stop a fire in proximity to developed urban

areas. In that perimeter, about ¼ mile out of the private property boundaries has been identified that as the threat zone, which is their highest level of concern. The next threat zone extends 1.5 miles beyond the property boundaries. They've identified the District's infrastructure along North Canyon and our drainages as a high concern for fire protection.

Director Ball mentioned that our headwaters areas are being overgrown with vegetation which is impeding the water flow, and he asked if the Forest Service will be addressing any of those overgrown areas. Duane Nelson suggested that the Board submit that as a comment, as they typically do not treat any Riparian areas, but rather avoid wet areas and springs. They currently do not plan to do any water flow enhancement type of treatments with this project. In riparian areas, they usually allow natural processes to process. Duane Nelson said that they have more latitude to do hand treatments in areas with high slash and/or debris buildups. Director Updike asked if any of the alternatives would improve aquifer percolation for spring production. Duane Nelson said that there's been a lot of research done to see what can enhance water percolation and capture, and mentioned that it's really difficult work to do. He said that anything they can do to capture snow and reduce the rate of the melt rates improves the water situation. By leaving high canopy closure but thinning further down the canopies, snow is able to collect on the ground rather than in the trees, and lasts longer under the canopy shade versus evaporating from the tree tops. Director Updike asked if there is a significant difference in alternatives relative to the number of trees being removed. Tim Howard said there is no real difference in the number of trees being removed within the various alternatives. Tim mentioned that Alternative 1 is a no action alternative. Alternative 2 would basically pay for itself, as the Forest Service would make approximately \$2.2 million in stewardship funding via timber sales. Under this alternative, they would plan to cut trees up to 29.9" in diameter. Alternative 3 would cost \$3.6 million, and is a non-commercial alternative wherein they would only reduce fuzz (trees 4" to 12" in diameter), only logging around 3 million board feet. Alternative 4 would cost \$2.7 million, responding to a recent study of the California spotted owls, designed to treat the same footprint as alternative 2, with a lot less intensity to maintain owl habitats. All alternatives would allow removal of larger trees if they posed a roadside hazard.

Director Updike asked which option would allow the best potential for future cooperative work. Duane Nelson said that he could look into that. Director Ball inquired as to whether or not we can work together to eliminate problems with the overgrown areas at the headwaters. Duane Nelson responded to say that should be submitted as a comment to the project.

Director Legrand asked what the current timeline is. Tim Howard responded to say that the process takes a total of 110 days. First, the draft Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is sent out and 45 days are allowed for review and comment. Then, Tim has a 45 day period to respond to any submitted comments. Next, the pre-decision objection process begins where phone meetings and such are conducted to receive any potential objections to the project. Finally, Lawrence Crabtree will make a final decision.

**\* Break from 10:13 - 10:26 \***

## **E. ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

- 1. Nominate and elect Board positions for the 2014 calendar year** – Kim Gustafson said that the Board should nominate and elect the Board Chair and Vice Chair positions by board motion and vote.

**Director Updike made a motion to nominate Andre Legrand to the Board Chair position. Director Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

**Director Updike made a motion to nominate Art Davidson to the Vice Chair position. Director Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

- 2. Review Standing Committees and Ad-hoc Committees to determine if any changes are needed** – Kim Gustafson said that the Board should review the Standing and Ad-hoc committees and their purpose to determine if they will be needed in 2014. Following a brief discussion, it was decided that the committees would remain as they are.

3. **Appoint Members to committees for the 2014 calendar year** – Jodi Lauther said that the Board should make any desired changes to the committee roster by motion and vote. Director Legrand expressed interest in being added to the Finance & Budget Committee. Director Sullivan expressed interest in being added to the Fire/Emergency Plan Committee.

**Director Ball moved that Director Legrand be added to the Finance & Budget Committee. Director Updike 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

**Director Ball moved that Director Sullivan be added to the Fire/Emergency Plan Committee. Director Updike 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

4. **Adopt the “Schedule of Regular Board Meetings” for the 2014 calendar year** - Kim Gustafson said that the Board members should adopt the “Schedule of Regular Board Meetings” for the 2014 calendar year.

**Director Updike moved that the “Schedule of Regular Board Meetings” for the 2014 calendar year be accepted as presented. Director Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

5. **Confirm the service of Mel Kelley as District Treasurer and Kim Gustafson as Board Secretary for the 2014 calendar year** – Director Legrand confirmed that Mel Kelley still wanted to act as District Treasurer, and that Kim Gustafson still wishes to act as Board Secretary.

6. **California Special District Association’s (CSDA’s) Free Online AB1234 Ethics Compliance Training** – Kim Gustafson mentioned that since the District renewed their CSDA membership prior to January 1, 2014, the Board and staff have been offered a free AB1234 Ethics Compliance Training which can be completed online prior to March 7, 2014.

- F. CONSENT CALENDAR-** These items are expected to be routine business not normally requiring discussion. Action by the Board was taken at one time with one motion.

1. **Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on December 13, 2013.**
2. **Receive and file Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) “2014 Board of Directors Election Ballot.”**

**Director Updike made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Director Davidson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

- G. OFFICE & FINANCE / Jodi Lauther, General Manager**

***Monthly review of Office Operations***

1. **2014 rate adjustment for Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan** – Jodi Lauther said that she received notification that the District’s water rights attorney’s office (Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan) will be raising their rates by \$10 per hour, from \$305 per hour to \$315 per hour. She also mentioned that most of our charges with them are covered by cost share with the El Dorado County Water Agency.

**Director Sullivan made a motion to approve the 2014 rate adjustment from Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan. Director Updike 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

***Monthly review of Financial Operations***

2. **Present the financial reports, spending and purchase orders issued for December 2013** – Jodi Lauther told the Board that some quarterly payments were due last month. Additionally, there were some charges for retesting, the heater, tires for the truck, safety footwear, and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) annual system fee. On a positive note, the 2013 election costs came in a lot lower than expected at \$594.96, shown under account #65200.

Jodi then reported that there were no CIP expenses. She also stated that the income listed on page 11 was pulled from the County's November reports, and that the bulk of the standby charges will be coming in next month. She then noted that our lien balance continues to go down. Director Legrand mentioned to Director Davidson that on page 14, the PG&E expenses for the District office were down 15%.

**Director Updike made a motion to approve the financial reports, spending and purchase orders issued for December 2013 as presented. Director Ball 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

- 3. Discuss the District's account at El Dorado Savings Bank, holding funds collected for Grizzly Pond Improvements – (1) What should be done with the funds in this account? (2) The signers on this account need to be updated** - Jodi Lauther reported that there is approximately \$1,400 remaining in the Grizzly Pond Improvement account at El Dorado Savings Bank, which was collected by donation to make improvements at that property. She stated that the current signers for that account are Jodi Lauther, Rich Englefield, and Director Ball, and that they need to update the signers following Rich Englefield's resignation. Additionally, she recommended that the committee review how the money should be spent.

Director Ball noted that the sign at Grizzly Pond needs to be repainted. Director Legrand noted that we will need some chains and padlocks for the tables. He also mentioned that he plans to do some more tree trimming work on the property next week. Director Updike volunteered to help Director Legrand with the tree trimming work, if needed.

**Director Sullivan made a motion to change signers at El Dorado Savings Bank from Richard Englefield, Robert Ball, and Jodi Lauther to Doug Updike, Robert Ball, and Jodi Lauther. Director Ball 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. There was no further discussion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye.**

## **H. OPERATIONS / Leo Rainwater, Water System Manager**

### ***Monthly review of plant and field operations***

- 1. Present the GFCSD System Report for December 2013** - Leo Rainwater stated that the concentration of Hypochlorite was dropping even though the chemical amounts look higher. He also mentioned that there was an issue with the disinfection byproduct sampling where the Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) results came back at two times the maximum contaminant level (mcl). Upon contacting the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), he was told to rerun the samples. The results for the second set of samples came back closer to the normal level. The lab is investigating whether or not the first set of results were elevated due to a potential error. Leo then went on to report that the flow in the diversions has gone up a little due to the recent storms, but that they are dropping back down. He mentioned that we had 18 leak investigations due to the freezing temperatures. It was mentioned that we had three bills which exceeded \$100 due to the water usage incurred from leaks. Director Updike thought that the penalties for the high water usage seemed small. It was reported that our first tier above the normal water usage allotment charges customers conservatively, which has been mentioned in the past. It was decided that the Finance and Budget committee would review the District's rate structure again this summer, to modify it if necessary.

Director Updike asked if the water levels were adequate at the diversions. Director Legrand responded to say that we will need to see what the weather holds in store for the future. Leo Rainwater said that historically speaking, the diversions don't dry out until the end of a three year drought.

Director Legrand asked if Leo Rainwater had a chance to review Doug Veerkamp General Engineering's quote for the Forest View Bypass. Leo said that he has not yet, but that he would like to review that information with the Operations committee when possible.

## GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

### I. CONSERVATION

Director Ball requested that staff send out a newsletter with the January 2014 bills, to promote conservation. Director Updike said that Lorna Bernard was going to publish an article within Grizzly Flats Firesafe Council's newsletter and "the Turnout," focusing on the fact that our District's water supply is spring based, and in result, is not as vulnerable during the current water shortage. Director Legrand mentioned that the trapped air within Eagle Ditch concerns him, and that he would like to see the air release valves installed.

### J. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 1. Water Operations Committee (Legrand, Updike, Rainwater)

- a. **Update on quotes for cathodic protection systems** – Director Legrand said that the committee hasn't met yet and there is nothing to report.

#### 2. Solar Committee (Updike, Ball and Rainwater)

- a. **Continuing the solar electric generation discussion** – Director Ball reported that he has not had any additional feedback from Solar Hut, and is assuming that they discovered that it's not economically possible for them to do what they proposed for the District. He then said that during the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) conference this past December, he met Solar City who is the ACWA's preferred solar vendor. They came up with some ideas and possibilities which may make solar power possible for the District. Director Ball sent Solar City copies our most recent PG&E bills, which they are currently analyzing. He hopes to hear back from them sometime next week. Additionally, Director Ball contacted the Energy Saving Pros, Inc. in Rocklin, CA, and is currently awaiting their return call.

#### 3. Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

- a. **Board Member Orientation to MCWRA and Water Issues Presentation** – Jodi Lauther reported that John Kingsbury of the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) has offered to make a Board Member Orientation to MCWRA and Water Issues presentation to the Board, although she's not sure where the presentation would be made. Interest was expressed by Director Legrand, Director Sullivan (if the meeting was here locally,) Director Updike, and Director Ball. Director Legrand requested that staff get additional information to bring back to the Board.

### K. EL DORADO COUNTY WATER AGENCY (EDCWA) / Robert Ball, Board member

1. **Discussion of the regular meeting of the El Dorado County Water Agency held on January 8, 2014** – Director Ball reported that he is no longer on the El Dorado County Water Agency's Board of Directors, as Georgetown Public Utilities District has assigned a representative from their District in our place.

### L. ANNOUNCEMENTS / DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Director Updike asked if anything is needed while we await the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) from the U.S. Forest Service in regard to the Trestle Forest Health Project. The Board decided to word our comments to the EIS carefully, and to have it ready early. It was decided that the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) discussion would be added to the agenda for our February 14, 2014 regular meeting.

### M. ADJOURN

**ADJORNMENT- Director Ball made a motion to adjourn. Director Sullivan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Director Legrand called for a vote. The motion passed with all directors present voting aye. The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM.** The next regular meeting will be at 9:00 am on Friday, February 14, 2014 at The Grizzly Flats CSD office.

Minutes submitted by:

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*Kim Gustafson, Board Secretary*

Approved by:

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*GFCSO Board Chair*

Date:

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