



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 28, 2019 Minutes

ITEM NO.

1.00 Call to order – Butte County Public Works Facility, 44 Bellarmine Ct, Chico, CA

2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

2.01 Roll Call – **Members:** Nick Repanich, Thad Walker, Teri Faulkner, Trish Puterbaugh, Dan Taverner (pending reappointment), Peggy Moak (interim, non-voting)

Alternates: Vance Severin, Bob Gage, Angel Gomez, Pete Moak

Guests: Wolfy Rougle (Butte County RCD), David Brillenz (District Ranger, Feather River Ranger District (FRRD), Plumas National Forest), Clay Davis (NEPA Planner, FRRD); Frank Stewart; Jim Shary, Rich Faulkner, Daryl Bender; Justin Cox

2.02 Self-introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests, and Public

3.00 Consent Agenda

3.01 Minutes of 12-17-2018 meeting reviewed and approved. M: Puterbaugh, 2nd Faulkner Approved 4-0.

4.00 Agenda

4.01 Wolfy Rougle: Position Grants Available for Forest Health Watershed Coordinators- Letter of Support Requested

The California Department of Conservation (DOC) has released guidelines for eight new Forest Health Watershed Coordinator position grants. The principal goal of the Forest Health Watershed Coordinator Program is to improve watershed health by providing support for local, collaborative watershed improvement efforts. The program aims to restore health and resilience to forests at the watershed scale for multiple benefits, including water quality. Local entities have the best understanding of the environmental and social context within which statewide forest management practices can be executed, along with the needs of individual watershed regions. It has been shown that local leadership – such as an on-the-ground coordinator – can help communities plan projects and leverage funds to achieve forest watershed health, especially in critical areas. The Camp Fire has created additional challenges in managing the Butte County watersheds, and a dedicated grant writer in the watershed coordinator position could be of immense value in terms of achieving funding for necessary fuels reduction and restoration projects.

Motion: Recommend a Letter of Support for the Butte County Resource Conservation District grant application be issued by the Board of Supervisors M-Repanich, 2nd Puterbaugh, Motion approved 3-0, with 1 abstention (Walker)

4.02 Plumas National Forest OSV DEIS – David Brillenz provided the committee with a brief update on the OSV DEIS. The comment period will likely be extended again, due to the Government Shutdown. A public meeting will be held in Quincy at a date TBD. The current recommendation is alternative number five.

4.03 Forest Projects Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for USFS projects affecting Butte County residents' forest management, recreational, environmental, socio-economic interests(Chair)

- Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, Clay Davis (District Planner): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – The Mooretown Ridge fuels reduction project will involve thinning, and prescribed fire on 3000 acres of insect and disease affected trees. The focus on fuels reduction and restoration will likely shift to the Camp Fire burn area in the PNF.

- Lassen NF Almanor Ranger District- Russell Nickerson (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – NO REPORT

- 4.04 OHV Grant Update – Thad Walker reported that the Granite Basin project scoping will occur at the PNF Collaborators meeting, now scheduled for February 12 in Oroville at the District office at 875 Mitchell Ave.5-7 PM. The RCD is also collaborating with the Hillsliders and Butte County, as well as the Lassen National Forest, to further develop and enhance recreational opportunities and additional parking and improvements at Colby Meadows. The Four Trees Feasibility Grant has been completed. The next OHV grant cycle is coming up, but staff capacity is limited at this time.
- 4.05 Roads and Grant Updates: NO REPORT. The Committee requested an update on the ML2/ML# OHV use project.
- 4.06 New Business – Considerations for upcoming meeting agendas: Next meeting is January 28, 2019 - Chico, 5:00 PM
- ML2/ML3 5 Counties Road Use Project - Update
 - South Feather Water & Sewer District - Recreation and Water Projects
 - Fish & Wildlife
 - Bill Smith – Retired Forester – and panel on forest management
- 4.07 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)