



Board Meeting Agenda with Actions

June 6, 2024 – Southeast Subregion – Bishop, CA

Board Meeting

Cerro Coso Community College - Bishop Campus - 4090 W. Line Street, Bishop, CA
93514

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Oath of Office for New Boardmembers

3. Roll Call

Present:

- Ed Valenzuela
- Elizabeth Cavasso
- Lisa Lien-Mager
- Jack Garamendi
- Cindy Gustafson
- Jeff Griffiths
- Bob Johnston
- Michele Perrault
- Victoria Rome
- Dennis Townsend
- Elizabeth Berger
- Christopher Heppe
- Cicely Muldoon

Absent:

- John Brissenden

4. Approval of March 7, 2024, Meeting Minutes (ACTION)

Boardmember Jack Garamendi moved and Boardmember Elizabeth Cavasso seconded a motion to approve the March 7, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

5. Board Chair’s Report (ACTION)

Boardmember Ed Valenzuela moved and Boardmember Jeff Griffiths seconded a motion to adopt 06-24-02: Honoring former Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Board Chair, Terry O’Brien, for his years of dedicated service and contributions to the SNC.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

6. Executive Officer’s Report (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Executive Officer Update
- b. Administrative Update
- c. Policy & Outreach Update

7. Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program Award Recommendations (ACTION)

a. #1637

Little Deer Creek Landscape Resilience Project in Nevada County in the amount of \$823,500 to the Yuba Watershed Institute with a CEQA Notice of Exemption.

Action

Boardmember Cindy Gustafson moved and Boardmember Dennis Townsend seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Exemption for the Little Deer Creek Landscape Resilience Project (1637), authorize a grant award in the amount of \$823,500 to the Yuba Watershed Institute, and authorize staff to enter into agreements necessary for project implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

b. #1663

Northwest End Royal Gorge Fuels Reduction project in Placer County in the amount of \$1,280,200 to the Truckee Donner Land Trust and authorize the filing of a CEQA Notice of Determination as a responsible agency.

1. CEQA Determination

Boardmember Jack Garamendi moved and Boardmember Elizabeth Cavasso seconded a motion to certify that the Governing Board independently reviewed and considered the information in the Timber Harvesting Plan No. 2-23-00120-PLA, adopted by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and all mitigation measures required within, and if the Board concurs with the Timber Harvesting Plan No. 2-23-00120-PLA, find that the Timber Harvesting Plan complies with the conditions contained within CEQA Guidelines, section 15253, subd. (b) allowing SNC to rely on the Timber Harvesting Plan for its determination as a responsible agency under CEQA.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

2. Action- Project Determination

Boardmember Cindy Gustafson moved and Boardmember Ed Valenzuela seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Determination as a responsible agency for the Northwest End Royal Gorge Fuels Reduction project (1663), conditionally approve, based on funding availability as of the 2024 Budget Act, a grant award in the amount of \$1,280,200 to the Truckee Donner Land Trust, and authorize staff to enter into agreements necessary for project implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

c. #1689

Hat Creek Lumber project in Shasta County in the amount of \$1,500,000 to the Pit Resource Conservation District and authorize the filing of a CEQA Notice of Determination as a responsible agency.

1. CEQA Determination

Boardmember Dennis Townsend moved and Boardmember Jeff Griffiths seconded a motion to certify that the Governing Board independently reviewed and considered the information in the Eastside Aggregates Project Environmental Impact Report (2000), with Addendum 1 (2016) and Addendum 2 (2023), and accompanying Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Sierra Nevada Conservancy's CEQA Findings; and if the Board concurs with the Eastside Aggregates Project Environmental Impact Report and Addenda, adopt the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's CEQA Findings.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

2. Action- Project Determination

Boardmember Dennis Townsend moved and Boardmember Elizabeth Cavasso seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Determination as a responsible agency for the Hat Creek Lumber project (1689), conditionally approve, based on funding availability as of the 2024 Budget Act, a grant award in the amount of \$1,500,000 to the Pit Resource Conservation District, and authorize staff to enter into agreements necessary for project implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

d. #1692

Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley Fire Protection Project in Placer County in the amount of \$2,449,498 to the National Forest Foundation with a CEQA Notice of Exemption.

Action

Boardmember Cindy Gustafson moved and Boardmember Jeff Griffiths seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Exemption for the Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley Fire Protection Project (1692), conditionally approve, based on funding availability as of the 2024 Budget Act, a grant award in the amount of \$2,449,498 to the National Forest Foundation, and authorize staff to enter into agreements necessary for project implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

8. Grant 1289 Graham Landscape Planning Project Amendment (ACTION)

Boardmember Dennis Townsend moved and Boardmember Elizabeth Cavasso seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Officer to file a Notice of Exemption for the Graham Landscape Planning Project (1289), approve the revised project scope per the Exhibit A, and authorize staff to amend the grant agreement with American Forests.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

9. 2024-2029 Strategic Plan (ACTION)

- Attachment A: Draft 2024-2029 Strategic Plan

Action

Boardmember Jeff Griffiths moved and Boardmember Ed Valenzuela seconded a motion to approve the draft 2024-2029 Strategic Plan and direct staff to take the necessary actions for its successful implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

10. Action Plan Update (ACTION)

- Attachment A: Draft 2024-2025 Action Plan

Action

Boardmember Elizabeth Cavasso moved and Boardmember Jack Garamendi seconded a motion to approve the draft 2024-25 Action Plan and direct staff to take the necessary actions for its successful implementation.

After a Board vote the results were: Aye – 10, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. The motion passed.

11. Boardmembers' Comments

12. Public Comments

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Additional Board Materials

- Key Meetings and Presentations
- Letters of Support
- [Sierra Spotlight](#)