RCD Meeting 4/17/24

Graham calls meeting into order at 6:06pm

In attendance for board members: Graham Meese, Katie Doonan, Chance Rossi

Soon to be scheduled meeting with the county treasurer, tax collector, and the auditor

Christie Martindale with the county went over what it would take to hire staff. The RCD would need to have new policies in place, and have workman comp insurance. The RCD can get an MOU with NRCS for office space and vehicle use. Discussed that there are 10hrs per year of consultation with attorney available to the RCD. The county charges to do payroll. Discussion on what would be considered a contractor vs an employee. The next steps are to create a budget, get a state id #, create policies (can look at CA chamber of commerce). The county does a monthly payroll. CSD has general liability insurance.

Approve 3/13/24 Meeting minutes

Katie Doonan moves to approve the 3/13/24 meeting minutes Chance seconds, All I, motion carries.

Update on potential funding of part time staff with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Funding is looking good. White Bark Institute needs to do more paperwork with the conservancy. Thinking that the RCD could essentially take a non profit’s handbook and turn it into a handbook for the RCD. Thoughts to hire staff to do fire prevention oversite and coordinate agencies. Talked about the Inyo-Mono water management district and if the RCD can take donations. Nothing needs to be done for the water management group until late in the year. They have about $30,000 in the pot that could supplement the RCD’s employee’s funding.

Talked about how the next RCD should be Monday May 6th at 6pm.

Jen Roeser is working with the Ag Commissioner talking to agencies about the weed management group. Russian thistle/tumbleweed is a problem and that is why they want to bring back the weed management group. Ideally the RCD would have a role in the weed management group. Weeds are adding up to the fuels problem. Thought of if tumbleweed bonfires could return. There are liability problems with burning. If the RCD can get a grant the ag commissioner can supply workforce.

Kristen has hose etc for people interested. Possibility for community burn association.

Prioritization Exercise

Preview of exercise for discussion and feedback

The RCD board will have some homework

Do some work in google docs prior to the meeting at the end of May. Have a more informed discussion.

Graham motions to adjourn the meeting, Chance seconds. All I, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.