Meeting called to order at 5:43pm

Public Comment

* Kristen showing wildfire resilience month flyer

Roll call: Jarret Phillips, Chance Rossi, Kay Ogden – Present

 Graham Meese & Katie Doonan Absent

Public Attendance: Mikhala Bornstein, Steve Nelson, Rick Kattelman, Kristen Pfeiler, Aaron Wilcher

Inyo-Mono RCD Meeting

* Balance for this year’s fiscal budget (made it sound like all they have left, but it is just what we have for this year in the budget)
* Minutes need to be tabled for the next meeting

Treasurers report

* No action from last meeting
* $5,954 remaining in this year’s fiscal year’s budget
* Additional paperwork submitted for audit, just stuff that is done every year

IMRCD Policy Updates

* Update on review by county council
* Need to talk to Jen Roseser
* Tabled for next meeting

CSDA membership

* RCD wants to join at reduced rate
* Jarret entertains motion to approve annual membership for Kay so moved seconded by Chance
* Jarret entertains ammended motion to approve annual membership for CSDA not to exceed $100 Kay so moved seconded by Chance

IMRCD Staffing & Grant Opportunities

* Jarret talked to Jen Roeser, Nate Greenberg didn’t know about the whitebark grant
* Kay asked for a meeting with Nate Greenberg
* Jen Roeser sent documents from the county
* Steve and Mikhala are going to look for the documents (original charter and resolution) needed on 4/23/25
* Kay brought up proposing a new resolution after getting legal council
* Jarret wants someone to be a board chair that can take more on for the RCD board, no capacity to do what needs to be done for the RCD board, he does not have any intentions to get off the board, the RCD just needs to figure this out – he is not sure what direction to go with the RCD if there is someone who can volunteer more time and effort. RCD will be great once past the hurdles. Kay is going to commit to really get things done this next month. Kristen thinking two things that could help with capacity – her role is changing and she is trying to come up with projects and priorities in this region. She thinks the RCD could fill a lot of gaps. Thinking people could understand the RCD more/invest more in the RCD. ESCOG got a sierra jobs first position designed to showcase need and value of organizations and get them set up. Steve doesn’t think the chair should need to do any heavy lifting just needs to be a leader and have a passion because that does a lot. Steve doesn’t want to commit too much time but believes we need an RCD. It has never been filled as good as it could have been. RCDs are not well understood here. Inyo and Mono county do not have a resource branch, both counties are resource based economy’s (have been & always will be). The missing link is that recreation is resource based – which is often forgotten. We need an RCD to help us take care of that. Aaron wondering what an education effort could look like- what could be the result of better understanding? Not sure – need to keep calling Nate. Having Jen’s involvement with these meetings is crucial. Eventually RCD meetings will be quarterly. We have been diligent showing up we just need to figure something out. Kay happy to step in and help. Kay will call Jen, Nate, and Jarret to figure things out. Jarret will call Jen. Kay will send an email outlining steps.

IMRCD Support for CWPP

* Steve getting close to wrapping things up. The RCD has come up more than once as a potential useful entity to move the CWPP forward. This will probably be a top recommendation to White Bark. The RCD is an independent special district. If there is CEQA the RCD could be the lead agency. Steve has had many conversations with non leasees and permit holders, there is no entity (including DWP) that wants to touch fire mitigation. Nobody is going near it, it is “not their job”. The top two entities that could do vegetation management are CalFire and the RCD. Kristen says especially at the scale we need to do it. Lots of interest in fire mitigation. Broad support but what is it. Rick – There is a huge missing link that nobody wants to be the lead agency even on tiny projects. Funding often requires CEQA, bigger question is who would do CEQA. Steve – need to get help. There is space to have a get together of leasee and permit holders to share information. Everyone could go home with someone that they could use. Steve getting back to Whitebark on priorities on what work to do. He talked to DWP leasees, elected officials and got himself oriented with what was happening in Bishop. Aaron - What happens after this is written up? Steve- Whitebark will try to allocate funds to get some of the work done. Whitebark would also go after additional grants. Kristen – treatment, scope, and project implementation a lot different in Bishop than Mammoth. One entity (forest service) in Mammoth vs multiple entities in Bishop. If everyone did a little in Bishop it would be a large impact. Some of the biggest challenges in Bishop is the infrastructure, but everyone can play a part. Kristen understands everything going on and we are lucky to have her. Chance – The RCD used to be simple you would borrow equipment or receive funding for a project. He is trying to wrap his head around the number of hurdles we are going through. Why is it so difficult to do these projects. The board did not evolve with the times. We need to show the RCD’s value in order for people to be on board. Ask CARCD what the rule book is so it is not coming from someone’s interpretation. RCD could just get in the room with county council.
* Mono county is updating their CWPP if anyone wants to be connected with that.

Additional Board Member & Staff Reports

* Discussed potential for Local Working Group meeting at the next RCD Meeting

Agenda

* Discussion of NRCS

Chance motions to adjourn meeting Jarret seconds Kay so moved. Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.