

**RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FRESNO COUNTY
WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 27, 2010
USFS - SIERRA NF SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE
CLOVIS, CA
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER – Patrick Emmert called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT – Self Introductions

Group A Members: Barbara Ferguson, Patrick Emmert, Kirby Molen, Shane Krogen, Charley Mills;

Group B Members: Charles Peck, Patrick Kelly, Chris Oberti, Charles Horst;

Group C Members: Allen Clyde, Lawrence Wilder, Loran Martin, Roger Welton, Bea Olsen;

U. S. FOREST SERVICE COORDINATORS PRESENT – Ray Porter, High Sierra RD; John Exline, Hume Lake RD; Robbin Ekman, High Sierra RD;

GUESTS PRESENT – Tracy Rowland, Bill Eklund

- 1. Summary of 2010 Projects and Requested Funding** – Patrick Emmert stated that Robbin Ekman has prepared Committee Voting Forms for each group listing specific Projects and Requested Funding; A change to the Requested Funding for the Environmental Adventures project is necessary and each Member will make the correction upon receiving the form. Patrick Kelly commented on the presence of project proponents remaining in the room during Committee Discussions. The Guests were asked to wait for the conclusion of Discussions in the Reception Room in case any questions were raised concerning their projects.
- 2. USFS Clarification of Any Issues Concerning Projects** – Ray Porter commented that he had concerns over one funding item within the Environmental Adventures project; Patrick Emmert noted that revised funding amounts were submitted for that project to reflect the correction of the issue; Tracy Rowland was advised that the RAC/USFS would require the correction of the Title II Project Submission Form to reflect the revised funding amounts.
- 3. Project Discussion – RAC Committee Members** – Barbara Ferguson voiced her opinions concerning: the Wilderness Rangers Project; the inclusion of RAC funds within various submitted projects that funded USFS Monitoring of the projects to insure compliance with “best management practices”, NEPA, and project goals. Ray Porter advised that the OHV Ground Operations project contained funding for NEPA/CEQA (\$4,500) & ESA Consulting (\$1,500) that will not be necessary due to the nature of the project. Committee discussion ensued resulting in:
Motion to remove funding for USFS Monitoring of project; Seconded; Vote – 7 Yes, 6 NO; Approved; Chris Oberti voiced her opinion concerning: The Environmental Adventures project; the Fire Lookout Restoration project; Patrick Emmert advised the “waiting” project proponents that no questions had arose concerning their projects during discussion and they could leave.

4. **Project Voting** – Kirby Molen amended the Requested Funding amounts for those projects that included funding for USFS Monitoring: Sierra Unit Backcountry Work Project (-\$2500); Clean Forest Projects (-\$1,560); OHV Ground Operations Project (-\$1,500 and -\$6,000 (ESA/NEPA)). Voting Forms were passed out to members; Members corrected their forms to reflect corrected funding amounts as outlined herein and thereafter moved to separate rooms for voting as Groups A, B, & C. Group C Member Allen Clyde departs from the meeting prior to voting.
5. **Summarization of Group Voting** – The Ranking of Projects by Groups were summarized and resulted in the following order of preference: #1 Pacific Crest Trail; #2 Kanawyer Trail; #3 SRCD/BCHC; tie #4 Huntington Lake Recreation Area; #4 Fire Lookout Restoration; #6 Generation Green Youth; #7 Environmental Adventures; #8 Ten Mile Overflow; #9 Chawanakee Learning Center; #10 Wilderness Rangers; #11 OHV Ground Operations; #12 Clean Forest Projects.

Total Funding Available is \$184,256.38

Discussion ensued on the 3 funding options for Environmental Adventures; A vote resulted in option 3 (\$41,148) being approved. Allocation of available funding allowed projects #1 - #9 being fully funded and #10 Wilderness Rangers being partially funded. A discussion on monitoring ensued concerning the Forest Supervisor's acceptance of the approved SRCD/BCHC project without USFS monitoring with reference to meetings that accompanied the 2009 BCHC project funding. This resulted in **Motion to restore monitoring funding (+\$2,500) to the SRCH/BCHC project; Seconded; Voted approval. Project Funding Amounts were then finalized as follows:**

HSVTC – Pacific Crest Trail	\$21,966
HSVTC – Huntington Lake	\$ 3,654
HSVTC – Kanawyer Trail	\$12,664
Fire Lookout Restoration	\$13,550
SRCD/BCHC	\$14,000
Wilderness Rangers	\$16,625.38
Chawanakee LC	\$ 8,500
Clean Forest Projects	
OHV Ground Operations	
Generation Green Youth	\$37,559
Ten Mile Overflow	\$14,590
Environmental Adventures	\$41,148
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	\$184,256.38

OLD BUSINESS – Robbin Ekman requested clarification of the Monitoring for 2009 Projects; Charles Horst responded that the BCHC project funded USFS monitoring; Charles Peck responded that he was monitoring 3 projects, all that remain unfinished; Project reports previously given by Wilderness Rangers & Central Valley Consortium.

FUTURE MEETINGS – WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 29, 2010 @ PRATHER 6:00 PM

ADJOURN AT 8:35 PM

Minutes reported by Patrick Emmert, Chairman 1/28/2010