

# **LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION AUTHORITY**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Moke Simon, County of Lake  
Jessica Pyska, County of Lake  
Jeffrey Thomas, Lakeport Fire Protection  
District  
Mike Ciancio, Northshore Fire Protection  
District  
Mike Wink, South Lake Fire Protection  
District  
Joe Huggins, Kelseyville Fire Protection  
District  
Willy Sapeta, Lake County Fire Protection  
District  
Paul Duncan, Cal Fire

Dianna Mann, Representative County Water  
Districts  
Kevin Ingram, City of Lakeport  
Russ Cremer, City of Clearlake  
Joseph Franklin Velarde, Middletown  
Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Terre Logsdon, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo  
Indians  
Robert Geary, Habematolel Pomo of  
Upper Lake  
TBD, Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians

### **Attendees:**

Stephen Carter- Chief Deputy County  
Administrative Officer  
Harry Lyons- RCD (Resource Conservation  
District)  
Jeff Tunnel- BLM (Bureau of Land  
Management)  
Brad Chatten- Resident  
Scott Harter- County, Special Districts  
Kristina Linder- CLERC (Clear Lake  
Environmental Research Center)  
Mike Shaver- Environmental Director,  
Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Lauren Berlinn- Public Information and  
Community Outreach Officer, LCSO  
Scott De Leon- County, Public Works  
Director  
Scott Webb- County of Lake  
Will Evans- CLERC (Clear Lake  
Environmental Research Center)

Magdalena Valderrama- SSCRA (Seigler  
Springs Community Association  
Redevelopment)  
Frank Aebly- Mendocino National Forest  
Angela Dow- Water Resources  
Tammy Alakszay- NCO (North Coast  
Opportunities, INC)  
Angelina Fagundo- NCO (North Coast  
Opportunities, INC)  
Lindsay Dailey- TERA (Tribal  
EcoRestoration Alliance)  
John Hackett- Caltrans District 1,  
Landscape specialist  
Bart Levenson- Resident  
Susan Parker- County, Assistant  
Administrative Officer  
Melinda Rivera- PG&E (Pacific Gas and  
Electric)

**Meeting Date: Monday, May 16, 2022, @ 3:00 p.m.**

**Location: Zoom**

**Meeting minutes**

**1. Call to Order by Director Moke Simon at 3:03 pm.**

**2. Roll call:**

Director Moke Simon- Here, Director Jessica Pyska- Here, Director Mike Ciancio- Here, Director Willy Sapeta- Here, Director Dianna Mann- Here, Director Kevin Ingram- Here, and Director Terre Logsdon- Here.

**Absent:** Director Jeffrey Thomas, Director Mike Wink, Director Joe Huggins, Director Paul Duncan, Director Russ Cremer, Director Joseph Velarde, and Director Robert Geary.

**3. Moment of Silence for the victims of the four mass shootings this past weekend.**

**4. Pledge of Allegiance led by Director Jessica Pyska.**

**5. Public Input:**

**Angelina Fagundo** commented on Agenda corrections.

**Tammy Alakszay** commented that the next LC RRA and CMAT meetings in June will fall on a Holiday.

**6. Consideration of Minutes from March 21, 2022:**

**Magdalena Valderrama** commented that the spelling for Seigler Springs is incorrect in item C.

**Director Jessica Pyska** called a motion to approve Minutes from March 21, 2022, as amended.

**Director Terre Logsdon** seconded the motion.

**Roll call:**

Director Moke Simon- Yes, Director Jessica Pyska- Yes, Director Mike Ciancio- Yes, Director Willy Sapeta- Yes, Director Dianna Mann- Yes, Director Kevin Ingram- Yes, and Director Terre Logsdon- Yes.

**Motion pass.**

**7. AB 361 Brown Act and Virtual Meetings-**

- a. Consideration of the Findings Required by AB 361 to Allow Teleconferenced Meetings by this Body to Continue

**Public comment:**

**Bart Levenson** commented on the Disaster Council attendees and consistency.

**Director Moke Simon** commented that he would reach out to Levenson outside of this meeting.

**Director Jessica Pyska** called a motion to consent AB 361 Brown Act and Virtual Meetings.

**Director Terre Logsdon** seconded the motion.

**Roll call:**

Director Moke Simon- Yes, Director Jessica Pyska- Yes, Director Mike Ciancio- Yes, Director Willy Sapeta- Yes, Director Dianna Mann- Yes, Director Kevin Ingram- Yes, and Director Terre Logsdon- Yes.

**Motion pass.**

- 8. Consideration of Letter of Engagement with CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) LLP for provision of the RRA audit for the two-year period ending June 30, 2022**  
**Stephen Carter** reported that \$10,500 is the cost of the audit. Carter also requested a copy of today's minutes once they have been approved by the Directors for the audit office.

**Director Moke Simon** commented that this will be the LC RRA's first audit, and the audit would happen bi-annually.

**Director comments:**

**Director Jessica Pyska** commented that the audit is a little over \$10,000, and the County is going to pay the audit this year, but this is something that would need to be paid through the LC RRA in two years.

**Stephen Carter** commented that the audit should be happening every 2 years, but the \$10,500 is higher this year because this is the initial audit. The next audit in two years should be approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000.

**Public comments: N/A**

**Director Jessica Pyska** called the motion to approve the Consideration of Letter of Engagement with CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) LLP for provision of the RRA audit for the two-year period ending June 30, 2022, for \$10,500 through the County of Lake.

**Director Mike Ciancio** seconded the motion.

**Roll call:**

Director Moke Simon- Yes, Director Jessica Pyska- Yes, Director Mike Ciancio- Yes, Director Willy Sapeta- Yes, Director Dianna Mann- Yes, Director Kevin Ingram- Yes, and Director Terre Logsdon- Yes.

**Motion pass.**

- 9. LC RRA Financials- Tammy Alakszay**
- a. 2022 – 2023 budget and renewal of NCO contract.
    - Fund allocated fiscal year 21/22 \$47,160.00.
    - Funds spent as of 4/30/2022 \$47,160.00

**Breakdown by month:**

July 2021 \$3,804.15

August 2021 \$4,517.71

September 2021 \$3,519.49

October 2021 \$5,562.86

November 2021 \$5,431.81

December 2021 \$7,710.31

January 2022 \$5,252.57

February 2022 \$4,318.08

March 2022 \$3,894.68

April 2022 \$3,148.34

**Services provided:**

Administrative support for the following meetings: LC RRA, Grants Best Fit, CMAT, and Tree Mortality. Supports LC RRA representation on the COAD as well as the Municipal Advisory Council.

**The proposed budget for 22/23:**

\$38,607.26 (\$8552.74 less than the previous FY) to provide continued support services.

**Director comments:**

**Director Moke Simon** commented that he is happy to have another contract with NCO.

**Director Jessica Pyska** commented that before the contract was signed in the previous years' Simon secured a donation from Calpine and a \$5,000 grant from Rebuild North Bay. Simon and Pyska approached the board for contributions of \$26,000, which paid NCO to do the work over the last year.

**Director Moke Simon** suggested that the county pays 50% and the other 50% comes from donations, and to budget for \$45,000 a year.

**Director Jessica Pyska** asked Tammy Alakszay about the Fire safe Council grant funding.

**Tammy Alakszay** responded that the CFSC grant is paying 75% of her position and the remainder of 25% and some of Angelina Fagundo's time with the LC RRA. Because of this, we were able to decrease the cost to \$38,600. The CFSC is an 18-month grant that ends 4/30/2023.

**Director Jessica Pyska** commented that this partnership was beneficial, and the LC RRA got a lot of work done with Alakszay and Fagundo.

**Public comments:**

**Magdalena Valderrama** commented that she sent grant information about county agencies and the State list. Valderrama asked if anyone has taken any action on this?

**Director Moke Simon** responded that he has not taken any action and is unclear about the grant Valderrama is speaking of.

**Tammy Alakszay** responded that she would follow up with Valderrama Thursday at the Best fit Grants meeting.

**John Hackett** commented that he is from Caltrans District 1 and would like to know more about grant funding.

**Director Moke Simon** thanked John Hackett for being at the meeting and asked Hackett to share his contact information for future collaborations.

**Stephen Carter** reported that the LC RRA account currently has a little over \$52,000 not paid anything to NCO yet. They did receive a \$47,000 invoice that will be paid out of the LC RRA account. This will leave \$5,573.06, and NCO can still bill for \$1,326.06 through the end of June 2022. This will leave a potential carryover for next year of \$4,247.00.

b. Directors/Member contributions

**Director Moke Simon** reported that this is a carryover conversation. It was decided to wait until LC RRA had seven members to continue with this conversation about members' contributions and looking forward to the contract with NCO.

**Directors' comments:**

**Director Willy Sapeta** commented if the contributions are set of dues?

**Director Moke Simon** responded to Sapeta that the contributions are set of dues, that occur on a yearly basis. Simon is opening the conversation today about the annual contribution from each agency.

**Director Willy Sapeta** commented that he will bring this topic up at the next chiefs meeting on May 25, 2022.

**Director Jessica Pyska** commented that she is committed to LC RRA and will be contributing funds.

**Director Moke Simon** commented that the cost is \$38,607.26 for the contract with NCO and the audit bi-annually.

**Director Dianna Mann** requested a bullet point or scope of work description outlining NCO's work with the LC RRA be created. Mann would like to have this document by Thursday to give to the general managers when she asks for their contributions.

**Tammy Alakszay** agreed to take the lead on creating the bullet point NCO scope of work and send the document to the LC RRA Directors'.

**Director Terre Logsdon** commented if the ask is for per voting seat of the seven members?

**Director Moke Simon** confirmed that is correct and they can also accept donations.

**Director Kevin Ingram** asked if the \$38,607.26 is enough for NCO? Ingram also seconded Mann and Logsdon's request for the bullet point NCO scope of work document.

**Tammy Alakszay** responded that \$38,607.26 is enough because she is 75% funded through the CFSC grant.

**Public comment:** N/A

#### **10. Tree mortality and Forest health update:**

**Director Jessica Pyska** reported that she is appreciative of John Hackett being at the meeting today. Pyska called for a Declaration of Emergency last week for the tree mortality for the county and there will be a follow-up with an “Ask Letter” to State. Pyska will be asking for the 25% match that Cal fire used to give for tree mortality back from 2015 to 2017. Pyska also reported she attended the Wildfire and Forest Resilience task force meeting two weeks ago in Santa Rosa and had a chance to meet with some original tree mortality task force members the State set up. California Declared a state of Emergency in 2015 and those funds are still available. Pyska is trying to get the State to reengage strategies that were developed five to seven years ago. Pyska, Simon, and staff will meet later this week to develop the “Ask Letter” and will also meet with the CAO of Tuolumne County.

**Director Jessica Pyska** asked John Hackett if he has been in contact with Lisa Worthington about funding for the road work?

**John Hackett** responded that he has been in contact with Worthington. Worthington is heading the fuel reduction project for all the districts, and District 1 started this project today. These projects are not in Lake County but route 20 to route 101 all the way to Potter Valley, this will be a 65-day project. From there the project will head up 101 to Willits and finish off Hwy 29 going through Middletown.

**Will Evans** reported on a project CLERC has started to work on, which is roadside clearing on State HWYs in the south county. Evans would like to connect with John Hackett to discuss future collaboration.

**Melinda Rivera** reported data through the end of April 2022. They inspected 305 parcels in Cobb, identified 795 trees, felled 350 of those trees, identified 90 parcels that qualified for debris removal and 75 of these parcels have engaged. The number completed for debris removal is 16 parcels.

#### **Directors' comments:**

**Director Willy Sapeta** commented on the tree mortality through the Lower Lake and Cobb area. Sapeta also asked will there be any enhancement of the evacuation route in these areas?

**Director Jessica Pyska** responded that she has done a second fly over two weeks ago, and the tree mortality is everywhere. The strategies that she is looking at is to harden the infrastructure.

#### **Public comments:**

**Bart Levenson** commented about the trees leaning over the roadways.

#### **11. Consideration of Reports and Updates:**

##### **Director's Reports:**

**Mokey Simon** Thanked Director Jessica Pyska for her work with the tree mortality Declaration, and Melinda Rivera for the tour of the HAWC (Hazard Awareness Warning Center), and everyone who attending the meeting today. Simon reported on PG&E and the new meter transfer. Simon also reported that we are moving back into drought season.

**Jessica Pyska** reported that she took a tour of the HAWC (Hazard Awareness Warning Center) with PG&E last week. Pyska would also like to thank everyone who attends these meetings, and a big thank you to Chief Mike Wink for finding the original fire break maps for Cobb.

Jeffrey Thomas no report or update.

**Mike Ciancio** apologized for not attending the last couple of months. They have hired eight fuel techs for the new hand crew who will start on June 1<sup>st</sup> and should have equipment at the same time.

Mike Wink no report or update.

Joe Huggins no report or update.

**Willy Sapeta** reported that they continue to work with the city on vegetation weed abatement, prepping equipment, and taking trainings. Preparing for this year's fire season.

Paul Duncan no report or update.

**Dianna Mann** reported that there will be a meeting this Thursday with the water districts. Mann will be requesting updates from all districts and will have more to report next month. Mann also commented on USDA loans with low-interest rates.

**Director Jessica Pyska** commented on the water purveyors and their intakes pending drought. Mann responded to Pyska that some residents care and others do not. The ones that don't care will get warnings, and if nothing changes then they would be shut off.

**Director Moke Simon** offered Mann a support letter if needed for grants.

**Kevin Ingram** reported there will be a presentation on the next steps for drought. Two sources for groundwater runoff. Ingram also reported that they continue to move forward with June 1<sup>st</sup>, working with Lakeport Fire Department, and seeing good vegetation management.

Russ Cremer no report or update.

**Terre Logsdon** Thanked Director Jessica Pyska for the Tree Mortality Declaration. Logsdon reported that there is a Tribal Family event is this Saturday. Logsdon would like to thank Tammy Alakszay and Magdalena Valderrama. There will be two tribal firefighters training through TERA. Tonight is the first public meeting. Next Monday is the Scotts Valley Advisory Committee and these meetings will be monthly. Logsdon also commented on groundwater and the impacts of Hitch, which are endangered. Logsdon reported on USDA grant soil-borne phosphorus to use for Biochar and on the rolling blackouts this summer/Fall.

Joseph Franklin Vilarte no report or update.

Robert Geary no report or update.

Tribal Representative Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians no report or update.

**Public comment:**

**Bart Levenson** commented on the rolling blackouts. Levenson also stated that PG&E has not reported this, and who would be getting this information to the public?

**Director Moke Simon** responded to Levenson that the rolling blackouts are not a PG&E event.

**Director Jessica Pyska** called the motion to change the LC RRA June meeting to June 13, 2022.

**Director Terre Logsdon** seconded the motion.

**Roll call:**

Director Moke Simon- Yes, Director Jessica Pyska- Yes, Director Mike Ciancio- Yes, Director Willy Sapeta- Yes, Director Dianna Mann- Yes, Director Kevin Ingram- Yes, and Director Terre Logsdon- Yes.

**Motion pass.**

**A. NCO update- Tammy Alakszay**

“Grant Best Fit” meeting (Grant Spreadsheet) continues to meet every third Thursday of the month. Alakszay stated that NCO has applied for the CERT grant.

Evacuation Routes Grants there is no update.

CA Fire Safe Council Coordinator Grant- Alakszay reported that she has attended workshops and presented on the Grant Best Fits.

**Public comment:** N/A

**B. County Staff:**

Administration no report or update.

**Water Resources- Angela Dow**

Dow requested 10 minutes to report at the next LC RRA meeting on June 13, 2022.

Code Enforcement no report or update.

Air Quality no report or update.

**Special Districts- Scott Harter**

**Harter** reported that the lake level is lower than it was last year and that having Mandatory drought conversations.

**Public Works- Scott De Leon**

De Leon reported that he has not heard anything from State or anything on the Evacuation Route grant.

Health Services no report or update.

**Sheriff Department/OES-Lauren Berlinn**

No report or update.

**Director Terre Logsdon** commented that it is upsetting that there are no updates from County staff. Logsdon also asked Scott Harter why there are no sampling updates on their website?

**Scott Harter** responded that the wastewater treatment results have been delayed.

**C. LC RRA Members:**

Lake County Fire Safe Council no report or update.

South Lake Fire Safe Council no report or update.

**US Forest Services (USFS)- Frank Aebly**

Aebly reported on the 2015 Farm Bill draft decision project. Aebly also commented on USFS's partnership with CLERC.

**Clearlake Environmental Resource Center (CLERC)- Will Evans**

Evans reported on the US. Forest Stewardship workshop from June 30 through August 25. There is a \$60.00 signup fee, and a possible scholarship for landowners who want to attend but cannot afford the signup cost. CLERC and BLM went to look at the fuel break in Clearlake. CLERC and Northshore fuel team have been collaborating with the first clearing of an evacuation route New Long Valley Road, Spring Valley. Evans also reported that CLERC has three positions open for hire, and CLERC has presented the dashboard to the BOS.

**Seigler Springs Community Redevelopment Association (SSCRA)-  
Magdalena Valderrama**

Valderrama reported that SSCRA has been working with Cobb Area Council on a pruning, weather, and attending the wildfire ambassador training.

Lake County CAN! no report or update.

Cobb Area Council no report or update.

**Tribal Eco Restoration Alliance (TERA)- Lindsay Dailey**

Dailey reported that the tribal hand crew has been working with Frank Aebly USFS. Dailey also reported that TERA has received a grant to fund 10 hours a week position to support the prescribe burn association. TERA has had workshops in April for burn plans and having an on-call prescribed fire crew.

University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) no report or update.

**Public comment:** N/A

**D. Reporting Opportunity Other Partner agencies:**

**E. Bureau of Land Management's accomplishments and current fuels reduction plans- Joseph Rodriguez:**

No report or update.

**F. CMAT Reporting Committee- Tammy Alakszay**

Alakszay reported there is no new update. CMAT Reporting Committee is still looking for locations for the Fire Safe Lake workshops. Alakszay will reach out to Director Moke Simon about having the workshop at Twin Pine.

**G. CWPP Update – Harry Lyons:**

Lyons reported that the CWPP draft has been submitted to the County on May 2, 2022.

**Public comment:** N/A

**H. CWPP Rollout- Director Jessica Pyska**

Pyska reported that the CWPP was received by the County. Admin is working on the process for public comment, but Gov to Gov consultation a priority before the public comments can take place. There will be a press release when the public comments

**Director Willy Sapeta** commented where would the CWPP live?

**Director Mike Ciancio** commented he votes for LC RRA

**Director Jessica Pyska** FSC is not developed to take on the CWPP, and the County will house CWPP.

**Director Terre Logsdon** commented that she likes this idea.

**12. Next LC RRA meeting is June 13, 2022, at 3:00 pm via Zoom.**

**13. Adjournment 5:12 pm**

Director Jessica Pyska called the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Director Kevin Ingram seconded the motion.

**Minutes were taken by Angelina Fagundo**