BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Certified copy of portion of proceedings, Meeting

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION DENYING FUNDING FOR ROUND 2 APPLICANTS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE EEL RIVER MITIGATION AND REMEDIATION GRANT FUND PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2021, the Board approved the Friends of the Eel River Mitigation and Remediation Fund Program that seeks to improve water quality in targeted watersheds impacted by cannabis cultivation and implement an October 2019 settlement agreement between Friends of the Eel River and Humboldt County regarding the Commercial Cannabis Land Use Ordinance (CCLUO) – Case # CV180495; and

WHEREAS, the Board authorized depositing an initial amount of $1,100,000 from the General Fund in 2019; and,

WHEREAS, the Board committed to depositing into the Friends of the Eel River Mitigation and Remediation Fund Program additional amounts up to $1.1 million each year for the next three years with 20% of the amount received from fines and penalties of cannabis civil enforcement actions, potentially augmented by other grants and/or funding from other sources as directed by the Board in the annual budget review process; and

WHEREAS, the total allocation to the Friends of the Eel River Mitigation and Remediation Fund Program is $1,446,900; and

WHEREAS, as detailed in the Program Guidelines approved by the Board, grants will be awarded for improvements to public and private roads for the specific purpose of protecting water quality in streams, creeks, and rivers, at least eighty percent (80%) of funds must be used for physical road improvements, and properties in the abatement process are not eligible for funding under this Program; and

WHEREAS, Planning staff followed the Program Guidelines which describe the procedure for submittal, review and approval of the sediment reduction projects; and

WHEREAS, a notice of funding availability was published the first week of October, 2022, and a total of seventeen (17) applications for grants were received by the Planning Department by the deadline; and

WHEREAS, on July 11, 2023, the Board approved nine (9) applications for funding and directed staff to reconsider the eight (8) unfunded applications if the project is within a priority watershed, per the settlement agreement, and the applicants submit additional documentation to bring their applications into better standing; and

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WHEREAS, the applicants with unfunded applications were contacted and given the opportunity to strengthen their applications; and

WHEREAS, on August, 31, 2023, county staff met with state agencies to re-evaluate the four (4) applications that were resubmitted; and

WHEREAS, the remaining funds in the Friends of the Eel River Mitigation and Remediation Fund will be allocated to the Department of Public Works to address the list of high priority road improvement projects that will reduce sediment delivery.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors finds the proposed allocation of grants from the Friends of the Eel River Grant Mitigation and Remediation Grant Fund is exempt from environmental review pursuant to CEQA, under CEQA Guidelines §15308, actions by regulatory agencies for protection of the environment because the purpose of the program is to protect water quality in streams creeks and rivers.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approves funding the applications as shown in the table below:

Grant Application	***Project Description***	***Funding Request***	***Recommended Funding***
Delaney	Replaces two (2) culverts and one (1) bridge.	$71,274	$0
Sproul Creek	Upgrades fourteen (14) water crossings and addresses eighteen (18) erosion/sediments control projects.	$117,170	$0
Aldebaran	Replaces one (1) culvert on Homestead Road and removes legacy hydroelectric infrastructure.	$17,040	$14,623
Eagle Creek Ranch/ EcoMeds	Rock armors two (2) culverts and removes water bladder.	$24,486	$24,486
	Total	$229,970	$39,109

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors hereby:

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1. Authorizes and directs Planning staff to allocate funding for the approved applications as described above.

2. Authorizes the remaining funds in the Friends of the Eel River Mitigation and Remediation Fund to be allocated to the Department of Public Works to address the list of high priority road improvement projects that will reduce sediment delivery.

3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to give notice of the decision to any interested party.

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, Chair

Adopted on motion by Supervisor seconded by Supervisor and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors
NOES: Supervisors
ABSENT: Supervisors
ABSTAIN: Supervisors

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION NO.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors

NIKKI TURNER

Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California

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