



Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The regular Meeting of the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District (SCCRCD) Board of Directors was called to order at **6:40PM** on the **15th Day of October 2003**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128 Capitola, California.

Directors Present:	Jim McKenna, President Steve Butler, Vice President Tom Lukens Mike Manfre John Ricker Roberta Smith
Directors Absent:	Howard Liebenberg
Associate Directors Present:	Ward Hastings Kathryn Tobisch Vasiliki Vassil
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Recorder Karen Christensen, Executive Director of Programs Sharon Corkrean, Executive Director Roberta Haver, Watershed Coordinator
NRCS Staff Present:	Kelli Camara, NRCS Soil Conservationist
Others Present:	William Brown, County of Santa Cruz Grand Jury Sal Turano Jr., County of Santa Cruz Grand Jury

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:40PM** with a quorum present. The Board welcomed Sal Turano and William Brown, members of the Santa Cruz County Grand Jury to the SCCRCD Board Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR/CALENDAR DATES

Communications from the floor

Ward Hastings spoke of his discussion with John Kasunich who is working to manage the aquatic vegetation of the Pajaro River. Ward inquired as to whether the SCCRCD has been involved with these efforts. Karen talked about the role of the Watsonville Sloughs Coordinator and the Pajaro River Watershed Coordinator and their efforts in dialoguing with various agency and community members.

Calendar Dates

For more information, contact the person or office listed in parenthesis.

October	18	Taste of San Benito, USDA Parking Lot, Hollister, 10:00AM-4:00PM (RCD)
	22	Local Working Group Stewardship Mtg. UC Coop Ext, Watsonville (RCD)
	23	CARCD Meeting, San Mateo Co. Substation, Moss Beach, 10:00AM-3:00PM (RCD)
	23	State Technical Advisory Committee, Redding (NRCS)
November	5	Local Working Group Agency Meeting, UC Coop. Ext., Watsonville (RCD)
	14-22	CARCD Meeting, Granlibakken Resort, Tahoe (RCD)

MINUTES

Minutes

John Ricker moved to accept the Minutes of the September 17, 2003 Board Meeting. Tom Lukens seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for September 2003 were circulated for review. John Ricker moved to approve the General Expenditures for September 2003. Steve Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The General Expenditures for October 2003 were circulated for review. John Ricker moved to approve the General Expenditures for October 2003. Roberta Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfers

No Transfers were discussed.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Program Updates

Reports

Permit Coordination – Kelli reported that the Biological Opinion on the project has been sent to the USFWS and NMFS and they are currently reviewing the document. Kelli and Nicole Martin (Sustainable Conservation) met with the County of Santa Cruz to discuss a master permitting strategy for streamlining permits. The details are still being resolved. However, the County is anxious to come up with a solution. All agencies involved in the process will agree to the 15 practices included in the permit coordination, as well as to the list of projects. The goal is to get this in effect for the 2004 construction season.

CSUMB Interns – Sharon reported that Alex Hoffman has just begun as an intern under the CSUMB program. He will be reviewing the *Groundcover* booklet and integrating Kelli's vegetation project. Sharon anticipates he will be interning next semester to upload the information onto the website.

Soquel Creek Plan – John Ricker announced that he is working on the second step of responses to the Soquel Public Comments. Karen will review the comments next, and finally the document will be packaged for the funding agencies. The Public Meeting will be held subsequent to responding to all the Public Comments. John told the Board that the Mid-County Post contacted him to do a story on the Soquel Plan.

IWRP – Karen reported that efforts are being concentrated on the permit process. The goal is to get all agencies to sign onto the program upfront to eliminate lengthy and costly permitting problems. Karen reported that Julia Davenport would be working with the development of the Science Activity Guide for grades 4-12, which will be tied to state science standards.

SL Roads Cost Share – Karen reported that all four roads projects are nearing completion. The details on long-term maintenance for the projects will need to be addressed next. Carey has learned a great deal about what works and what will need adjusting for next construction season. This pilot project will eventually be applied to other watersheds in the County. Karen thanked Steve Butler for his technical assistance at the workshops.

State Parks – The Board requested an update from State Parks. Sharon indicated that staff under the State Parks contract would be giving a presentation at the January Board Meeting.

NRCS

Reports

The NRCS activity report was distributed for review (see attached). Kelli reported that productivity has increased with both Rixon and Craig working on engineering designs. She highlighted that Santa Cruz County has received approximately \$400,000 in EQIP funding. The next round of EQIP funding for 2004 will begin in December. Kelli anticipates that Santa Cruz County will get even more funding next year.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Directors Reports

Roberta Smith moved to nominate Steve Butler as the delegate to the CARCD Meeting and to pay expenses for registration and lodging. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor. Jim McKenna will consider the position of alternate delegate at the next Board Meeting.

Roberta Smith moved to nominate John Ricker as the delegate to the CARCD Area Meeting in San Mateo. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Associate Directors Reports

No Associate Directors Reports were given.

Staff Reports

AGWA -- Bobbie Haver gave an excellent presentation describing the current state of the Arana Gulch Watershed. She reported that the major issue in the watershed is sedimentation. This is a challenge to the fish that migrate up the stream, as well as to the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor who must dredge and dispose of the sediment. Bobbie identified the major sources of sedimentation in the watershed as outlined in the Arana Gulch Watershed Enhancement Plan. Several projects will be funded under the IWRP program funded by the Coastal Conservancy. Bobbie is working on securing funding for the remaining projects.

ADJOURN

Adjournment

Roberta Smith moved to adjourn the Meeting at 8:30PM. Steve Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The next Board Meeting will be at **6:30PM** on **November 12, 2003**, at the **Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola.**

James G. McKenna
President, Board of Directors

(TC:JGM)