



Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District

820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128
Capitola, California 95010

sccrcd@sccrcd.org

Ph: (831) 464-2950
Fx: (831) 475-3215

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 **12th day of November 2003**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128 Capitola, California.

Directors Present:	Jim McKenna, President Steve Butler, Vice President Howard Liebenberg John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Tom Luke ns Mike Manfre Roberta Smith
Associate Directors Present:	Kathryn Tobisch Vasiliki Vassil
RCD Staff Present:	Karen Christensen, Executive Director of Programs Sharon Corkrean, Executive Director Dawn Mathes, Watershed Coordinator Jen Stern, Watershed Coordinator
NRCS Staff Present:	Kelli Camara, NRCS Soil Conservationist Craig Ficenec, NRCS Agricultural Engineer
Others Present:	Lisa Rudnick, Ben Lomond

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **6:40PM** with a quorum present. The Board welcomed Lisa Rudnick to the Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR/CALENDAR DATES

Communications from the floor

Lisa Rudnick handed out copies of a letter with attachments concerning whether Coho are native or not. She also handed out a sustainable development article.

Sharon Corkrean handed out a flyer for this years' California Envirothon in Cherry Valley (near Palm Springs) for information. Also distributed for review were the summary results for the 2002 Resolutions from CARCD. CARCD has requested an additional \$2500 on top of the \$1000 in order to vote on this year's resolutions. SCCRCD decided to not pay the extra amount. There was discussion on the communication process between CARCD and RCDs. A legislative analyst has been hired to analyze how to have CARCD better serve RCDs.

Calendar Dates

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

November	14-22	CARCD Meeting, Granlibakken Resort, Tahoe (RCD)
	14	War on Weeds Symposium, CSUMB, 8:00AM-5:00PM (RCD)
	19	RC&D Meeting, King City, 1:00PM-4:00PM (RCD)
	22	Road Drainage Improvement Workshop & Demo Project Tour, Ben Lomond (RCD)

PRESENTATION

Dawn Mathes, Pajaro Watershed Coordinator

Dawn Mathes gave a brief and informational presentation describing her work in the Pajaro Watershed and her work with the four county district partnerships (San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Monterey) over the last two and half years. Dawn informed the Board that two and half years ago the two upper watershed districts were not that involved. Since then, Dawn has been able to bring the four watershed districts together. San Benito RCD has been very successful. The program has established a curriculum for a Farm/Ranchette Education Program. Most recently this took the form of the Ranchette Series, a series of workshops to provide educational materials about well and septic system maintenance and other topics. Dawn covered projects and workshops done over the last two and a half years. Dawn let the Board know that the mission of the Pajaro program is to implement the Sanctuary Ag Plan and work with the Farm Bureau. Dawn and the Board talked about how to get Santa Clara County more involved and more active.

MINUTES

Minutes

John Ricker moved to accept the Minutes of the October 14, 2003 Board Meeting. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

David & Lucile Packard Foundation Supplemental Budget Adoption

D-L Packard Foundation Supplemental Budget – The D-L Packard Foundation would like the RCD to use remaining funds for finishing projects already started. After reviewing the proposed budget, John Ricker moved to approve the D-L Packard Foundation Supplemental Budget. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for November 2003 were circulated for review. John Ricker moved to approve the General Expenditures for October 2003. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor. At this time, printouts will be taken from the County's FAMIS program covering the entire prior month (i.e., Oct 1-31 will be reviewed and approved at the November Board Meeting, etc.)

Transfers

No Transfers were discussed.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Program Updates

Reports

Ponds – Karen and Kelli attended the first Ponds Permit Coordination Meeting in San Mateo at the San Mateo County Farm Bureau. The meeting agenda gave the issues surrounding the establishment of ponds for irrigation and the issues and constraints on establishing the ponds. Sustainable Conservation is the contractor and the San Mateo RCD and the Farm Bureaus from both Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties are involved as well.

Permit Coordination – Karen and Kelli have been meeting with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the County of Santa Cruz to discuss the species protection measures surrounding the conservation practices proposed under the permit coordination program. The Biological Opinion was submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board, US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Wildfire Education & Outreach – Carey has been meeting with CDF and the City of Santa Cruz to discuss the shaded fuel break project at Loch Lomond. In addition, she has been working to update the "Living With Fire Guide." She has also met with the community of Huckleberry Woods, NREP and the Boulder Creek Fire Chief to outline the shaded fuel break project for that community.

Soquel Creek Watershed – John, Karen and Bobbie have been working on the response to public comments and some revisions to the Soquel Plan in response to those comments. The Public Meeting is scheduled for December 17th at Jade Street Park Community Room.

SL Roads Cost Share – Carey is working on a newsletter and re-scheduling the workshop and tour for January.

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

John Ricker reported on the Central Coast RCD Meeting he attended in San Mateo. The topic of the meeting was "Collaborative Projects". The meeting was attended by representatives of RCDs from San Luis Obispo to San Mateo. John felt it was an informative meeting, but not enough time was allowed for discussion. The Bay Area RCD distributed a CD containing information on manure management.

Associate Directors Reports

Vasiliki Vassil attended the Pacific Rim National Association of RCDs Conference in Kauai. "Sustainable Forestry" was the meeting's theme. Also discussed was the importance of bringing community together through watershed projects.

Staff Reports

No Staff Reports were given.

ADJOURN

Adjournment

John Ricker moved to adjourn the Meeting at 8:35PM. Steve Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor. The next Board Meeting will be at 6:30PM on January 14, 2003, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola.

James G. McKenna
President, Board of Directors

(JS:JGM)