



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 **7:08PM** on **July 14, 2004**, at the Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128, Capitola, California.

Directors Present:	Jim McKenna, President Howard Liebenberg Mike Manfre John Ricker
Directors Absent:	Steve Butler, Vice President Tom Lukens Roberta Smith
Associate Directors Present:	Kathryn Tobisch Vasiliki Vassil
RCD Staff Present:	Tangi Chapman, Recorder Karen Christensen, Executive Director of Programs Sharon Corkrean, Executive Director
NRCS Staff Present:	Rich Casale
Others Present:	Dave Dawson, Friends of the Harbor Lorenzo Rota, Friends of the Harbor

WELCOME - INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting opened at **7:08PM** with a quorum present. The Board welcomed to the meeting Dave Dawson and Lorenzo Rota, members of Friends of the Harbor.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Dawson and Mr. Rota gave a brief presentation and circulated the Friends of the Harbor fact sheet. The group of concerned citizens is newly organized to increase public involvement and awareness and of the siltation impacts and associated dredging at the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor. Mr. Rota gave an overview of the issues within the Harbor and in the Arana Gulch watershed. Their goal is to encourage implementation of projects within the watershed that will help to reduce the sedimentation impacts to the Harbor. Karen Christensen outlined the history of the RCD involvement in the watershed. Additionally, she explained that the RCD has been working with Bobbie Haver at the Arana Gulch Watershed Alliance (AGWA) to secure funding for several of the projects outlined in the Arana Gulch Watershed Assessment and Enhancement Plan. Karen suggested that the Friends of the Harbor attend meetings, help facilitate a local source of match funds for projects identified in the Enhancement Plan and communicate and coordinate with AGWA, the City of Santa Cruz and the County of Santa Cruz.

MINUTES

John Ricker moved to accept the June 9, 2004 minutes as presented. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Expenditures

General Expenditures – The General Expenditures for June 2004 were circulated for review. John Ricker moved to approve the General Expenditures for June 2004. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor.

David and Lucile Packard Supplemental Expenditures – The D&L Packard Supplemental Expenditures for June 2004 were circulated for review. Howard Liebenberg moved to approve the D&L Packard Supplemental Expenditures for June 2004. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Transfers

There were no Transfers.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Discussion Items

2004-2005 Budget – Sharon circulated the Draft 2004-2005 Budget (see attached). Sharon explained that the Budget is accurate through June 30, 2004 and that the last three columns of the budget are best estimates. Howard Liebenberg asked who was keeping track of the accounting accuracy. Sharon explained that the expenditures go through a multitiered review. Both Sharon and Karen review the numbers; the County as well as the funding agencies also review them. In addition, the District has an independent auditing firm review the financial records. Sharon reported that Lynn Brisson will be setting up Quick Books to help track projects. Sharon explained that Staff has been including administrative costs into grants. Mike Manfre asked the Board to discuss the carry-over. He is interested in "how much and what for." Karen explained that they have been working on increasing the carry-over to allow programmatic flexibility. John Ricker moved to adopt Resolution 2004-03, approving the 2004-2005 Budget for Fund Code 684810 for \$4,546,120. Mike Manfre seconded the motion. All were in favor. Sharon circulated the D&L Packard 2004-2005 Budget. Karen explained that she is trying to spend the remaining funds to match an NRCS project. If this is the case, the RCD will need to request an extension for the funds. John Ricker moved to adopt Resolution 2004-04, approving the D&L Packard 2004-2005 Budget for Fund Code 684830 for \$61,657. Howard Liebenberg seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORTS

Staff Meeting Minutes

The staff meeting minutes for June 2004 and July 2004 was circulated for review. Karen has been working with Rich to plan the field tour for the August 3, 2004 meeting of the principle NRCS staff of California. This will be the first time the group has visited a local partnership office. Rich hopes the tour will illustrate the complex nature of the Santa Cruz/San Mateo NRCS. Karen suggested that the Board members be present for the tour and/or dinner. Karen reported that she and Kelli Camara met with John Laird regarding the Proposition 13 grant for the Pajaro. She explained that the funding was approved in October of 2002 but the RCD did not receive the contract until June 2004. The project end date is calculated from the time the funding was approved. John Laird indicated that he may be able to address this issue next year. Karen has been encouraging other agencies and groups to contact their local representatives regarding the extension of contracts based on the actual arrival date of the contract. Karen has been asked to join the California Watershed Network. She reported that there is a growing number of landowners who want to do habitat enhancement projects but they are concerned about the potential increased regulatory restrictions that might result. Kelli Camara spoke to NRDC regarding Farm Bill programs with species provisions. There is a need to develop a policy that addresses the issue of landowner protection for new created habitat. Tangi circulated a copy of the SCCRCD Annual Newsletter.

Directors/Associate Director Reports

Mike Manfre reported that he responded via a letter to information that Michael Shaw sent to him. Jim McKenna and Howard Liebenberg also read the information from Mr. Shaw and noted its content.

Howard Liebenberg reported on his involvement in the Roads Technical Training. Howard led the resurfacing demonstration. He geared the meeting to landowners; however, many of the people present were contractors in the paving business.

NRCS Reports

The NRCS activity report for July was circulated for review. Rich reported that out of the 12 EQIP applications three will be funded this year. One project alone is worth \$350,000. Rich anticipates that a fourth project may receive funding as well. Rich reported that San Mateo and Santa Cruz will likely receive over \$1 million next year for Farm Bill projects.

Calendar Dates

August 10, 2004 Water Quality Short Course, Where, Time (NRCS)

ADJOURN

Next Meeting

The Board requested the following items be placed on the August 11, 2004 agenda: CARCD Membership Quota; Grand Jury Findings; and Budget Fund Balance.

Adjournment

Howard Liebenberg moved to adjourn the Meeting at 8:55PM. John Ricker seconded the motion. All were in favor. The next **Board Meeting will be at 7:00PM on August 11, 2004**, at the **Resource Conservation District Office, 820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128**.

James G. McKenna
President, Board of Directors

(TC:JGM)